



St John The Evangelist

Berry Lane, Rickmansworth, WD3 7HG
<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/millend/>



Our Lady Help of Christians

5 Park Road, Rickmansworth, WD3 1HU
<http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/rickmansworth>



St John Fisher

Hill Cottage, Shire Lane, Chorleywood, WD3 5NH
<http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/chorleywood>

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

ENCOUNTERING JESUS, SERVING OTHERS

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Parish Priest:

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Assistant Priest:

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Rickmansworth

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Chorleywood

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SAFEGUARDING REPS.

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YOUTH MINISTRY

Belinda Calen - Alpha Youth:
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Caitlin Scott - Confirmation:
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Margaret Simon - Youth Ministry
Leadership Team:
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THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B) - 7TH NOVEMBER 2021

Explaining Purgatory

For those who find themselves in a condition of being open to God, but still imperfectly, the journey towards full beatitude requires a purification, which the faith of the Church illustrates in the doctrine of 'Purgatory' (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, n. 1030-1032).

In Sacred Scripture, we can grasp certain elements that help us to understand the meaning of this doctrine. They express the belief that we cannot approach God without undergoing some kind of purification. According to Old Testament religious law, what is destined for God must be perfect. As a result, physical integrity is required for the realities which come into contact with God at the *sacrificial* level, for example, sacrificial animals (cf. *Lv 22:22*) or at the *institutional* level, as in the case of priests (*Lv 21:17-23*). The need for integrity obviously becomes necessary after death, for entering into perfect and complete communion with God. Those who do not possess this integrity must undergo purification. This is suggested by St Paul who speaks of the value of each person's work which will be revealed on the day of judgement (*1 Cor 3:14-15*).

At times, to reach a state of perfect integrity a person's intercession or mediation is needed. For example, Moses obtains pardon for the people with a prayer (*Ex 32:30, 11-13*) and the figure of the Servant, in the Book of Isaiah, is also portrayed by his role of intercession (*Is 52:13-53, 12*). In the New Testament Christ is presented as the intercessor who assumes the functions of high priest (*Heb 5:7; 7:25*). But in him the priesthood is presented in a new and definitive form. He enters the heavenly shrine once and for all, to intercede with God on our behalf (*Heb 9:23-26*). Jesus, as the great intercessor who atones for us, will fully reveal himself at the end of our life when he will express himself with the offer of mercy, but also with the inevitable judgement for those who refuse the Father's love and forgiveness.

This offer of mercy does not exclude the duty to present ourselves to God, pure and whole, rich in that love which Paul calls a '[bond] of perfect harmony' (*Col 3:14*). Every trace of attachment to evil must be eliminated, every imperfection of the soul corrected. Purification must be complete, and indeed this is precisely what is meant by the Church's teaching on *purgatory*. The term does not indicate a place, but a condition of existence. Those who, after death, exist in a state of purification, are already in the love of Christ who removes from them the remnants of imperfection. The state of purification is not a prolongation of the earthly condition, almost as if after death one were given another possibility to change one's destiny. The Church's teaching in this regard is unequivocal.

One last important aspect in the Church's tradition should be repropounded: the *dimension of 'communio'*. Those, who find themselves in the state of purification are united both with the blessed who already enjoy the fullness of eternal life, and with us on this earth (cf. *CCC*, n. 1032). After death those who live in a state of purification experience... ecclesial solidarity which works through prayer, prayers for suffrage and love for their other brothers and sisters in the faith. Purification is lived in the essential bond created between those who live in this world and those who enjoy eternal beatitude.

Extract from General Audience of St Pope John Paul II, Wednesday 4 August 1999

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SUN 7TH NOVEMBER	9.15am 12.30pm 2.30pm	First Communion Class - Hall Baptisms Blessing of Graves	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians Chorleywood Road Cemetery
MON 8TH NOVEMBER	5.30pm	First Communion Class - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
TUES 9TH NOVEMBER	7.30pm	First Communion Parents Meeting - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 10TH NOVEMBER	7.30pm 7.30pm	Alpha - Hall Alpha Prayer Ministry - Church	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
THU 11TH NOVEMBER	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
SUN 14TH NOVEMBER	9.15am 11.30am 4.15pm	First Communion Class - Hall Tea and Coffee after Mass - Hall Confirmation Session - Hall	St John the Evangelist St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

	Our Lady Help of Christians	St John the Evangelist	St John Fisher
SATURDAY 6 TH NOVEMBER	11.00am For all deceased members of our parishes	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parishes	
SUNDAY 7 TH NOVEMBER <i>THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Julia & Phyllis Rice RIP (Anniv.) 11am Verna Kendrick RIP 6pm Mick O'Sullivan RIP	10.30am Chris Patton RIP	9am Gregory McEwen RIP (Anniv.)
MONDAY 8 TH NOVEMBER	9.30am Holy Souls		
TUE 9TH NOVEMBER <i>THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA</i>	9.30am Gregory McEwen RIP (Anniv.)		9.30am Alexander Buhagiar RIP (Anniv.)
WED 10TH NOVEMBER <i>ST LEO THE GREAT, POPE</i>	9.30am Holy Souls	9.30am Holy Souls	
THU 11TH NOVEMBER <i>ST MARTIN OF TOURS, BISHOP</i>	9.30am Holy Souls		
FRI 12TH NOVEMBER <i>ST JOSAPHAT, BISHOP</i>	9.30am Holy Souls		
SATURDAY 13 TH NOVEMBER	9.30am Holy Souls	6pm (Vigil) For the People of the Parishes	
SUNDAY 14 TH NOVEMBER <i>THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Reena Henry (Ints.) 11am Bernadette Hayden RIP 6pm Mgr Peter Smith RIP	10.30am Roisin Harrington RIP	9am 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, Michael Gaukroger and Molly Gray.

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

THE SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS' COLLECTION

Our second collection today will be in support of the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund. Most priests offer their resignation as a parish priest at the age of 75, but many continue to serve their communities, working in our parishes, schools, hospitals and chaplaincies. We must ensure no priest is worried about meeting essential costs during their senior years and, as such, Cardinal Nichols and the Diocese of Westminster are committed to ensuring that no retired or sick priest is left without support. By giving a gift to the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund, you will help ensure all of our sick and retired priests are cared for at their time of need, after years of service to God and their parishioners. The fund will be used to meet essential costs, like making a flat accessible to a disabled priest. It could ensure a priest has regular visits from a carer after undergoing surgery. Rest assured, the Diocese works closely with the NHS, local councils and social services, but there will nevertheless be gaps in funding and we need to ensure our priests have peace of mind in their senior years. If you took a donation envelope last weekend, please place it in the collection today. If you do not have an envelope, there are some available at the back of the church. The envelopes and posters feature a 'QR Code' that you can scan with a phone camera to give online. This reduces the risks to everyone of handling cash or touching the envelopes. If you are able, please consider filling out a standing order form, meaning you become a Patron and make a regular gift to support our sick and retired priests. Please be generous and remember our clergy, in active ministry, retired or ill, in your prayers. Thank you.

ST PATRICK MISSIONARY SOCIETY APPEAL

On the weekends of 13th/14th and 20th/21st November we will be joined by Fr Richard Filimar who will speak to us about the work of St Patrick's Missionary Society and make an appeal for our financial support. Fr Richard will be present at the following Masses:

13th/14th November: Mill End (6pm Vigil), Chorleywood (9am) and Rickmansworth (11am)

21st November: Rickmansworth (8.30am & 6pm) and Mill End (10.30am).

There will be a retiring collection at each of the Masses to support St Patrick's Missionary Society.

GILLIAN WILTON RIP

The funeral of Gillian Wilton will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians at 11.00am on **Monday 15th November**, followed by committal 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.

CONFIRMATION

For those parishioners in Year 9 and above interested in receiving the sacrament of Confirmation in 2022, please email rickmansworthconfirmation@rcdow.org.uk for more information and an application form before **14th November 2021**.

WESTMINSTER SYNODAL PATHWAY

We will have some moments of reflection on the questions of the Synod in some of our existing forums and groups but primarily in our three parishes we will come together for this period of listening and reflection on **Sunday 21st November** at the following times:

Our Lady's Hall, Rickmansworth 9.30-10.30am

St John Fisher Church, Chorleywood 10-11am

St John the Evangelist Parish Centre, Mill End 11.30am-12.30pm.

We would encourage all parishioners to try and attend one of these sessions answering this important call to reflection after what has been a difficult couple of years for so many of us. It is only by spending this time listening and reflecting together, that we as a Church will learn to grow stronger together and live out our calling as missionary disciples. **Please take a prayer card as you leave church today.**

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

We are happy to announce the popular children's party will be back this year on **Sunday 19th December 2021** at 11.30am in St John's Parish Centre, Mill End. Please put the date in your diaries. All children from across our parishes who are primary school age or younger are welcome to come along. We would ask that parents stay with the children please. Mr Marvel will be there to entertain the children while the parents can relax and enjoy a cup of tea. No booking is required, please just turn up.

BLESSING OF GRAVES

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

Sunday 7th November – 2.30pm Chorleywood Road Cemetery

Sunday 21st November – 2.30pm Woodcock Hill Cemetery

DEANERY MASS FOR THE DECEASED CLERGY OF THE WATFORD DEANERY

The annual Deanery Mass for the repose of the souls of the deceased priests of the Deanery will take place at St Helen's, North Watford on **9th November** at 12 noon. This Mass will be concelebrated by the priests of the Deanery. Parishioners of the three parishes are invited to join us for this Mass.

ARMISTICE DAY – THURSDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

10.45am Gather at the War Memorial in St Mary's Churchyard for the reading of the names on the War Memorial and in the Books of Remembrance in church.

11.00am Two Minute Silence

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY – 14TH NOVEMBER

Due to ongoing precautions relating to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the marking of Remembrance Sunday will take place with a Remembrance Sunday Parade through the Town Centre followed by the Act of Remembrance in the Churchyard at St Mary's. There will be no Service in church this year in order to allow for continued Covid-19 precautions.

1.30pm Parade assembles in the Car Park of Our Lady Help of Christians, Rickmansworth.

2.00pm Parade marches off, heading west along Rickmansworth High Street.

2.15pm Parade arrives at St Mary's Churchyard. The Standard and Flag Parties proceed to the War Memorial entrance.

2.30pm Act of Remembrance by the War Memorial

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 **23rd 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.

CHRISTMAS FAIR - SUNDAY 28TH NOVEMBER

We're looking forward to the return of our Christmas Fair. We would be grateful to receive donations of bottles of wine/spirits and new unwanted gifts for our tombola/raffle. A box will be in the church porch. Are you available to help on the day? Please email laura.sharp@live.co.uk or aodonovan@ntlworld.com.

APPEAL FOR CLEANERS

Would you have a couple of hours to spare every 6-8 weeks to help us keep our beautiful church clean, shiny and safe? We have a small, dedicated team of volunteers already, but we would really need to boost our numbers to have more flexibility. You'd have a 'cleaning buddy' and it's surprising what friendships can develop while vacuuming, mopping or dusting. If you think you might be able to help, or if you have any questions, please contact Cristina on 07470 266 284 or at cristinapersonal19@gmail.com. Thank you!

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). *Katy Pione*

200 CLUB

Congratulations to Caroline Edwards £31, Collette Bridge-Madden £23.25, Anita Khurwal £15.50, Patricia Kelly £7.75.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

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 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.

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 where they will be collected. The last date for donations is **Sunday 21st November**. For more information, or if you would like to be involved please email coatdrivewd3@gmail.com

Thank you, *Allyson O'Grady*

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 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.

ST JOHN FISHER CHARITY CHRISTMAS FAIR 2021

Once again in Mary's garage in Turneys Orchard and running from **now** until **Saturday 27th November**. Please help us raise money for **The Cardinal Hume Centre in Westminster** and **Franciscan Missionaries in Africa** by donations of bottles for the raffle, gifts, new or nearly new or antique!, good toys, toiletries, etc., and also more valuable items for the Silent Auction. The hyacinths and other bulbs are ready to order and we are **now selling** tickets for our amazing **Raffle**. Marguerite (282780) is now taking orders for her delicious **Christmas Cakes** and **Sponges**. Come and **Bring and Buy** at any time by appointment or drop in at our **Open Times** of 10am - 12 noon on Saturdays and 2-4pm on Thursdays during **November**. We will also be selling raffle tickets after the Masses on 14th and 21st November. For appointments or extra information phone Mary on 284975. With love to all xx

DIOCESAN NOTICES

St Joan of Arc Catholic School, Rickmansworth are looking to appoint a Foundation Governor. For more information please contact admin@joa.herts.sch.uk