



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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Parish Administrator:

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Rickmansworth

Paul Forrest
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Chorleywood

Anne Lorrimer-Roberts
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SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C) - 13TH FEBRUARY 2022

Discovering prayer

Prayer can never be a failure. If I used that expression it would refer to how people express themselves: "I can't pray"; "my prayer is a failure"; "I pray and nothing happens; I'm praying to myself." This is to have a completely false idea of prayer.

To believe in the God of Jesus Christ is to know that, through what God in his love has done for us, there is absolutely no barrier between God and ourselves. We have free access. God is always available, always there, always with us - with you, with me. What is more, we know that God made us in love, precisely because God wants us wholly united to him for his and our total happiness.

Now, if we really believe that - and we must, surely, if we set aside some time to pray, affirm God's (or Jesus') loving presence and offer ourselves to him to do in us all he wants. He will not fail to purify us and gradually transform us as he unites us to himself. How can it matter that we do not *feel* it is happening?

Prayer is essentially God's work. Our part is to give time, do our best to keep attention, surrender ourselves as best we can. Then we can be sure that God works. Faith does not ask for signs, for tokens. When we really grasp that prayer is essentially God's business, not ours, we will never talk of failure, no matter how unsatisfactory prayer seems to us.

Extract from an interview with Ruth Burrows, Carmelite sister from Quidenham Carmel found at <https://www.christiancentury.org/article/2012-03/prayer-god-s-work>

SAFEGUARDING REPS.

Rickmansworth Parish

Caroline Mathie 01895 672572
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Mill End Parish

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Chorleywood Parish

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Diocesan Safeguarding

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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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PRAYER AND LIFE WORKSHOPS

Do you ever feel like you're not sure how to pray? Do you ever wonder if your prayers will be heard? You can learn some of the most powerful Catholic methods of praying, to grow in greater confidence and a relationship with God, at the Prayer and Life Workshops. It is for everyone, whether you are a beginner or more experienced in prayer. Taster sessions will be held:

- Tuesday 15th February at Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Hall, Rickmansworth 7pm – 9pm
- Thursday 17th February at St John the Evangelist Parish Centre, Mill End 7pm – 9pm
- Saturday 19th February at St John Fisher Church, Chorleywood 10am – 12pm

For those who wish to join them the workshops will then continue for 15 weeks. Both Fr Andrew and Fr Damian have done the workshops, and have benefitted enormously and encourage all parishioners to try them for themselves.

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SUN 13TH FEBRUARY	9.30am 11.30am 5.00pm - 5.45pm	Coffee Morning - Hall Tea and Coffee after Mass - Hall Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
MON 14TH FEBRUARY	11.00am	Funeral - Josie Westthrop RIP	Our Lady Help of Christians
TUE 15TH FEBRUARY	7.00pm - 9.00pm	Taster Session - Prayer & Life Workshop - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 16TH FEBRUARY	9.00am	Rosary before Mass	St John the Evangelist
THU 17TH FEBRUARY	7.00pm - 9.00pm 8.00pm - 9.30pm	Taster Session - Prayer & Life Workshop - Hall Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 18TH FEBRUARY	10.00am	Tea and Coffee after Mass - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 19TH FEBRUARY	10.00am - 12 noon 5.00pm - 5.45pm	Taster Session - Prayer & Life Workshop Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	St John Fisher St John the Evangelist
SUN 20TH FEBRUARY	9.15am 11.30am 12.30pm 5.00pm - 5.45pm	First Holy Communion Class - Hall Tea and Coffee after Mass - Hall SVP Community Lunch - Hall Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	St John the Evangelist St John the Evangelist St John's School Our Lady Help of Christians

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

	Our Lady Help of Christians	St John the Evangelist	St John Fisher
SATURDAY 12 TH FEBRUARY	9.30am For the sick and housebound of the parishes	6pm (Vigil) Frances Keating RIP	
SUNDAY 13 TH FEBRUARY <i>SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Mary & Jack Casey RIP (Anniv.) 11am Shon Thomas (Ints.) 6pm James Byrne RIP	10.30am Eve Clark RIP	9am For the People of the Parishes
MON 14TH FEBRUARY <i>SS CYRIL, MONK & METHODIUS, BISHOP</i>	9.30am Fr Des Baker RIP 11.00am Funeral - Josie Westthrop RIP		
TUESDAY 15 TH FEBRUARY	9.30am Patrick Rooney RIP		9.30am Joyce Dowling RIP & Irene Foggo RIP
WEDNESDAY 16 TH FEBRUARY	9.30am Fr Seamus McGeoghan RIP	9.30am Fr Desmond Baker RIP	
THURSDAY 17 TH FEBRUARY	9.30am For the sick and housebound of the parishes		
FRIDAY 18 TH FEBRUARY	9.30am Don Williamson RIP		
SATURDAY 19 TH FEBRUARY	9.30am For the sick and housebound of the parishes	6pm (Vigil) Teresa Healy RIP & Nellie Mulvihill RIP	
SUNDAY 20 TH FEBRUARY <i>SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Sheila Sharp RIP 11am Michael Townend RIP 6pm Mai O'Driscoll RIP	10.30am For the People of the Parishes	9am For the People of the Parishes

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, Michael Gaukroger, Molly Gray and Leslie Edwards.

St John the Evangelist: Rita Murray, Alfredo Rock and Paul O'Connor.

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

ANNUAL PARISHES MEETING

The APM this year will take place online via Zoom and will be a combined meeting across the parishes. It will take place on Saturday 26th February at 2pm. All parishioners are encouraged to join us if possible to hear what is going on in our parishes. The details for the APM on Zoom are as follows: Meeting ID: 896 3738 9440 Passcode: 958771.

DIVINE RENOVATION "WATCH" PARTY

You are invited to a "watch" party to watch, listen, and discuss a recording of a conversation between three of the most prominent Christian leaders in the English speaking world today: Bishop Robert Barron (Word on Fire), Fr James Mallon (Divine Renovation), and Pastor Nicky Gumbel (Alpha), about what God is saying to the church.

It will take place on Monday 14th March 7.30pm - 9.30pm at Our Lady Help of Christian's Hall. If you would like to come, please, email Fr Damian damianryan@rcdow.org.uk by Friday 4th March, to register your place. Book early to avoid disappointment! Our hope is that this event can help us discern how God might be affirming what we are already doing, and other ways God might be inviting us to share in the building of His kingdom.

ONLINE EVENT TO ENCOURAGE PARISH RENEWAL, MISSION AND EVANGELISATION

As we slowly start to emerge into a post-pandemic world, mission-minded parish leaders know we have an incredible opportunity to recommit our energies to finding bold and new ways to evangelize. But there are important questions many are wrestling with: Join Fr. James Mallon, Bishop Robert Barron, and Revd. Nicky Gumbel for a conversation on What is God Saying to the Church? This is a FREE online event happening Tuesday, March 1, 2022, at 6pm. Visit <https://www.divinerenovation.org/events> to register today for what promises to be an inspiring conversation.

THIS YEAR RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY IS ON 13TH FEBRUARY

Our theme *In the Image and Likeness of God* celebrates presentations of the Holy Family from different cultures. To mark the day, the Bishop's Conference have produced a series of posters, which highlight the rich diversity of our Catholic community and encourage reflection upon how all peoples are made in the image of God. To see the posters and more follow <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/rjs22> On Racial Justice Sunday we are encouraged to mark the day by praying the words of Pope Francis in *Fratelli Tutti*:

Come, Holy Spirit, show us your beauty, reflected in all the peoples of the earth, so that we may discover anew that all are important and all are necessary, different faces of the one humanity that God so loves. Amen.

JOSIE WESTHROP RIP

The funeral service of Josie Westhrop will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians at 11.00am on Monday 14th February. We commend her to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for her family at this sad and difficult time.

MICHAEL DIXON RIP

The funeral of Michael Dixon will take place at St John the Evangelist at 11.00am on Friday 25th February, followed by committal at Woodcock Hill Cemetery. We commend him to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for his family at this sad and difficult time.

ASH WEDNESDAY (MARCH 2ND) - DO YOU STILL HAVE LAST YEAR'S PALM AT HOME?

This year we would like to prepare our own ash from last year's palms (or palms from any previous year should you have them!). Please hunt around at home for them and bring them to the sacristy after Mass. We will burn them at the end of February and use them on Ash Wednesday. Thank you!

SKILLS AUDIT

Thank you to all those who completed the skill audit form. We have some very talented people in our parishes! This information will be collated over the coming weeks and used to help the SLT when seeking certain skills to help the parishes to run efficiently. Forms are available in the Church. Please do fill them in and pass them to one of the priests to be added to the audit database.

SVP COMMUNITY LUNCH

The next SVP Community Lunch is on **Sunday 20th February** 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

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

The WDP service for 2022 has been prepared by the Christian women of England, Wales & Northern Ireland, with the theme, 'I know the plans I have for you', based on Jeremiah 29:11. The overarching message is one of hope and trust that God's plans, though not always what we expect, bring hope and renewal for a future that we cannot always imagine. The WDP service in our local area will be hosted by Mill End Baptist Church, Field Way, on Friday 4th March at 2.00pm. All are welcome to attend, and we encourage our parishes to support this service which is another opportunity to further our contact with our fellow Christian communities. If anyone is in need of a lift, please contact Geraldine (07725 748490) or Cristina (07470 266284)

DIOCESAN NOTICES

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Westminster Cathedral, **Saturday 14th May 2022 at 3.00pm.**

The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) Wedding Anniversary of Catholic Marriage in 2022. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give Fr Andrew or Fr Damian the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

DO YOU HAVE A SPECIAL PETITION FOR OUR LADY'S INTERCESSION?

Parishioners at Our Lady's may remember that, pre-Covid, there was a Petitions Book near Our Lady's Altar for those seeking her intercession to write in. We are happy to announce its reinstatement as of last Thursday. Please make sure that petitions are brief and do not include information from which specific individuals can be identified.

Our Lady, Help of Christians - pray for us.

COFFEE AFTER 8.30AM MASS

Please join us in the hall for a catch up and make new parish friends at our coffee morning after Mass this Sunday. Donations go to the Catholic Worker Farm.

REPOSITORY SHOP

Over the coming weeks we would like to reopen the Repository Shop to sell cards, books and other items. However, we need volunteers who will help to steward this when it is open before and after each Sunday Mass. If you are willing to be involved with this then please email Fr Andrew for more information.

11.00AM CHOIR

Would you like to sing in the 11.00am choir? We practise from 10am most Sundays, restarting on 6th February, when we'll start working towards Easter. It's a lovely way to contribute to the Mass - no experience needed, and you don't need to read music. Contact Cormac on cormac.purtill@gmail.com or 07759 118770, or just turn up!

THE GARDEN CALVARY

The parish Finance, Operations and Premises (FOP) Committee, is currently working on a plan for the renewal of the Calvary. 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 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 soon.

STAMPS FOR THE MISSIONS

Thank you for saving your stamps for the Missions, the box is in the church porch. Please keep them coming!
Sheila Harrington.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

CONTACTLESS DONATIONS

You will find our digital collection plate (Dona) in the church porch. Just use your contactless debit/credit card or smart phone/device to make a donation. Simply choose the amount you wish to donate and hold your card onto the reader. You can also opt-in for Gift Aid to increase your donation by 25%. If you are a UK taxpayer then donating with Gift Aid means that we can claim an extra 25p for every £1 received.

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - SERVICE AT CHRIST CHURCH, CHORLEYWOOD AT 10.30AM ON FRIDAY 4th MARCH 2022

This year's service for World Day of Prayer in Chorleywood will be held at Christ Church at 10.30am on Friday 4th March. Everyone is most welcome.

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: **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.

GENERAL NOTICES

THE UNIVERSE CATHOLIC WEEKLY

The Universe Catholic Weekly is thrilled to announce that we have launched our new online newspaper with the full support of our first subscriber none other than His Eminence Cardinal Vincent Nichols. Order your Digital 4 weeks FREE trial supply by calling Michelle on 0743 661 7650 or email: Michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk

SOLID TO THE CORE PILATES CLASSES

Jo McNaughton-Smith, a parishioner at St John's church Mill End, runs small friendly Pilates classes suitable for all ages and ability at St John's Church Hall on a Monday and Wednesday morning at 9.15am to 10.15am. First class is free! Please contact Jo on 07801 218550 or www.solidtothecorepilates.co.uk