



### 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:

Fr Andrew Gallagher  
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#### Assistant Priest:

Fr Damian Ryan  
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#### Parish Administrator:

Kerry Van Rensburg  
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#### Rickmansworth

Paul Forrest  
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#### Chorleywood

Anne Lorrimer-Roberts  
[anne@themessagemachine.com](mailto:anne@themessagemachine.com)

#### Mill End

Geraldine Page  
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 @ChessValleyRC

### SAFEGUARDING REPS.

#### Rickmansworth Parish

Caroline Mathie 01895 672572  
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#### Mill End Parish

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#### Chorleywood Parish

Peter Mackie 07802 229337  
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#### Diocesan Safeguarding

Coordinator 0207 798 9356

### 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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### FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR C) - 27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2022

### Do not be afraid of Confession!

My dear brothers and sisters, I would like to ask you: when was the last time you made your Confession? Everyone think about it ... is it two days, two weeks, two years, twenty years, forty years? And if much time has passed, do not lose another day. Go, the priest will be good. Jesus is there, Jesus receives you with much love. Be courageous and go to Confession! This is the call of Pope Francis which I wish to echo at the beginning of Lent.

*"Do not be afraid of Confession!"* Pope Francis says in his simple and direct teaching. *"When one is in line for Confession,"* he reflects, *"we feel those things which weigh on our hearts; but when one finishes Confession one leaves free, grand, beautiful, forgiven, candid, happy. This is the beauty of Confession!"* This is the Sacrament which Christ gives us for our salvation; for the forgiveness of sins after Baptism; and to enable you and me to reach the holiness, the perfection of charity which is the goal of our Christian lives. So, what is it that holds us back from this Sacrament? I think I know from personal experience. Confession is the moment when I have to put aside all illusions about myself and about the state of my Christian life and be ready to say *"Father, these are my sins."* It would be so much easier to say: these are someone else's sins and faults! But, no; this is where I have gone wrong! Confession is a "reality check" when I recognise how far I still have to go in the Christian life and receive the grace to go forward. In Pope Benedict's words: *"we must accept our frailty but keep on going, not giving up but moving forward and becoming converted ever anew through the Sacrament of Reconciliation for a new start ..."*. This is surely a moment when you and I are "led by the Spirit" (Mt.4:1) to reject the temptations, as Our Saviour did in the wilderness. We must never forget the Lord Jesus Himself, God the Son sharing our humanity, was tempted by the Evil One. We, then, must expect to face the same struggle in our lives. The sincere Confession of our sins is the moment when we put aside the illusions we can all so easily entertain about ourselves.

Pope Francis reminds us that confessing our sins can involve shame. But he calls it a "good shame," for our sins are the one thing of which we should be ashamed! However, it is in the very moment we confess them, God sends *"a brother to bestow his pardon, the certainty of his forgiveness in the name of the Church ..."* Through the ministry of the priest, Pope Francis reflects, God holds us *"in a new embrace and regenerates us and allows us to rise again and resume our journey"*. Today's Gospel ends with these beautiful words: *"Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him"* (Mt. 4:11). It is a scene of peace following the struggle in the wilderness. The Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation brings us peace: *"Go in peace"* the priest says to us.

During Lent there will be many opportunities to approach this *"great and beautiful Sacrament."* With Pope Francis, I invite you to put this question to yourself: How long is it since I was last at Confession? Please do not lose any time. The Holy Father reminds us: *"it is Jesus Himself who awaits us: have courage and go to Confession!"*

*Extract from Pastoral Letter of Bishop Mark Davies, Bishop of Shrewsbury, Lent 2014*

## FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

<b>SUN 27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>	9.15am 9.30am 11.30am 4.15pm 5.00pm - 5.45pm	First Holy Communion Class - Hall SVP Coffee Morning - Hall Tea and Coffee after Mass - Hall Confirmation Session - Hall Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>MON 28<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>	5.30pm	First Holy Communion Class - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>TUE 29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>	7.00pm - 9.00pm	Prayer & Life Workshop - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>WED 30<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>	9.00am 11.00am	Rosary before Mass St John's School End of Term Mass	St John the Evangelist St John the Evangelist
<b>THU 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH</b>	6.00pm - 8.00pm 8.00pm - 9.30pm	Prayer & Life Workshop - Church Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>FRI 1<sup>ST</sup> APRIL</b>	7.00pm	Stations of the Cross	St John Fisher
<b>SAT 2<sup>ND</sup> APRIL</b>	10.00am - 11.00am 10.00am 11.30am 2.00pm 5.00pm - 5.45pm	Lent Holy Hour and Confessions Prayer & Life Workshop Baptisms Wedding Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	Our Lady Help of Christians St John Fisher Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
<b>SUN 3<sup>RD</sup> APRIL</b>	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

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

	Our Lady Help of Christians	St John the Evangelist	St John Fisher
<b>SATURDAY</b> 26 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	<b>9.30am</b> Lee & Anne Marie Toolan (Ints.)	<b>6pm (Vigil)</b> Harry Loughlin RIP (Anniv.)	
<b>SUNDAY</b> 27 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH <i>FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT</i>	<b>8.30am</b> Nalene (Ints.) <b>11am</b> Peter Corey RIP <b>6pm</b> For the People of the Parishes	<b>10.30am</b> Private Intention	<b>9am</b> For the People of the Parishes
<b>MONDAY</b> 28 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	<b>9.30am</b> Bill Graham RIP		
<b>TUESDAY</b> 29 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	<b>9.30am</b> Fr Kevin McDevitt RIP		<b>9.30am</b> For the sick and housebound of the parishes
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 30 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	<b>9.30am</b> For the sick and housebound of the parishes	<b>9.30am</b> Ferdia Kelly RIP	
<b>THURSDAY</b> 31 <sup>ST</sup> MARCH	<b>9.30am</b> Malcolm Stacey RIP		
<b>FRIDAY</b> 1 <sup>ST</sup> APRIL	<b>9.30am</b> Michael Livesley (Ints.)		
<b>SATURDAY</b> 2 <sup>ND</sup> APRIL	<b>9.30am</b> For the sick and housebound of the parishes	<b>6pm (Vigil)</b> Mary & John Gibbs RIP	
<b>SUNDAY</b> 3 <sup>RD</sup> APRIL <i>FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT</i>	<b>8.30am</b> For the People of the Parishes <b>11am</b> John Reid RIP (Anniv.) <b>6pm</b> John Connor RIP (Anniv.)	<b>10.30am</b> Bill Graham RIP	<b>9am</b> For the People of the Parishes
<b>SANCTUARY LAMPS</b>	This week our sanctuary lamp (Blessed Sacrament) burns for the intentions of Nalene.		

## NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

### MOTHERING SUNDAY

We wish all mothers and grandmothers a wonderful Mothering Sunday. At the end of all the Masses this weekend there will be a special blessing for all the mothers and grandmothers present.

### LENT HOLY HOUR AND THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Confessions are heard each Saturday 5pm - 5.45pm at St John's, Mill End and each Sunday 5pm - 5.45pm at Our Lady's, Rickmansworth. The following extra opportunities for a Holy Hour with the individual celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available, with visiting priests specified.

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April** – Our Lady's, Rickmansworth

10.00am to 11.00am – Fr Terkura Igbe CSSP from Our Lady & St Michael, Garston

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April** – Our Lady's, Rickmansworth

7.30pm to 8.30pm – Fr Gerard O'Brien from Holy Rood, Watford + Fr Tom Montgomery, St Matthew's, Northwood

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April** – St John Fisher, Chorleywood, 10.00am to 11.00am

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April** – Our Lady's, Rickmansworth, 10.00am to 11.00am

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April** – St John the Evangelist, Mill End, 10.00am to 11.00am (*please note change from leaflet*).

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The praying of Lenten Stations of the Cross will take place at St John Fisher at 7pm on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April and 8<sup>th</sup> April. The devotions will be led by parishioners. We hope that many parishioners from across the three parishes will come and join us for this important aspect of our Lenten spirituality.

### BRENDA REYNOLDS RIP

The funeral of Brenda Reynolds will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April at 11.00am 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.

### BILL GRAHAM RIP

The funeral of Bill Graham will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 11.00am followed by committal at Chilterns Crematorium. We commend him to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for his family at this sad and difficult time.

### UKRAINE APPEAL

The Ukraine Catholic Cathedral and community organisations have united to work with accredited and registered Ukrainian charities to provide medicines, food and critical services to support the most vulnerable to overcome the consequences and trauma of war. Donations can be made by cheque payable to AUGB LTD – Central Appeal Fund and sent to Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of the Holy Family of London, Chancery Office, 21-22 Binney Street, London, W1K 5BQ, directly to the central appeal fund – AUGB LTD, Account Number: 80038237, Sortcode: 20-65-89 with reference HelpUkraine or online <https://gofundme.com/f/helpukraine> Alternatively donations can be made to Cafod, who are a member of the Disasters Emergency Committee [www.cafod.org.uk](http://www.cafod.org.uk) or to Aid to the Church in Need <https://acnuk.org> who are working particularly with the Christian communities in the Ukraine.

If you are looking to offer your home to a refugee fleeing from the Ukraine and applying via the government scheme, please also let Fr Andrew know, so that the parishes may support you in whatever way you and your guest need over the coming months.

### 6<sup>TH</sup> RICKMANSWORTH SEA SCOUT GROUP

6<sup>th</sup> Rickmansworth Sea Scout Group, who have their HQ on the grounds of Our Lady's Church, have for many years been affiliated with the Rickmansworth parishes. We are hoping that this relationship will continue and grow. The group are currently seeking new leaders for their Beavers (aged 6-8), Cubs (8-10 ½) and Scouts (10 ½ - 14) to support them. New members are also very welcome. For more information please contact [6thRickySeaScouts@gmail.com](mailto:6thRickySeaScouts@gmail.com)

### MILL END FOOD BANK

Chess Valley SVP will be collecting specific items needed by the food bank to supplement their food boxes. There are now collection boxes in each of the Church porches for these items. We will be monitoring what is needed by the Food Bank regularly and update this list accordingly both in the Parish newsletter and on the boxes. Items needed at present are; **washing up liquid, washing powder, shower gel, long life juice/squash, long life milk & tinned vegetables.**

### SVP NATIONAL - LENTEN APPEAL FOR SOUTH SUDAN

Great things can be achieved in South Sudan with a relatively small amount of money! SVP England & Wales supports five projects - the Njarjwa baby feeding centres, Be In Hope street boys programme, SVP Public Health Care Centre, basic food supplies to thousands in displaced persons camps, and vocational training centres for young people to secure employment and support their families. During Lent please give what you can to help these people who have endured a violent and turbulent past and who struggle to survive. To donate, go to <https://fundraising.svp.org.uk/page/101291/donate/1>

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISHES

**Our Lady Help of Christians:** Kathleen Collins, 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, Paul O'Connor and Michael Massey

**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

## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

### THE CALVARY CROSS

As you will be aware the parish Finance, Operations and Premises (FOP) Committee, is currently working on a plan for the renewal of our much loved and iconic Calvary Cross which had to be taken down just before Christmas. Last month we announced that initial estimates for this work are currently up to £25,000 and work will not be able to begin on restoring the Calvary until this money is raised. We are delighted to announce that some very generous benefactors have stepped forward and this sum has now been raised and so work can begin on the restoration of the cross over the coming month. We thank all those who have contributed for your great generosity to the parish.

### VESTMENTS

A big thank you to those who have donated towards the vestments in memory of a loved one for our parish. We now have a red vestment for feasts of martyrs, feast linked to the Holy Spirit and on Good Friday. We also have a rose vestment which makes its debut in our parish this weekend.

### PROVISION FOR OUR FAMILIES

Whilst we are waiting for more volunteers to help run Children's Liturgy at our 11am Mass, we will in the coming weeks be providing resource sheets for children to use during Mass to focus their minds on the week's Gospel. We will also now have a 'Family Mass' on each first Sunday of the month at our 11am Mass where the homily will be particularly directed at our children and our young people will play a more active part in the liturgy. The first of these Masses will be on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April. If you are able to assist in joining our Children's Liturgy team then please speak to Fr Andrew.

### COFFEE MORNINGS

Please join us in the hall after the 8.30am Mass this Sunday for our SVP Coffee Morning.

There will be a coffee morning after 8.30am Mass next Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April. Please join us in the hall for a catch up and make new parish friends. Donations go to the Catholic Worker Farm.

### 200 CLUB

Congratulations to Maureen Douglas (£30), Annie Kent (£22.50), Clare Loose (£15.00) and Liz Waddington (£7.50).

## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

### SR KATHLEEN CLAPHAM RIP

Sr Kathleen Clapham, a former headteacher of St John's Primary School (1970 – 1985) died peacefully on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, at St Michael's Care Home, Westgate on Sea. After retiring from St John's, Sr Kathleen was appointed as a Religious Advisor for Primary Schools within the Hertfordshire Area of the Westminster Diocese. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace.

### PROVISION FOR OUR FAMILIES

Please do take the resource sheets for children to use during Mass to focus their minds on the week's Gospel. Children's Liturgy will return to the 10.30am Mass from Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> April. Thank you to all those who have volunteered to help with this. We will also now have a 'Family Mass' on each third Sunday of the month at our 10.30am Mass where the homily will be particularly directed at our children and our young people will play a more active part in the liturgy.

## ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

### ROSE VESTMENT

A big thank you to those who have donated towards the Rose vestment in memory of a loved one which makes its debut this weekend in our parish.

### GOOD FRIDAY AT 11.00AM

All welcome at the Chorleywood Crossroads gathering for a Walk of Witness for Good Friday. Unfortunately this year we are not able to host our usual coffee and hot cross buns after the walk.

### PROVISION FOR OUR FAMILIES

As we gradually welcome back our families to Mass we will in the coming weeks be providing resource sheets for children to use during Mass to focus their minds on the week's Gospel. Once a number of families are attending Mass we will look to restart Children's Liturgy in the parish, if there are adults willing to assist with this.

### PLANNED GIVING

Standing orders are the simplest and safest method for the parish as it reduces the amount of cash that needs to be handled and taken to the bank. It also allows parishioners to gift aid their donations if they are able. Planned giving envelopes can also be a tax efficient method of giving as each set of envelopes has a unique number that can be linked back to an individual and therefore allows donations to be gift aided.

If you wish to set up a standing order and/or register for gift aid, please contact either the parish office ([rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk)) or Carolyn Opie ([carolynopie@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:carolynopie@rcdow.org.uk)). If you wish to order a set of planned giving envelopes, please contact the parish office. If you are an existing user of planned giving envelopes, and have used them over the last year, a set will be ordered for you unless you inform us otherwise. Thank you.

## NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

### FAIRTRADE EASTER EGGS

This weekend is your last chance to order "Real Easter Eggs" via our local Traidcraft rep. If you would like to order an egg for collection from Helen Nolan (near Tesco Express) or local delivery within Rickmansworth, please email [helenvnolan@ntlworld.com](mailto:helenvnolan@ntlworld.com) or ring or message 07980 600549 [www.traidcraftshop.co.uk/easter/easter-eggs](http://www.traidcraftshop.co.uk/easter/easter-eggs)