



### 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  
[andrewgallagher@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:andrewgallagher@rcdow.org.uk)

#### Assistant Priest:

Fr Damian Ryan  
[damianryan@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:damianryan@rcdow.org.uk)

#### Parish Administrator:

Kerry Van Rensburg  
[rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk)

#### Rickmansworth

Paul Forrest  
[pga.forrest@btinternet.com](mailto:pga.forrest@btinternet.com)

#### Chorleywood

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

#### Mill End

Geraldine Page  
[geraldine.page21@gmail.com](mailto:geraldine.page21@gmail.com)

Address for all correspondence:  
5 Park Road, Rickmansworth  
WD3 1HU  
Telephone: 01923 773387



@ChessValleyRC

### SAFEGUARDING REPS.

#### Rickmansworth Parish

Caroline Mathie 01895 672572  
[rickmansworthsg1@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworthsg1@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

Carol Bartlett 01923 773841  
[rickmansworthsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworthsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

#### Mill End Parish

Matt McKiernan 01923 493747  
[millendsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:millendsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

#### Chorleywood Parish

Peter Mackie 07802 229337  
[chorleywoodsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:chorleywoodsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

#### Diocesan Safeguarding

Coordinator 0207 798 9356

### YOUTH MINISTRY

Belinda Calen - Alpha Youth:  
[rickmansworthalphayouth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworthalphayouth@rcdow.org.uk)

Caitlin Scott - Confirmation:  
[rickmansworthconfirmation@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworthconfirmation@rcdow.org.uk)

Margaret Simon - Youth Ministry  
Leadership Team:  
[rickmansworthyouth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworthyouth@rcdow.org.uk)

### FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR C) - 15<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2022

## Returning to Mass at Pentecost An invitation from the Bishops of England and Wales

This is the bread come down from heaven (John 6:58)

A beautiful hallmark of the Catholic faith is the profound desire to participate in the Holy Mass and share in the Eucharist. We do so with deep gratitude and joy. The Eucharist gives the Church her identity – “The Eucharist makes the Church, and the Church makes the Eucharist.” It enables us to worship Almighty God, to support each other on our journey of faith, and to be a visible sign of faith in the world. This hallmark is supported and strengthened by the precept that our fundamental Christian duty is to worship God by participating in the celebration of Mass. Attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is the greatest of all privileges, sometimes referred to as “the Sunday Obligation.”

Since the beginning of the Covid pandemic, until the present time, we have shared with you our judgment that the situation of the last two years has meant that the Sunday Obligation has been impeded and has needed to be fulfilled in other ways. We thank God that this situation has now changed. The pressing challenges of the pandemic have lessened significantly. Most people have resumed the wide range of normal activities, no longer restricted by the previous Covid measures. We therefore believe that the reasons which have prevented Catholics from attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation no longer apply.

We understand there will still be some members of our congregations who, for reasons of health, do not feel safe enough to return to Mass. It has always been the understanding of the Church that when the freedom of any Catholic to attend Mass in person is impeded for a serious reason, because of situations such as ill health, care for the sick or legitimate fear, this is not a breach of the Sunday Obligation.

Our Catholic people and parishes have benefitted during these difficult times from the online streaming of Mass and other services. “Virtual viewing” of Mass online does not fulfil the Sunday Obligation. It may, however, be a source of continual spiritual comfort to those who cannot attend Mass in person, for example those who are elderly and sick, for whom the obligation does not apply. In this context, we recognise gratefully the ministry of those who administer Holy Communion to the elderly, sick and housebound.

We are grateful to our clergy, religious and lay faithful who have served our parishes, schools and communities with dedication and distinction throughout this pandemic. Now we look forward with renewed faith and confidence.

In the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the Lord’s Supper, the Lord Jesus entrusted to us the precious gift of Himself. With humility, we glory in being a Eucharistic people for whom attendance at Mass is essential. Looking forward to the forthcoming feast of Pentecost, we now invite all Catholics who have not yet done so to return to attending Mass in person.

As the Church needs the witness of the presence of each person, so too each believer needs to journey in faith and worship with their fellow disciples. Nourished by our encounter with the Risen Lord Jesus, fed with His Word and His Body and Blood in Holy Communion, and supported by the presence of each other, we receive strength week by week, to serve the Lord and glorify Him with our lives.

*Approved by the Plenary Assembly of the Bishops’ Conference  
Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022*

## FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

<b>SUN 14<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b>	11.30am 5.00pm - 5.45pm	Tea and Coffee after Mass - Hall Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>TUE 16<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b>	7.00pm - 9.00pm	Prayer & Life Workshop - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>THU 18<sup>TH</sup> MAY</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>SAT 20<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b>	11.00am 1.30pm 5.00pm - 5.45pm	Baptisms Wedding - Risdon & Blow Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	St John Fisher Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
<b>SUN 20<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b>	11.30am 5.00pm - 5.45pm	Tea and Coffee after Mass - Hall Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	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>SAT 14<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b> <i>St MATTHIAS,</i> <i>APOSTLE</i>	<b>No 9.30AM MASS</b> <b>10.30am</b> For those receiving their First Holy Communion	<b>6.00pm</b> For the People of the Parishes	
<b>SUNDAY</b> <b>15<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b> <i>FIFTH SUNDAY OF</i> <i>EASTER</i>	<b>8.30am</b> For the People of the Parishes <b>11am</b> Alma Mussi RIP <b>6pm</b> Canon Philip Cross RIP	<b>10.30am (Family)</b> Alan Moss RIP	<b>9am</b> Kathleen Stewart RIP
<b>MONDAY</b> <b>16<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b>	<b>9.30am</b> Jackie Clackson RIP		
<b>TUESDAY</b> <b>17<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b>	<b>9.30am</b> Canon Philip Cross RIP		<b>NO MASS TODAY</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> <b>18<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b>	<b>NO MASS TODAY</b>	<b>9.30am</b> Michael Massey RIP	
<b>THURSDAY</b> <b>19<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b>	<b>9.30am</b> For the sick and housebound of the parishes		
<b>FRIDAY</b> <b>20<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b>	<b>9.30am</b> Fr Antony Brunning RIP <b>7.30pm</b> For those being Confirmed		
<b>SATURDAY</b> <b>21<sup>ST</sup> MAY</b>	<b>9.30am</b> Canon Philip Cross RIP	<b>6.00pm</b> For the People of the Parishes	
<b>SUNDAY</b> <b>22<sup>ND</sup> MAY</b> <i>SIXTH SUNDAY OF</i> <i>EASTER</i>	<b>8.30am</b> For the People of the Parishes <b>11am</b> Jad Damouni RIP <b>6pm</b> Jerzy Mazurkiewicz RIP	<b>10.30am</b> Private Intention	<b>9am</b> For the People of the Parishes
<b>SANCTUARY LAMPS</b>	This week our Blessed Sacrament Sanctuary Lamp burns for Viktor Boehler RIP (Anniv.)		This week our Blessed Sacrament Sanctuary Lamp burns for Kathleen Stewart RIP

### 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 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

### ASCENSION OF THE LORD

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May is the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord. Masses across the three parishes will be as follows: St John Fisher - 7.30pm Vigil (Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> May); Our Lady Help of Christians – 9.30am; St John the Evangelist – 7.30pm

### PRIEST TRAINING FUND - THANK YOU

Thank you for your generosity to the Priest Training Fund collection last weekend. It is not too late to make a donation if you wish. Envelopes are available in the back of the church, or by contacting the parish office. Please continue to pray for vocations to the priesthood. For more information, or to make a donation, visit [www.rcdow.org.uk/donations](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/donations)

### FR TIM DEAN WRITES

I want to thank everyone in the parishes who helped me to celebrate my 80th birthday. It was a joy to celebrate a Mass of Thanksgiving on April 28<sup>th</sup>, followed by the excellent buffet lunch created and provided by a team of wonderful ladies. I am also most grateful to Fr Andrew for inviting a number of Westminster priests whom I have known through the years and who made time to come along. It was a very happy occasion for me. *TD.*

### GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER (GIFT).

This will be a new style of family catechesis to help support parents to live out their promises at their child's baptism, to train them in the practice of the faith and to bring them up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us. Whether you are already engaged with your faith and the Church, looking for a way to become more engaged or seeking the sacraments for your child, GIFT is for you. This catechesis will be the gateway to bring your child towards First Holy Communion as well as an opportunity to continue to grow in faith together afterwards.

Initially this family catechesis will be available in two ways:

#### • Saturday family sessions

Families will be invited to come along on one Saturday morning a month. The sessions will be engaging, spirit-filled and fun, and they are for all the family. We will celebrate Mass, enjoy a time of fellowship and refreshment before sharing catechesis and activities. Each month we will explore a different topic such as the Saints, Epiphany, Lent, Holy Week.

#### • Faith Formation for parents

On one evening each month we will gather online (Zoom) with parents to explore our faith. These sessions are designed to help parents grow in their own faith, enabling them to lead their family on their journey of faith.

We pray that GIFT will be a new way of approaching family catechesis across our parishes that will give all our families encouragement and strength in journeying together in faith. If your family would like to sign up for GIFT then please email the parish office ([rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk)) with the names of each of your family, the children's ages and a contact phone number. Further details will then be sent to you.

We ask that everyone in our parishes prays for this new and exciting venture, and if you would like to assist the team as a catechist or helper, then please also contact the parish office for further details.

### THINKING ABOUT BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

Have you, or someone you know, been thinking about becoming a catholic? Are you a baptised catholic but have never received the Sacrament of Confirmation and would now like to complete your initiation? If the answer to either of these questions is 'yes', please drop me an email and we can have a chat about what is involved and how our parishes can help you to take the next step. *Fr Andrew*

### JUBILEE AFTERNOON TEA – Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> May at 2.30pm at Our Lady's, Rickmansworth

Join us for great food and music to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. All welcome! It will be an outdoor event (weather permitting). All proceeds to the SVP. Tickets £12 per adult and £6 per child are available at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/326264585157> or by contacting Angela O'Donovan – [aodonovan@ntlworld.com](mailto:aodonovan@ntlworld.com)

### YOUTH

Come and join us for an evening of fun, food and friends. For those in school year 6 and above. May 27<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm - 9.00pm at Our Lady's. Can we ask parents to text names, contact details, and how many attending to either Toni or Belinda on 07788 721222 or 07802 750243. We look forward to meeting you all. *Belinda, Toni and Margaret*

### HOSTING A UKRAINIAN FAMILY

If anyone is open to hosting a Ukrainian family in their home but is yet to find someone to host via the government system, then please do let Fr Andrew know.

### 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.

### COULD YOU SPARE A LITTLE TIME TO MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE?

Rickmansworth Care was started 50 years ago as a Churches Together initiative and is still working to provide our neighbours in Rickmansworth, Croxley, Mill End and Maple Cross transportation to hospital and doctors appointments etc. It isn't a big commitment and is surprisingly rewarding. If you can help contact Rose Tolley on 01923 776930 and for more information see our website [www.rickmansworthcare.org.uk](http://www.rickmansworthcare.org.uk)

## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

### ST JOAN OF ARC SCHOOL

We will be welcoming students from St Joan of Arc School to the 9.30am Mass on Monday and Tuesday at Our Lady's Church.

### REPOSITORY NOW OPEN

The Repository Shop contains lots of cards for all occasions, crosses, icons, Bibles and religious books to buy. It will be open before and after each of our Sunday Masses and run by a team of volunteers who are ready to welcome you. Currently purchases can only be made in cash, but a cashless option is being investigated for the future. Please only purchase items when the shop is open or via the parish office. If you would like to join our team of volunteers please contact Fr Andrew.

### COFFEE MORNINGS

Please join us in the hall after the 8.30am Mass next Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> May for our SVP Coffee Morning. There will be a coffee morning after Mass on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June. Please join us in the hall for a catch up and make new parish friends. Donations go to the Catholic Worker Farm

### APF MISSIO

Would promoters please collect the Spring Magazines from the church porch and please start collecting monies. Thank you.

## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

### RED MISSIO BOXES

I would like to say a big thank you to all of you who contribute towards the Missio / Mill Hill Missionaries with your Red Boxes. In 2021 you raised a total of £530.15. This is an amazing amount and the charities are so very grateful. If you do not have a Red Box at home and would like one please see me or ring me on 07725 748490. Thank you. Geraldine

## ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

### 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. Thank you.

### MARY'S GARAGE IS OPEN AGAIN.

The St John Fisher Charity Summer Sale from now until 31<sup>st</sup> August. In aid of The Cardinal Hume Centre for the Homeless in Westminster. It will be the Mini Art Gallery, a general Bring and Buy and a Donation Basket and possibly other surprises later! Please give me a ring to come and have a look or bring something amazing from the back of your cupboard. Thank you and love from Mary 284975.

## DIOCESAN NOTICES

### UK VISIT OF THE RELICS OF ST BERNADETTE

In September and October 2022 the relics of St Bernadette will be travelling across the UK for veneration and to help us focus on the message and mission of Lourdes. The relics will be in Westminster Cathedral for veneration on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> - Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> September, the Parish of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Hayes on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September, and then on their return to France, will be in the parish of St Joseph's, Bedwell, Stevenage on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October. More information will follow in the coming months about this visit.

### THE PARADOX OF ABUNDANCE

Over 800 million people go hungry each day. Yet the world produces over 4 billion tonnes of food and we only need 3.7 billion tonnes to feed everyone. From all this food produced, a third is wasted. St John Paul II called this 'the paradox of abundance.' Clearly the currently global food system is not working. But as Pope Francis said, "Each of us has a role to play in transforming food systems for the benefit of people and the planet." Let's respond to his call! CAFOD's new campaign is called Fix the Food System. See [www.cafod.org.uk/food](http://www.cafod.org.uk/food) for more information, including an invitation for parish groups to learn about the impact of our food with our Fix the Food System: a 7-station journey resource.

### ST JOAN OF ARC SCHOOL

St Joan of Arc School is seeking to recruit a new Foundation Governor to contribute to the work of the governing body. To be eligible for appointment, you must be a practising and committed Catholic, in communion with the Church. This is because the ministry of a Foundation Governor is a carrying out of your Christian vocation by collaborating with the diocesan bishop in the great work of Catholic education. **If you are interested in the opportunity to apply to become a Foundation Governor at St Joan of Arc School please contact Christina Reffold, Clerk to the Governing Board via email [joagovernor@joa.herts.sch.uk](mailto:joagovernor@joa.herts.sch.uk)**