



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
shaunchurch@rcdow.org.uk

Assistant Priest:

Fr Damian Ryan
damianryan@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Administrator:

Kerry Van Rensburg
rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk

Rickmansworth

Paul Forrest
pga.forrest@btinternet.com

Chorleywood

Anne Lorrimer-Roberts
anne@themessagemachine.com

Mill End

Geraldine Page
geraldine.page21@gmail.com

Address for all correspondence:
5 Park Road, Rickmansworth
WD3 1HU
Telephone: 01923 773387

 @ChessValleyRC

SAFEGUARDING REPS.

Rickmansworth Parish

Caroline Mathie 01895 672572
rickmansworthsg1@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Carol Bartlett 01923 773841
rickmansworthsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Mill End Parish

Matt McKiernan 01923 493747
millendsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Chorleywood Parish

Laura Turnbull 01923 897899
chorleywoodsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

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

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) - 18TH JULY 2021

SUNDAY THOUGHT

When we encounter him in the gospel narrative today, Jesus has attracted so much attention he can get no ‘down time’. Even when he and his disciples try to get away, the crowds flock to them. Jesus meets them, has compassion on them and teaches them. All of this is a prelude to the multiplication of the loaves in Mark’s gospel, but next Sunday we will hear John’s version instead.

Today’s gospel follows last Sunday’s when Jesus sent the Twelve to preach repentance and to heal. Noticeably absent in this Sunday’s gospel is any mention of healing that the disciples had done. Instead, Jesus’ pity for the crowd arises from their need to be led by Jesus; they “were like sheep without a shepherd.” This need was so great that even Jesus’ seeking of a ‘lonely place’ for him and his disciples to rest did not keep the people from hastening after him. Jesus discerned the differing needs of the disciples and the persistent crowd, and responded to each accordingly. The crowd won! Jesus interrupted his rest to tend to their needs. So did Jesus win! He shepherded them beyond their need for healing to teach them what they needed to learn about the saving mission he came to fulfil.

Jesus, the true shepherd of God, always responds to the needs of others. By his own good example, Jesus teaches that responding to others’ needs, fostering caring relationships, and teaching the Good News are at the heart of bringing his mission to completion.

We all need to go off to a “lonely place” occasionally to “rest for a while”. Perhaps this year more than ever! All of us need time to regain our strength so that we can take up our own shepherding tasks. If the mission overwhelms us, we are unable to persevere.

Achieving a balanced rhythm between the work of discipleship and the need to rest from weariness can be no easy task itself. Like Jesus, we are called to shepherd – to care, teach, heal, and listen. At the same time we must know when it is time to renew ourselves, to allow Jesus to shepherd and teach us. To balance our work of sharing the Gospel with rest, with time to replenish our spirit and energy. Self-giving and rest are two parallel poles to the dying and rising dynamic of the paschal mystery. Too much dying can crush us. Too much rest can lull us into being uncaring shepherds. The mission calls for a balanced rhythm.

FAREWELL MASSES

With the lifting of restrictions, it will be possible for me to celebrate a Farewell Mass in each parish without any limits on the numbers allowed to attend and without any need to book a place in advance. I will be celebrating the Farewell Masses as follows:

St John’s, Mill End – Friday 23rd July – 7.30pm

St John Fisher, Chorleywood – Thursday 29th July – 7.30pm

Our Lady’s Rickmansworth – Friday 30th July – 7.30pm

Please feel free to attend whichever of these Masses is most convenient for you.
Fr Shaun.

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SATURDAY 17TH JULY	11.30am & 2.00pm	Baptisms	Our Lady Help of Christians
THURSDAY 22ND JULY	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Online Prayer Group	via <i>Zoom</i>
SATURDAY 24TH JULY	11.30am & 2.00pm	Baptisms	Our Lady Help of Christians

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

	Our Lady Help of Christians	St John the Evangelist	St John Fisher
SATURDAY 17TH JULY	For the sick and housebound of the parish		
SUNDAY 18TH JULY <i>16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	10am Mervyn Mascarenhas RIP 6pm For the People of the Parish	10.30am Paul Parsons (Ints.)	9am For the People of the Parish
MONDAY 19TH JULY	9.30am Fr Jim Duffy RIP (PUBLIC MASS)		
TUESDAY 20TH JULY	9.30am Andrew Dumughn RIP (PUBLIC MASS)		
WEDNESDAY 21ST JULY	9.30am Francis Crowley RIP (Anniv.) (PUBLIC MASS)		
THURSDAY 22ND JULY <i>ST MARY MAGDALENE</i>	9.30am Adam & Ola Budzynski RIP (PUBLIC MASS)		
FRIDAY 23RD JULY <i>ST BRIDGET OF SWEDEN</i>	9.30am Jack Crowley RIP (Anniv.) (PUBLIC MASS)	Farewell Mass for Fr Shaun 7.30pm In Thanksgiving	
SATURDAY 24TH JULY	9.30am For the sick & housebound of the parish (PUBLIC MASS)		
SUNDAY 25TH JULY <i>17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	10am John Finnegan RIP (Anniv.) 6pm For the People of the Parish	10.30am Gillian Lockhart (Ints.)	9am For the People of the Parish

Entrance Antiphon: See I have God for my help. The Lord sustains my soul.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart, and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

1st Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Response to Psalm: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

2nd Reading: Ephesians 2:13-18

Gospel: Mark 6:30-34

Communion Antiphon: The Lord, the gracious, the merciful, has made a memorial of his wonders;
he gives food to those who fear him.

Next Sunday's Readings: 2 Kings 4:42-44; Ephesians 4:1-6; John 6:1-15 (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 and Alfredo Rock.

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.

COVID-19 ROUTE MAP: STEP 4 GUIDANCE

GENERAL

The Bishops' Conference of England and Wales has issued specific guidance to help parishes with the implementation of Step 4 of the Covid 19 Route Map, which comes into effect on Monday 19th July. The key points with regard to the celebration of Masses are as follows:

From 19th July:

- There will be no legislation on social distancing in England and churches may thus increase their capacity. Each local community is to examine the local conditions regarding the virus and adopt an attitude of care for those who desire to attend Mass.
- The wearing of face coverings is **strongly recommended** to be worn by those in church.
- Indoor congregational singing will be permitted and face coverings should be worn by members of the congregation whilst singing together, until infection levels reduce.
- Holy water stoups will not be refilled at this time.
- There will be a retiring offertory collection at the Sunday Masses.
- It is recommended that the physical Sign of Peace remain suspended.
- Holy Communion will continue to be under one kind.
- The livestreaming of Masses from Our Lady's will continue.

With regard to the Sunday Obligation the Bishops have said: "It is hoped that it will be possible for all Catholics in England and Wales to fulfil this most important Church precept,...,by the First Sunday in Advent 2021. In the meantime, all Catholics are asked to do their best to participate in the celebration of the weekly Sunday Mass and to reflect deeply on the centrality of Sunday worship in the life of the Church.'

SPECIFIC IMPLEMENTATION OF STEP 4 ACROSS OUR THREE PARISHES

Sunday Masses during July and August

We are planning to maintain the current Sunday Mass schedule (though now without social distancing measures) until September 2021. The reasons for maintaining the current Mass schedule are:

1. Many people will be on holiday in late July and throughout August and so numbers at Mass will naturally be reduced.
2. Many people may not immediately return to Sunday worship at Mass, following the lifting of restrictions.
3. Fr Damian will be on his own during August and would have to prepare for all of these Masses, even if he is not celebrating them. This is also at a time when there are many weddings and baptisms for him to prepare and conduct, increased hospital chaplaincy rota work, as well as possible funerals.

There will no longer be a need to book places for Sunday Mass.

The Sunday Mass schedule will be reviewed from when Fr Andrew begins his ministry as Parish Priest in early September 2021.

Face Coverings – Whilst it is no longer mandatory that face coverings be worn in church it remains **strongly recommended** that face coverings be worn in our churches. Please remember that wearing a face covering helps to protect other people! **Wearing a face covering in church should be seen as an act of charity to our brothers and sisters.**

Distribution of Holy Communion – The distribution of Holy Communion will return to its normal place within the Mass.

Singing in Church – Congregational singing in church is now permitted once again (though face coverings should be worn). Hymn books will not be made available during August. This will be reviewed in September. During August there may be the possibility of singing some well-known hymns/parts of the Mass from memory.

COVID-19 ROUTE MAP: STEP 4 GUIDANCE

Weekday Masses during July and August

From 19th July there will be public weekday celebrations of Mass at Our Lady's at 9.30am Monday to Saturday. No booking is necessary.

Our Lady's open for private prayer – From 19th July Our Lady's will be open for private prayer Monday to Saturday from 8.30am to 4.00pm, except for Wednesday during August and when the church is open for Mass.

Weekday Masses from September

As with other parts of society, the pandemic has challenged us to look at the ways in which we do things in the parishes. Bishops and priests of the diocese have discussed that not everything can or should go back to how it was before the pandemic. This is true for the weekday Masses across the three parishes. Before the pandemic, the numbers attending weekday Masses at Chorleywood and Mill End were very low – often as few as four to six people. The aftermath of the pandemic is likely to reinforce this trend in low weekday Mass attendance. Consequently, after consultation with the Senior Leadership Team, it has been decided to not reinstate the Wednesday Mass at Mill End and the Friday Mass at Chorleywood. However, from September 2021, Mill End will have a Monday 9.30am Mass and Chorleywood will have a Tuesday 9.30am Mass. A 9.30am Mass on Wednesday will be celebrated at Rickmansworth, where numbers attending weekday Mass are significantly larger.

Stewards and Cleaners

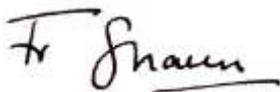
With the lifting of restrictions the requirement for stewarding and special cleaning of churches is removed. During August, as we transition back to a more normal pattern, we plan to maintain one steward at each Mass. We will gradually phase back to our teams of Welcomers in each parish. If anyone who has been serving as a steward would be willing to join our Welcoming teams, please contact the person who has been coordinating the stewarding rota for your parish.

I wish to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to all the parishioners who have so generously served across the three parishes as stewards and cleaners. Without their generosity and willingness to help we would not have been able to re-open our churches for public worship. Our three parish communities are deeply indebted to them!

Next Steps

The Senior Leadership Team, together with the COVID taskforce in each parish, will work out the specific arrangements for each of our churches. We ask for your patience and your understanding during this time of gradual and careful transition. Your safety remains our highest priority.

Thank you

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Shaun". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line under the name "Shaun".

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

EVE CLARK RIP

The body of Eve Clark will be received at St John the Evangelist, Mill End at 6.00pm on Wednesday 28th July and the Funeral Mass will be celebrated there at 11.30am on Thursday 29th July, followed by burial at Woodcock Hill. We commend her to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for her family at this sad and difficult time.

LEE McATEER RIP

The funeral of Lee McAteer will take place at Breakspear Crematorium on Tuesday 27th July. We commend him to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for his family at this sad and difficult time.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

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

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: WRCDT Chorleywood

Sort Code: 40-05-20

Account Number: 21095552

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

MARY'S GARAGE

Mary's garage has metamorphosed once again!! It has now become a MINI-ART GALLERY. Do come and browse and bring me your unwanted pictures. All proceeds to The Cardinal Hume Centre. Much love to all, Mary 284975 xx

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.