



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

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Chorleywood

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@ChessValleyRC

SAFEGUARDING REPS.

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YOUTH MINISTRY

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Leadership Team:
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THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR C) - 20TH MARCH 2022

What can we do?

Over the past couple of weeks, we have all watched in horror at the war taking place in Ukraine. The images and stories that we have seen and heard have shocked us, and for such unnecessary violence to be taking place in a European country which many of us will have visited or even have family or friends linked to, has been truly horrifying. For all of us there is in some senses a feeling of hopelessness in the face of such destruction, but we all want to do something to help those who are suffering so much at this time. So, what can we do?

Here I would suggest we use what have traditionally been called the 'spiritual weapons of Lent': Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving.

Firstly, this is something we need to pray for. This weekend the different faith communities in the Rickmansworth and Mill End area will be united in praying for peace in the Ukraine. As this conflict continues, we invite everyone on Sundays at 8pm to (safely) light a candle in their window and pray the prayers of the different faith traditions on the leaflets at the back of each of our churches. I would also encourage that we pray the rosary for this intention – another great weapon in our armoury against the evil that is so evident in the conflict in the Ukraine.

Secondly, we should fast. St Basil the Great said that *'the fast is the spiritual weapon of protection against demons'*. Through fasting we turn away from our temptations and we humbly recognise the goodness of God who gives us what we need. Fasting heightens our spiritual senses and helps us to focus on our relationship with God, and on praying for others who are suffering and are truly in need.

And finally, we should give alms. In situations like this it can be very difficult to know where to donate to. If we are willing to give money towards those in need, we can point to three different groups. Firstly, 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 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 me know, so that the parishes may support you in whatever way you and your guest need over the coming months.

We will let you know if any other resources are made known to us where we can do something to help those who are suffering as a result of this crisis. Let's be united in our prayers, our fasting and our almsgiving for the people of Ukraine and for peace throughout the whole world.

Fr Andrew

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SUN 20TH MARCH	9.15am 11.30am 5.00pm - 5.45pm	First Holy Communion Class - Hall Tea and Coffee after Mass - Hall Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	St John the Evangelist St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
MON 21ST MARCH	5.30pm	First Holy Communion Class - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
TUE 22ND MARCH	7.00pm - 9.00pm	Prayer & Life Workshop - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 23RD MARCH	9.00am 9.30am	Rosary before Mass St John's School at Mass	St John the Evangelist St John the Evangelist
THU 24TH MARCH	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
FRI 25TH MARCH	7.00pm	Stations of the Cross	St John the Evangelist
SAT 26TH MARCH	10.00am 5.00pm - 5.45pm	Prayer & Life Workshop Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	St John Fisher St John the Evangelist
SUN 27TH MARCH	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

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

	Our Lady Help of Christians	St John the Evangelist	St John Fisher
SAT 19TH MARCH <i>St JOSEPH, SPOUSE OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</i>	9.30am For the sick and housebound of the parishes	6pm (Vigil) Hannah Logan RIP (Anniv.)	
SUNDAY 20TH MARCH <i>THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT</i>	8.30am For the People of the Parishes 11am George Bloom RIP 6pm Raymond Rolston RIP	10.30am Michael Dixon RIP	9am For the People of the Parishes
MONDAY 21ST MARCH	9.30am Helen Mary McConway RIP (Anniv.)		
TUESDAY 22ND MARCH	9.30am Peter Snell RIP		9.30am For the sick and housebound of the parishes
WEDNESDAY 23RD MARCH	NO MASS TODAY	9.30am Ivan Mahon-Smith RIP	
THURSDAY 24TH MARCH	9.30am Holy Souls		
FRIDAY 25TH MARCH <i>THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD</i>	9.30am Anne McNamara RIP		
SATURDAY 26TH MARCH	9.30am Lee & Anne Marie Toolan (Ints.)	6pm (Vigil) Harry Loughlin RIP (Anniv.)	
SUNDAY 27TH MARCH <i>FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT</i>	8.30am For the People of the Parishes 11am Peter Corey RIP 6pm For the People of the Parishes	10.30am Private Intention	9am For the People of the Parishes
SANCTUARY LAMPS	This week our sanctuary lamp (Our Lady's) burns for the intentions of the Budzynska Family		

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

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 2nd April – Our Lady's, Rickmansworth

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

Monday 4th 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 5th April – St John Fisher, Chorleywood, 10.00am to 11.00am

Wednesday 6th April – St John the Evangelist, Mill End, 10.00am to 11.00am

Monday 11th April – Our Lady's, Rickmansworth, 10.00am to 11.00am

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The praying of Lenten Stations of the Cross will once again circulate around the three parishes as follows:

Friday 25th March – St John's, Mill End – 7.00pm & Friday 1st April and 8th April – St John Fisher, Chorleywood – 7.00pm

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 5th 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.

WATFORD, HEMEL AND ST. ALBANS NHS HOSPITAL CHAPLAINCY

On admission to hospital, please ensure that your religion is registered and ask for a visit from hospital chaplaincy team. Chaplains visit the wards during the week and will organise sacramental and pastoral care for you; they also provide an 'on-call' service in case of emergency. Please let Fr Andrew or Fr Damian know if you or a close relative are in hospital. Our Catholic Chaplain is Theresa Taylor-Brookes and the contact number for the chaplaincy is 07776 598 704 or 01923 217 994; email: westherts.spiritualcare@nhs.net

HEAT OR EAT? HELP THOSE FACING THIS CHOICE. CARDINAL'S LENTEN APPEAL 2022

This year, we celebrate 10 years of Caritas Westminster, the social action agency of the Diocese, working with parishes to restore hope, and enable people to lead a life of dignity. Funds raised in this year's Cardinal's Lenten Appeal will be shared between parishes and Caritas Westminster. The effects of the pandemic are making daily life harder for all. Price rises mean many families face an impossible choice: HEAT or EAT? The Church is responding, with thousands of people putting their faith into action by serving those in need. Cardinal Nichols has expressed his gratitude to everyone who supports the Appeal, with whatever they can afford. Just as a mosaic is made up of many different coloured pieces, each one unique, each person's contribution to this mosaic of hope will bring light into the lives of people across our Diocese. Please take a donation envelope. You can use the QR code to make your donation online. Thank you.

6TH RICKMANSWORTH SEA SCOUT GROUP,

6th 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

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.**

SPONSORED SANCTUARY LAMPS.

In each of our churches 2 sanctuary lamp candles burn throughout the week – one by the tabernacle indicating the Lord's presence, and the other by the statue of Our Lady. Would you like one of these to burn in memory of a loved one, or for a particular intention? If so, we are asking for a donation of £10 per week, for your intention to be remembered and recorded in the weekly newsletter. Please hand your donation into the Parish Office or to one of the priests marked 'Sanctuary Lamp Donation', together with a note stating your particular intention, and the Church and the location of the lamp that you would like to burn for that intention.

INVITATION TO COME AND EXPLORE OUR CELTIC PAST

We warmly welcome you to join us and watch a 20 minute DVD on Thursday evening which considers the immense wisdom and inspiration of our Celtic heritage and how this can help us find renewed faith and vision together. The evening will start at 8.00pm in Our Lady Help of Christian's hall and finish at 9.30pm. If you want to find out more please email Deidre Gilmore; owengilmore@gmx.com. We look forward to seeing you, the prayer group.

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, Leslie Edwards and Bill Graham.

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

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 3rd 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 next Sunday 27th March for our SVP Coffee Morning. There will be a coffee morning after Mass on Sunday 3rd April. Please join us in the hall for a catch up and make new parish friends. Donations go to the Catholic Worker Farm.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

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 24th 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. The first of these Masses will be on Sunday 20th March.

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

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

Over the last two years, many parishioners have altered their planned giving arrangements and no longer use planned giving envelopes. As we are just about to place the order for next year's envelopes, it's a good time to ask all parishioners to consider how they wish to make their planned giving going forwards. 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) or Carolyn Opie (carolynopie@rcdow.org.uk). If you wish to order a set of planned giving envelopes for the financial year beginning in April 2022, 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.

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 the parish office the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

CATHOLICS IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Ethics and Practice St Mary's University, the Anscombe Centre and the Bios Centre are holding an event on ethics and practice in health and social care, taking place on 2nd April at St Patrick's Church, Soho Square. The event is part of a series aimed at Christians working in the health and social care sectors, but anybody is welcome to attend. Topics include the challenges of assisted dying, the care of the dying and questions of conscientious objection in the workplace. Cost is £20. To book, please visit <https://www.stmarys.ac.uk/events/2022/04/catholics-in-health-and-social-care> For more information, contact marianne.rozario@stmarys.ac.uk

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

Cardinal Vincent will be leading the annual diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes from 22nd to 29th July 2022. For details and to book call 01732 886666 or visit www.tangney-tours.com/westminster

THE FRIENDS

The Society of Friends of Westminster Cathedral is seeking to recruit a part time Organising Secretary to help administer the charity, assist in recruiting new members and in organising events. The appointment based in Westminster Cathedral Clergy House is for 20 hours per week at a salary in the region of £14,500 per annum. The appointment is for 12 months. Closing date 27th March 2022. For further details please visit <https://westminstercathedral.org.uk/the-friends-seek-an-organising-secretary/>.