



St John The Evangelist
Berry Lane, Rickmansworth, WD3 7HG



Our Lady Help of Christians
5 Park Road, Rickmansworth, WD3 1HU



St John Fisher
Hill Cottage, Shire Lane, Chorleywood, WD3 5NH

Livestreaming: <https://www.churchservices.tv/rickmansworth>

ENCOUNTERING JESUS, SERVING OTHERS

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Parish Priest:

Fr Shaun Church
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Assistant Priest:

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Parish Administrator:

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Rickmansworth

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Chorleywood

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 @ChessValleyRC

13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) - 27TH JUNE 2021

SUNDAY THOUGHT

The Gospel for this Sunday consists of a story wrapped in another story – a so-called “Markan sandwich”. The story of the woman touching Jesus’s garment is sandwiched between the story of Jairus’s daughter being raised from the dead. In both of these miracle stories Jesus’s power is on clear display. Merely touching his garment with an act of faith is enough to heal somebody. Jesus himself raises the dead to new life. His identity is coming into sharper focus as we journey with him through this gospel.

Medical professionals were rare in the ancient world. We almost take them for granted today. But for those in antiquity who suffered from one ailment or another, their lives were often destined for suffering and to be on the margins of society. We are not surprised to know that life spans were so much shorter in the ancient world without access to medicine, proper care, or in some cases sanitary conditions. Despite all our advances in medicine, human beings are still subject to death. We have not conquered that, but only delayed it.

Jesus’s own power is expressed by stories of curing the woman with the haemorrhage and raising the dead. Jesus restores human beings to a full, active, and healthy life in one story. He literally raises the dead to life again in another. If he and his power can do these things, we should be paying attention.

We will find later in the gospel that there is more to his ministry than grand displays of power. There will be the necessary suffering and death. Once that aspect of his ministry is revealed, many if not most of his followers will fall away. It might not be too difficult to imagine following someone who raises the dead. It’s quite another to see that same one put to death.

When we encounter moments of pain, suffering, and even the death of loved ones, it is good to remember that we follow one who seeks to restore, who seeks to raise the dead to life again. That is our common Christian hope.

SAFEGUARDING REPS.

Rickmansworth Parish

Caroline Mathie 01895 672572
rickmansworthsg1@safeguardrcdow.org.uk
Carol Bartlett 01923 773841
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Mill End Parish

Matt McKiernan 01923 493747
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Chorleywood Parish

Laura Turnbull 01923 897899
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Diocesan Safeguarding

Coordinator 0207 798 9356

YOUTH MINISTRY

Belinda Calen - Alpha Youth:
rickmansworthalphayouth@rcdow.org.uk

Fr Damian Ryan - Confirmation:
damianryan@rcdow.org.uk

Margaret Simon - Youth
Ministry Leadership Team:
rickmansworthyouth@rcdow.org.uk

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

Although it isn’t currently possible for the priests to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the confessional, both Fr Shaun and Fr Damian are available for the celebration of the sacrament by individual appointment. Any parishioners wishing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation should contact Fr Shaun or Fr Damian to arrange a mutually convenient time.

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

THURSDAY 1ST JULY	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Online Prayer Group	via <i>Zoom</i>
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MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

	Our Lady Help of Christians	St John the Evangelist	St John Fisher
SATURDAY 26 TH JUNE	For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish		
SUNDAY 27TH JUNE <i>THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	10am For the People of the Parish 6pm Gordon Starck RIP	10.30am In thanksgiving for the 50 th anniversary of the opening of the church	9am For the People of the Parish
MONDAY 28TH JUNE <i>St IRENAEUS, BISHOP</i>	For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish		
TUESDAY 29TH JUNE <i>SS PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES</i>	9.30am For the People of the Parish	9.30am For the People of the Parish	7.30pm For the People of the Parish
WEDNESDAY 30 TH JUNE	9.30am Fr Jim Duffy RIP		
THURSDAY 1ST JULY <i>DEDICATION OF THE CATHEDRAL</i>	For the Sick and Housebound of the Parish		
FRIDAY 2 ND JULY	9.30am Ania RIP	11.30am Funeral - Deborah Sweeney-Austin	
SATURDAY 3RD JULY <i>St THOMAS, APOSTLE</i>	NO MASS TODAY		
SUNDAY 4TH JULY <i>FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	10am Special Intention 6pm For the People of the Parish	10.30am For the People of the Parish	9am For the People of the Parish

Entrance Antiphon: All peoples, clap your hands. Cry to God with shouts of joy!

1st Reading: Wisdom 1:13-15; 2:23-24

Response to Psalm: I will praise you, Lord, you have rescued me.

2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 8:7. 9. 13-15

Gospel: Mark 5:21-43

Communion Antiphon: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all within me, his holy name.

Next Sunday's Readings: Ezekiel 2:2-5; 2 Corinthians 12:7-10; Mark 6:1-6 (Gospel)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISHES

Our Lady Help of Christians: Kathleen Collins, Brenda Reynolds, Neville Mathews, Agnes Harper, Ginny Goodgol, Maria Wallis, Heather Kean, John Caneparo, Henry Cutting, Nalene Nixon, Pam Bell, Maureen Douglas, Josie Westhrop, and Michael Gaukroger.

St John the Evangelist: Rita Murray, Michael Dixon, Alfredo Rock, James Clark, Eve & Tom Clark.

St John Fisher: Nora O'Toole, Francis De Souza, Georgina Kelham, Pete Murray, Steve Kibbey, Matthew Leone, Jean-Pierre Roche, Angela Hoy, Pat Finucane, Colin Dowling, Kitty Finucane, Anne Trenchard, Paul Kennett, Ann Penn, Paddy Goble, Pam Fitzpatrick and Julian Harris.

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION - 3rd/4th July

If you would like to donate towards the Peter's Pence collection, which provides Pope Francis with the funds he needs to carry out his charitable works around the world, please visit <https://www.obolodisanpietro.va/en/dona.html>. The proceeds benefit the most disadvantaged: victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Please give generously.

REGISTRATION FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2022

Registration of children wishing to make their First Holy Communion in 2022 will take place in July 2021. To be eligible children must be in Year 3 or above by September 2021 and attend Mass regularly in one of the three parishes. The expectation is that all children preparing for Holy Communion should already know how to make the sign of the cross and know the Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory be. These prayers should be taught and prayed in the home regularly. Parents may bring their child for registration on the following dates:

Tuesday 13th July – St John Fisher – 7.00pm to 8.00pm

Wednesday 14th July – St John the Evangelist Parish Centre – 3.15pm to 4.15pm

Wednesday 14th July – Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Hall – 7.00pm to 8.00pm

It is essential that you bring with you to the meeting the child wishing to be prepared for Holy Communion. If your child was baptised somewhere other than Our Lady Help of Christians, Rickmansworth; St John Fisher, Chorleywood or St John the Evangelist, Mill End you will need to bring with you the child's baptismal certificate. You are welcome to bring your child to whichever of the registration times is best for you. There is no need to make a particular appointment, please just come along during the appointed times. Do not worry if the place of registration is not your usual church for Sunday Mass attendance.

SOLEMNITY OF SS PETER AND PAUL

Although the Solemnity of SS Peter and Paul (**Tuesday 29th June**) will not be a Holy Day of Obligation this year, we will still have one Mass in each parish on the day:

Our Lady's – 9.30am

St John the Evangelist – 9.30am

St John Fisher – 7.30pm

You will need to book places via the Events Tab on the respective parish website.

DEBORAH SWEENEY-AUSTIN RIP

The funeral of Deborah Sweeney-Austin will take place at St John the Evangelist, Mill End on Friday **2nd July at 11.30am** followed by committal at West Herts Crematorium. Due to social-distancing restrictions, it will not be possible for parishioners to attend, unless they have been directly invited by the family. We offer our deepest condolences to Deborah's family at this sad and difficult time.

BAPTISMS

For those seeking to register their child/children for baptism, please, email Fr Damian. For those who have completed baptism preparation, and who are waiting for the next available dates, please contact Kerry Van Rensburg.

GIFT AID

Thank you to everyone who has Gift-Aided their offering. Gift Aid adds 25p to the value of every £1 given, at no extra cost to you. If you are a UK tax payer and would like to Gift Aid your offering please contact Fr Shaun, Fr Damian or Kerry. *Please let us know if your tax circumstances have changed (2020/21 tax year) so that we do not ask for a tax refund if you haven't paid the associated tax.* We will also need to know if you have changed your address recently.

A NOTE FROM CHESS VALLEY SVP

With the gradual easing of lockdown restrictions SVP members can offer to do home visits (or telephone befriending if preferred) to those who feel they would benefit from such a visit, following all the recommended guidelines. If you are someone, or know someone, who would appreciate a visit please email chessvalleysvp@gmail.com and an SVP member will contact you. If you are a parishioner requesting a visit on behalf of someone else please ensure that you have their permission to do so.

“TEA WITH THE SVP” AND THEIR COVID RECOVERY PROGRAMME – CAN YOU HELP?

As Covid restrictions are relaxed further, the hidden suffering in our communities is likely to become more apparent. To raise funds for their Covid Recovery Programme and its regional Community Support Projects the SVP recently hosted a week of events - “Tea with the SVP” - to coincide with National Tea Day on 21st April. During that week there were thoroughly enjoyable interviews with two well-known Patrons of the SVP – Julie Etchingham (of ITN News, to view click [here](#)) and Frank Cottrell-Boyce (children's author and screenwriter, to view click [here](#)) about their careers and what the SVP means to them. The SVP's nationwide target is £5,000 which will be matched by a generous corporate benefactor. **Please can you help?** If so, please go to www.svp.org.uk and click on the red “Donate” button. Under “Where should it go?”, click on the drop-down menu and select “Covid Recovery Programme”. Thank you for your generous support and may God bless you.

INVITATION TO PRAY

You are warmly invited to join us every Thursday evening to pray together and have a time of fellowship. Whether you are part of the Parish Community or not we would love you to come along to our online prayer group. The evening will consist of a time for singing, reading and quiet reflection, sharing and intercessory prayer. You are welcome to join in as you feel you would like. Prayer meetings will start at 8.00pm every Thursday and finish at 9.30pm. If you would like to join us simply email the following address and we will add you to the invitation - barbarajohnson48@gmail.com. We are using a platform called 'Zoom' which is very 'user friendly' and we can support you with this if necessary. We look forward to hearing from you.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

URGENT REQUEST FOR STEWARDS AND CLEANERS

Who would have thought that we would need to have stewards and cleaners in place for as long as this so that we can all celebrate Mass together in church. However, with the present restriction in place for a few more weeks, stewarding and cleaning will need to continue for just a short while longer. We are therefore appealing for more help for both weekday (Wednesday and Friday) and Sunday Masses (10am and 6pm). We don't anticipate this needing to continue for too much longer now, but really need a few more people to help lighten the load on our present volunteers. Without stewards and cleaners, there will be no public Mass. So if you are willing to step up and volunteer to help for any of the above Masses please could you contact us on sharonblayney9@gmail.com

A big thankyou to all those who already help in this way. You are a great example of living out our motto of 'encountering Jesus, serving others'. So with this in mind let's make one last big effort and "every day, as long as this 'today' lasts, let's keep encouraging one another"(Heb 3:13). We look forward to hearing from you and thank you. *Sharon Blayney and Jane Redman*

THE GARDEN CALVARY

You may have noticed over the past year that the garden Calvary is not in the best of condition. After over 100 years of exposure to the elements the wood of the cross is largely rotten. You may have observed that a large section of the cross-beam has broken off completely. The parish Finance, Operations and Premises (FOP) Committee, is currently working on a plan for the renewal of the Calvary. This plan will include the cleaning and restoration of the Corpus (the figure of Christ). The cost of this work will be significant at a time when the parish finances are stretched due to the pandemic. The FOP Committee has agreed that when we have finalized the plans for the restoration of the Calvary and assessed the costs involved, we will appeal to parishioners for specific donations to support the restoration of this iconic, unique and much loved garden Calvary. There will be more details about this in the autumn. *Fr Shaun*

FOR THE MISSIONS

Please keep saving your stamps for the Missions. For the time being, please keep them at home, do not bring them to the church porch. Thank you, *Sheila Harrington*.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

OUR LADY'S REREDOS AND ALTAR AND THE CELEBRATION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OPENING OF THE CHURCH

The new reredos for Our Lady's statue, together with the refurbished altar, has now been fitted in the side chapel, which now becomes the Lady Chapel. Cardinal Nichols was due to bless the reredos at the special Mass on 27th June to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the opening of the church. However, due to the extension of the social distancing regulations, this has sadly had to be postponed. Many more people would have wished to attend this celebration than we could legally accommodate in the church. We would also have been unable to have a social gathering afterwards. A celebration of this important anniversary, and the blessing of the reredos, will be rearranged to take place in the autumn. *Fr Shaun*

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

A number of parishioners who use planned giving envelopes but are currently unable to attend Sunday Mass have contacted us regarding their planned giving and the offering that they make to their parish using them. For any parishioner who is in this situation and wishes to make a Sunday offering, we invite you to either drop your envelopes, together with your donation, at the parish office at the Presbytery at Our Lady's (but only if passing through Rickmansworth – please continue to follow Government guidelines with regard to essential travel) or to post a cheque made payable to St John Fisher, Chorleywood, together with at least one planned giving envelope, to the Parish Office. Alternatively, you could make a donation via an electronic payment to St John Fisher parish using the following details:

Account Name: WRC DT Chorleywood
Sort Code: 40-05-20
Account Number: 21095552

Please annotate the payment as: **Sunday Offering**. Thank you for your continued and valued support.

COLLECTING FOR OUR MISSIONARIES

Dear Parishioners, we have a diminishing number OF MISSIO RED BOX HOLDERS. Some have died and some moved away. Traditionally people put their loose change in the boxes and that was counted up each quarter. Since COVID and the lack of loose change most people have been putting a note in an envelope and putting it in my door. We would welcome new supporters. I think Missionaries do not have an easy time although they love what they do. This June quarter we raised £131.57, thank you so much. Contact me for further details if you might be interested. Love to all, Mary 284975.