



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 Andrew Gallagher  
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#### Assistant Priest:

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#### Parish Administrator:

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#### Rickmansworth

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#### Chorleywood

Anne Lorrimer-Roberts  
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#### Mill End

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### SAFEGUARDING REPS.

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#### Mill End Parish

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#### Chorleywood Parish

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#### Diocesan Safeguarding

### YOUTH MINISTRY

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Fr Damian Ryan - Confirmation:  
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Margaret Simon - Youth Ministry  
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## TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) - 17<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2021

### Don't believe everything you read!

A few weeks ago, Cardinal Vincent wrote to us regarding the Synodal Pathway that is launched in our diocese this weekend. In this letter he introduced the Holy Father's desire for us as a whole Church to discern how God's presence comes into our lives and what the Spirit of God is prompting us to do anew, so that we might become more alive and creative in our response to the call of Jesus. In reporting on this over the last few days the media have portrayed that the Pope is proposing a radical reform of Church teaching and doctrine. This is incorrect and highly misleading. Instead let us reflect on the following words of Pope Francis in his recently published book on what a synod is:

*'In speaking of synodality, it's important not to confuse Catholic doctrine and tradition with the Church's norms and practices. What is under discussion at synodal gatherings are not traditional truths of Christian doctrine. The Synod is concerned mainly with how teaching can be lived and applied in the changing contexts of our time. The three Synods – on the Family (2014 and 2015), on Young People (2018), and on Amazonia (2019) – have played a vital role in opening up new ways of caring for people and places facing particular challenges.*

*What characterizes a synodal path is the role of the Holy Spirit. We listen, we discuss in groups, but above all we pay attention to what the Spirit has to say to us.... Synods produce intense discussion, which is good: they involve different reactions and responses to those who think differently or have particular positions. We do not all react in the same way. We have also seen in many cases how, faced with disagreement, differing groups attempting to interfere in the synodal process try to impose their ideas, either by applying pressure inside the Synod, or outside it, by distorting and discrediting the views of those who do not think as they do.*

*This too is a good sign, because wherever the Spirit of God is present, so, too, are temptations to silence it or distract from it... We saw the bad spirit in some of the "noise" outside the synod hall, as well as within it: in the fear, the panic, the claims that the Synod is a conspiracy to undermine Church doctrine, that the Church is closed to new ways of thinking and so on. These are signs of the isolated conscience and of the frustration of the bad spirit, which, when it fails to seduce, hurls furious accusations (but never, of course, self-accusations).'*

(‘Let us dream: the path to a better future’, Pope Francis, pages 84-86)

More information about opportunities for members of our parishes' to participate in this synodal process will be in the parish newsletter over the coming weeks. Let us pray that we, and all those engaged with this process, will allow the Spirit to speak to us through this Synodal Pathway, so that our Church and the Gospel we preach, can be heard and lived anew in our world.

*Fr Andrew*

## FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

<b>SUN 17<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b>	9.15am	First Communion Class - Hall	St John the Evangelist
<b>MON 18<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b>	5.30pm	First Communion Class - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>TUE 19<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b>	7.30pm 7.30pm	First Communion Parents' Meeting Kairos	Our Lady Help of Christians <i>Via Zoom</i>
<b>WED 20<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b>	7.30pm	Alpha - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>THU 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER</b>	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>SAT 23<sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER</b>	2.00pm	Wedding	Our Lady Help of Christians

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

	Our Lady Help of Christians	St John the Evangelist	St John Fisher
<b>SATURDAY</b> 16 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER	<b>9.30am</b> For the sick and housebound of the parishes	<b>6pm (Vigil)</b> For the People of the Parishes	
<b>SUNDAY</b> 17 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER <b>29<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	<b>8.30am</b> For the People of the Parishes <b>11am</b> W.H. (Bill) Osgood RIP (Anniv.) <b>6pm</b> Colin Lawrence RIP	<b>10.30am</b> Rosemarie Carter RIP (Anniv.)	<b>9am</b> Patsy Tyden RIP
<b>MON 18<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b> <b>ST LUKE, EVANGELIST</b>	<b>9.30am</b> Cecilia Netto RIP		
<b>TUESDAY</b> 19 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER	<b>NO 9.30AM MASS TODAY</b> <b>11.15am</b> Funeral - Peggy Langdale RIP		<b>9.30am</b> For the sick and housebound of the parishes
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 20 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER	<b>9.30am</b> Ola & Adam Budzynski RIP	<b>9.30am</b> For the sick and housebound of the parishes	
<b>THURSDAY</b> 21 <sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER	<b>9.30am</b> For the sick and housebound of the parishes		
<b>FRIDAY</b> 22 <sup>ND</sup> OCTOBER	<b>9.30am</b> Mary Robinson RIP		
<b>SATURDAY</b> 23 <sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER	<b>9.30am</b> For the sick and housebound of the parishes	<b>6pm (Vigil)</b> Mary & Hugh Keating RIP	
<b>SUNDAY</b> 24 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER <b>30<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	<b>8.30am</b> Norah MacWilliam RIP <b>11am</b> Mary Robinson RIP <b>6pm</b> For the People of the Parishes	<b>10.30am</b> Eve Clark RIP	<b>9am</b> For the People of the Parishes



### Mass Intentions

At the Altar the priest offers Mass for the good of the whole Church and for a particular intention. Do you want a Mass offered for a particular intention? Perhaps you would like a deceased friend or relative remembered, or you would like a Mass said for someone who is sick or for your own intention. For Mass to be offered it is the tradition that a stipend is donated to contribute to the upkeep of your priests. Please contact the parish office if you would like a Mass offered over the coming weeks.

### 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, Julian Harris and Canon Robert Plourde.

## NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

### PRAYING FOR THE HOLY SOULS IN NOVEMBER

November is a month when we traditionally pray for the repose of the faithful departed, remembering in a special way our departed family members and friends. Holy Souls sheets on which you can write the names of your departed loved ones and friends are available from this weekend. These can then be placed inside one of the brown "November Dead" envelopes, with any offering you wish to make, and then be placed in the "Holy Souls" box provided. During the month of November weekday Masses across the three parishes will be offered for the Holy Souls and your intentions will be placed in a special box in front of the altar as a focus for our prayer for the faithful departed.

### MASS FOR DECEASED PARISHIONERS

On **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November** we will have a Mass for all deceased members of our parishes at 11am in Our Lady Help of Christians Church. At this Mass we will particularly remember all those who have died over the past year so please do encourage those recently bereaved to attend. This Mass will be immediately followed by the blessing of graves at Our Lady's Garden of Rest

### BLESSING OF GRAVES

During November Fr Andrew and Fr Damian will be blessing graves in the local cemeteries:

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> November – 2.30pm Chorleywood Lawn Cemetery

Date still to be confirmed – Chorleywood Old Cemetery

Date still to be confirmed – Woodcock Hill Cemetery

### PEGGY LANGDALE RIP

The funeral of Peggy Langdale will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians on **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October** at 11.15am followed by interment at Chilterns Crematorium. We commend her to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for her family at this sad and difficult time.

### JOAN TOWNEND RIP

The ashes of Joan Townend will be interred in the Garden of Rest after the 9.30am Mass at Our Lady's on **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October**.

### WORLD MISSION SUNDAY - 24<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER

Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday, when the Holy Father invites all Catholics to contribute to a special collection for Missio, his charity for world mission. Please support Missio in helping missionaries to work alongside communities throughout the world that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Join in on this special day, that unites Catholics all over the world in prayer and celebration of our Church's mission to share God's love with all people. Please collect an envelope from church this week and give generously. Please call 020 7821 9755 (office hours) or visit Missio's website to give a single gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation if possible: [missio.org.uk](http://missio.org.uk)

### FIRST COMMUNION PARENTS MEETING

There will be a First Communion parents' meeting on **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October** at 7.30pm in Our Lady's Hall.

### SICK AND HOUSEBOUND

If you know someone who is sick and housebound in our parishes who would like to receive Holy Communion, please let the parish office know so that we can be in contact with them.

### SVP COMMUNITY LUNCH

The next SVP Community Lunch is on **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> October** at 12.30pm in St John's School Hall. Please do come along and have a meal and befriend our guests. Spread the word. There is no charge but donations are welcome.

We desperately need volunteers to help with the set up, help in the kitchen, and to clear away. If you are able to help, please email Geraldine on [geraldine.page21@gmail.com](mailto:geraldine.page21@gmail.com)

### ALPHA - INVITATION TO PRAY

This year Alpha launched on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September. We are inviting all parishioners to join some of the Alpha team at Our Lady Help of Christians church for one or more alternate Wednesdays from 7.30-8.30pm to pray for the guests and team attending Alpha. In addition to this we would also love to invite you to pray daily for our parish community and its ongoing formation. Maybe you could consider praying the following prayer:

*Thank you loving Father for all those you have called to participate in Alpha; we ask your blessing upon all, both team and guests. Without you we can do nothing you are the Way, the Truth and the Life. Pour out your Holy Spirit and abundant blessings and gifts during this Alpha. May Alpha ignite or re-ignite the flame of faith in all hearts so that we may experience the wonder, joy and hope that being in relationship with you brings.*

*Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit... Amen*

### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER – A WOMEN LED, GLOBAL ECUMENICAL MOVEMENT.

This year, the service in our local area will be hosted by St Thomas' Church, West Hyde on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> October at 2pm. The theme of the service this year is 'Build on a Strong Foundation' and is based around a passage from the Gospel of Matthew. It calls on women, men and children to 'Build on a strong foundation' and live in unity, peace and love in the context of ethnic and cultural diversity, like Vanuatu and so many other places around the world. All are welcome to attend this service.

### WARM WINTER COATS WANTED

This November I am hoping to collect warm winter coats for the charity "Calling London". They distribute the coats to various charities helping the homeless, refugees, elderly and those in low income households. Any coats are welcome as long as they are clean and warm, but they particularly need children's and large adult sizes.

Donations should be left in the church porch and I can then arrange for them to be collected. The last date for donations is **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November**. For more information, or if you would like to be involved please email [coatdrivewd3@gmail.com](mailto:coatdrivewd3@gmail.com)

## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

### MEMORIAL MASS FOR FR JIM DUFFY

Fr Jim was the parish priest of Our Lady's for 26 years and sadly when he died nearly a year ago it was not possible for many of the parish to attend his funeral. The parish will be having a Memorial Mass for Fr Jim on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> November at 7pm in Our Lady's Church before his ashes are taken to Ireland for burial. All are most welcome to come to this Mass and give thanks to God for Fr Jim's service to our parish and to pray for the repose of his soul.

### FOLK GROUP - APPEAL FOR NEW MEMBERS

We wanted to extend a warm invitation to anyone who would like to join the Folk Group as a singer or as an instrumentalist, we are always keen to have new woodwind, string, and guitar players. If you are an instrumentalist, there is some sight-reading involved, so all we ask is for you to be at a good standard to be able to learn any new music. We rehearse before the 6pm Mass each week and would love to have you join us. If you have any questions, please drop me an email ([cepione@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:cepione@hotmail.co.uk)). *Katy Pione*

### 200 CLUB

The 200 Club begins again in October and if you are interested in joining (or cancelling your membership) please contact Kerry on 01923 773387 for further details.

## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

### CELEBRATION OF THE 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE OPENING OF THE CHURCH AND BLESSING OF OUR LADY ALTAR

It has now been confirmed that Cardinal Vincent Nichols will come to Mill End to celebrate Mass for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the church and to bless our new Lady Altar on **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2022** at our 10.30am Mass. Please add this date to your diary and look out for more details regarding this celebration in the coming weeks.

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY

We are planning to restart the Children's Liturgy group at the 10.30am Sunday Mass as soon as possible. We really need extra volunteers to help run the sessions. All materials are prepared by Liz and Regina, volunteers are needed to help on the day. New volunteers will always be paired initially with an existing member of the team. We have a team of 4 at the moment, 2 people are needed each week. Ideally we need a minimum of 6 volunteers therefore each person would only need to help once per month. If you are interested, please email me on [liztownsenduk@gmail.com](mailto:liztownsenduk@gmail.com) or speak to Fr Andrew or Fr Damian. All volunteers need to complete a DBS check arranged by the parish Safeguarding officer.

## ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

### A MESSAGE FROM JO WHELAN

I wish to thank all who helped me over Patsy's death. Thank you for your prayers and kind thoughts, for coming to the funeral Mass and for being so kind. Thank you Fr Andrew for the lovely Requiem Mass. Lots of love, *Jo Whelan*

### COVID PRECAUTIONS

Following a meeting of the COVID task force, seating in the Church has been returned to the pre-pandemic set up, and the one-way system removed. Hymn books have also been distributed as we welcome the return of the choir and congregational singing. However, we would request that Parishioners continue sanitising their hands on entering the Church and wear a mask throughout Mass. Good ventilation continues to be a key safeguard against the spread of the virus and so the front and side doors will remain open throughout. However, recognising that we are now in autumn and temperatures are dropping, the back door in the main Church will be closed just as Mass commences should the weather and temperature in the Church require it. We also recognise that parishioners will have differing thoughts with regard to what they feel is a comfortable social distance to maintain between households and will provide notices that enable someone to request that the seat directly next to them is kept free. While it isn't appropriate to remove all restrictions at this time, we hope this is seen as a welcome step along that road

### MARY'S MINI ART GALLERY (GARAGE)

We now have nearly 50 artworks for sale: oils, watercolours, prints, a batik, cigarette cards, pewter, china, bamboo and embroidery. Also greetings cards. New items are being given every week. We have so far raised £702 for the **Cardinal Hume Centre** for the homeless in Westminster. Do call me to come and see. *Mary* 284975 xx

## DIOCESAN NOTICES

### THE PASSAGE

The Passage is grateful to those parishioners who have volunteered to help with its street collection on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October. If you wish to volunteer please contact Andrew Hollingsworth [andrew.h@passage.org.uk](mailto:andrew.h@passage.org.uk) 020 75921886 (07928 703131) by 12 noon on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> October. Do look out for Passage collectors on Tuesday if you are in Westminster in Victoria Street or Oxford Street. If you do not carry cash to donate the campaign online at [www.passage.org.uk/street](http://www.passage.org.uk/street)

**WESTMINSTER DIOCESE JOB VACANCIES** - please visit our website at <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/>