



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

TWENTY FIFTH IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C) - 18th SEPTEMBER 2022

Our role in society

I offer my congratulations to Liz Truss on her election as leader of the Conservative Party and her appointment as Prime Minister. I wish to assure the Prime Minister of my prayerful support. Her appointment comes at a time when many crises have to be faced, at home and across the world. Prominent among them is the crisis in the cost of living.

Catholics are present in every local community, seeking to contribute constantly to the support of those in need. So we are well aware of the dramatic impact this crisis is having, with many people knowing they face choices between ‘heating or eating’, especially as winter approaches. The affluence to which our society has become accustomed seems to be seeping away.

I, and my fellow bishops, recognise the complexity of the causes, both short and long-term, that bring about the crisis now affecting so many. There are many Catholics in public life and in the charitable sector who are engaging in trying to produce long-term solutions to these political and economic challenges.

Catholic Social Teaching indicates key principles which help to fashion just solutions to urgent and dire need. The principle of serving the common good means that the needs of the poorest in society must be given urgent attention. The time for giving priority to factional interests has passed. Today our focus should be on the elderly, families who have the care of children, and all those least able to absorb the huge increases in the cost of living that we face. This means giving immediate attention to issues such as the level of welfare benefits and the impact of the two-child cap on universal credit payments, among other possible actions. Businesses too, especially small businesses, are facing acute challenges and will need help to survive. Their support for employment and family income is crucial.

Similarly, the principle of subsidiarity can be applied to our centralised system of welfare and public services to make delivery more effective and more efficient. This principle, long part of the social teaching of the Catholic Church, seeks “the active participation of private individuals and civil society” through which “it is actually possible to improve social services and welfare programmes, and at the same time save resources” (*Pope Benedict XVI, Caritas in Veritate*).

The work of our local parishes, and of Catholic charitable agencies, is based on the firm conviction of the inherent dignity of every person. No one is to be cast aside or ‘discounted’. I am confident that throughout this crisis, the Catholic community will do all we can to act on this conviction and promote this principle.

I know that parishes will continue to do everything possible, including innovative ways of providing further material help and pastoral support. I also urge all Catholics to give whatever time and financial resources they can to charitable endeavours that support those who are affected by the current crisis. The work of Catholic schools, that have long been supportive of, and responsive to, children whose parents might be struggling financially or in other ways, is to be strongly applauded and encouraged.

The spiritual needs of the poor and their special gifts should never be forgotten. As Pope Francis wrote: “The great majority of the poor have a special openness to the faith; they need God and we must not fail to offer them his friendship, his blessing, his word, the celebration of the sacraments and a journey of growth and maturity in the faith”. I trust that our parish communities will always be open to those suffering from hardship and in particular need of companionship and spiritual support at this time. They can help us to understand the humility we must have before God. Finally, I ask that we all offer our prayers for those who are suffering from the cost of living crisis. I pray that all in our society will work together to find ways, both short and long term, to alleviate this crisis which threatens the well-being of so many people.

St. Thomas More, pray for all who serve in political and public life.
St. Bernadette, pray for the poor.

*A statement marking the announcement of a new Prime Minister, Cardinal Vincent Nichols
President, Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales*

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Parish Priest:

Fr Andrew Gallagher
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Assistant Priest:

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Parish Administrator:

Kerry Van Rensburg
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Rickmansworth

Paul Forrest
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Chorleywood

Anne Lorrimer-Roberts
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Mill End

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@ChessValleyRC

SAFEGUARDING REPS.

Rickmansworth Parish

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Carol Bartlett 01923 773841
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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 - Youth:
rickmansworthalphyouth@rcdow.org.uk

Caitlin Scott - Confirmation:
rickmansworthconfirmation@rcdow.org.uk

Margaret Simon - Youth Ministry
Leadership Team:
rickmansworthyouth@rcdow.org.uk

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SUN 18TH SEPTEMBER	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
TUE 20TH SEPTEMBER	10.00am	Rosary after Mass	Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 21ST SEPTEMBER	9.00am	Rosary before Mass	St John the Evangelist
THU 22ND SEPTEMBER	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 24TH SEPTEMBER	11.30am 5.00pm - 5.45pm	Baptisms Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
SUN 25TH SEPTEMBER	9.30am 11.30am 5.00pm - 5.45pm	SVP 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
SATURDAY 17 TH SEPTEMBER	9.30am David Cook RIP (Anniv.)	6.00pm For the People of the Parishes	
SUNDAY 18 TH SEPTEMBER <i>TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Mary & Patrick McCullagh RIP 11am Queen Elizabeth II RIP 6pm Jad Damouni RIP	10.30am Queen Elizabeth II RIP	9am Queen Elizabeth II RIP
MONDAY 19 TH SEPTEMBER	9.30am Queen Elizabeth II RIP		
TUE 20TH SEPTEMBER <i>ST ANDREW KIM TAE-GÖN, PRIEST, PAUL CHÖNG HA-SANG & COMPANIONS, MARTYRS</i>	9.30am Liz Anson (Ints.)		9.30am For the sick and housebound of the parishes
WED 21ST SEPTEMBER <i>ST MATTHEW, APOSTLE</i>	9.30am Phil Clancy RIP	9.30am Dennis RIP	
THURSDAY 22 ND SEPTEMBER	9.30am Holy Souls		
FRI 23RD SEPTEMBER <i>ST PIUS OF PIETRELCINA, PRIEST</i>	9.30am For the sick and housebound of the parishes		
SATURDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER <i>OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM</i>	9.30am Anthonipillai Mary Joseph RIP (Anniv.)	6.00pm For the People of the Parishes	
SUNDAY 25 TH SEPTEMBER <i>TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Peggy & Roy Langdale RIP 11am Roger Barker RIP 6pm For the People of the Parishes	10.30am Eve Clark RIP	9am For the People of the Parishes
SANCTUARY LAMPS	This week our Sanctuary Lamps burn for Francisco Figueira RIP (Blessed Sacrament) and the intentions of Fabby Montesdeoca (Our Lady's).	This week our Blessed Sacrament Sanctuary Lamp burns In Thanksgiving (Haddad Family)	

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, Pauline Williams and Gloria Warmington

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

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, Pam Fitzpatrick and Julian Harris

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

REQUIEM MASSES FOR QUEEN ELIZABETH II RIP

These will take place on Sunday 18th September at 9am in Chorleywood, 10.30am in Mill End and 11am in Rickmansworth when we will pray for the repose of the soul of Queen Elizabeth II and for those who mourn her.

KATHLEEN TAGGART RIP

The funeral of Kathleen Taggart will take place at St John the Evangelist at 12 noon on Wednesday 28th September, followed by committal at West Herts Crematorium. We commend her to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for her family at this sad and difficult time.

PADDY GOBLE RIP

The funeral of Paddy Goble will take place at St John Fisher at 11.00am on Thursday 29th September, 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. *Please note that the parking restriction on Shire Lane (single yellow line) has been lifted for the day.*

WEEKDAY MASS

Next week St Joan of Arc School (Year 7) will be attending 9.30am Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

FRIENDSHIP AND FAITH DAYTIME GROUP

For those of us who like to meet face-to-face to socialise and reflect on matters of faith, we are considering setting up a daytime group. If you would like to take part in the planning for this please come to Our Lady's Church hall on Wednesday, September 28th from 2.15-4.00pm to put forward your ideas.

PARISH OFFICE

Please note that Kerry will be working from home on a Wednesday but can still be contacted by email.

EVANGELII GAUDIUM SUNDAY - 18TH SEPTEMBER

The third Sunday in September, formerly called Home Mission Sunday, is now Evangelii Gaudium Sunday. Named after Pope Francis' first (solo) Apostolic Exhortation on the Joy of the Gospel, the day offers the Catholic community in England and Wales the opportunity to celebrate the beauty of our faith and our commitment to witness to the fullness of life in Christ. Please support the second collection this weekend which provides funding for the Bishops' national work of evangelisation.

More information can be found at: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/what-is-evangelii-gaudium-sunday/>

WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

Please follow link below for materials from the Catholic Bishops Conference, including the Holy Father's message, to support our celebration of World Day of Migrants and Refugees on Sunday 25th September <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wdmr/>

VESTMENT REPAIRS

We have several albs that need the zips and seams repaired so they can be used by our ever increasing team of Altar Servers. If there is anyone with the gift of sewing and would be willing to repair these for us please contact the parish office.

ANNUAL MASS COUNT

This year the Mass count will take place on the last two weekends in September and on the first two weekends in October (each parish is required by the Diocese to count the number of people attending Mass). The details are forwarded to the Diocese along with other parish statistics at the end of the year. So, if you see someone "clicking you in" at Mass you will know why!

WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE

The diocesan pilgrimage to Walsingham will take place on Saturday 24th September. We have organised a coach from the parishes with a cost of £28 per adult and £12 per child for the day with an 8am departure and returning around 7pm. Please contact the parish office to book your place and for further details.

RELICS OF ST BERNADETTE PILGRIMAGE

We will be organising a coach to visit the relics of St Bernadette when they are in Stevenage on Monday 17th October. Fr Andrew has been invited to celebrate the 5.00pm Mass on that day. This will be an afternoon trip with a cost of £12 per adult. Please contact the parish office to book your place and for further details.

YOUTH CHOIR

In the autumn we will welcome to the parish Jaison Jeyaventhana as our new Youth Choir Director who will work with our young people aged 8-13. The Youth Choir will sing on a Sunday once a month at Our Lady's and once a month at St John's, Mill End. There will be a rehearsal for the choir on a Tuesday evening each week from 4.30-5.45pm. If your child is interested in joining the choir please could you contact the parish office. If there are any adults willing to assist Jaison in supervising the children during the rehearsals then please also contact the parish office for more details.

PRAYER AND LIFE WORKSHOPS

A new season of Prayer and Life Workshops will take place from Monday 26th September at 7pm at the Parish Hall of Our Lady Help of Christians. These workshops offer us a possibility of a deeper relationship with Christ in prayer, learning different models of prayer over a period of 15 weeks. Do consider this life-changing and spiritually enriching workshop to help you grow in faith.

DEC PAKISTAN FLOODS APPEAL

Devastating floods have hit Pakistan, leaving millions in urgent need of help to survive. A third of the country is now underwater. Your donation will help CAFOD's local partners support communities with clean drinking water, food, emergency medical assistance and shelter. Please pray for those affected and donate now at cafod.org.uk/give

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; **dog food, deodorant, toilet rolls, washing up liquid, washing powder, shower gel, long life juice/squash, long life milk, tinned vegetables and children's toothbrushes.**

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER (GIFT)

Our new family catechesis for all those with children aged 5-11 has now begun. The sessions are engaging, spirit-filled and fun, and they are for all the family. We celebrate Mass, enjoy a time of fellowship and refreshment before sharing catechesis and activities. As part of GIFT we will also hold Faith Formation for parents on one evening each month online (Zoom). 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) 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.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION.

Please note that there will be no formal application process for First Holy Communion classes as in the past. Applications will now be discerned via the GIFT catechesis in our parishes over the coming years.

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 contact Fr Andrew via phone or email to find out what is involved and how our parishes can help you to take the next step.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

CLEANING VOLUNTEERS – URGENT APPEAL

Would you be able to spare about two hours of your time about every 6-8 weeks to help to keep our beautiful and beloved Church looking its best? Then please consider joining our dedicated team of cleaning volunteers which urgently needs additional members. We clean in pairs and the cleaning day and time is flexible and decided by each pair. This may not seem a glamorous ministry but is fundamental to our community worship. If interested, please contact Cristina MacGillivray, cristinapersonal19@gmail.com; Mob 07470266284.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

We have one team of three people who have volunteered to lead Children's Liturgy once a month at our 11am Mass on Sundays. This will begin soon. If you would like to volunteer to assist with Children's Liturgy in a second group so that this can take place more regularly then please contact Fr Andrew.

COFFEE MORNINGS

Please join us in the hall after the 8.30am Mass on Sunday 25th September for our SVP Coffee Morning.

There will be a coffee morning after Mass on Sunday 2nd October. Please join us in the hall for a catch up and make new parish friends. Donations for Our Lady's Building Fund.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

FAMILY MASS

As part of our Family Mass that takes place on the third Sunday of the month, we would be looking for teenagers in the parish to become readers. If anyone is interested in this ministry then please talk to Fr Andrew or Geraldine.

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

FAMILY PICNIC

Thank you to all those who were able to attend the family picnic last Sunday. The good company, excellent weather and an abundance of delicious cake was enjoyed by all those present. We would also like to thank all those who helped in setting up and tidying away afterwards. *SJF Social Committee*

APF/MISSIO/RED BOX HOLDERS

The September quarter is now upon us. Can you please let me have your red boxes or envelopes with your donations either at Church or direct to my home. Our Missionaries will need us now more than ever. Thank you so much, Mary xx.

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. For more details and for the itinerary of the visit please go to www.stbernadette.org.uk

ST JOAN OF ARC CATHOLIC SCHOOL We are very pleased to announce that we are holding our Open Evening and Open Morning this October for prospective students and parents who are looking for Year 7 places in September 2023. The Open Events will be held as follows:

- Open Evening to take place on Thursday 6th October 2022 from 6.00pm until 9.00pm
 - Open Morning to take place on the following morning, Friday 7th October 2022 from 9.00am until 11.30am
- Details of our Open Events, together with our Admission Policy and Supplementary Form (SIF) can also be found on our school website.