



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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 @ChessValleyRC

TWENTY SIXTH IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C) - 25th SEPTEMBER 2022

“Here we have no lasting city, but we seek the city that is to come.” (Heb 13:14)

The ultimate meaning of our “journey” in this world is the search for our true homeland, the Kingdom of God inaugurated by Jesus Christ, which will find its full realization when he comes in glory. His Kingdom has not yet been brought to fulfilment, though it is already present in those who have accepted the salvation he offers us. “God’s Kingdom is in us. Even though it is still eschatological, in the future of the world and of humanity, at the same time it is found in us.”

Righteousness is one of the building blocks of God’s Kingdom. The righteousness of the Kingdom must be understood as the fulfilment of God’s harmonious plan, whereby in Christ, who died and rose from the dead, all creation returns to its original goodness, and humanity becomes once more “very good” (cf. Gen 1:1-31). But for this wondrous harmony to reign, we must accept Christ’s salvation, his Gospel of love, so that the many forms of inequality and discrimination in the present world may be eliminated.

No one must be excluded. God’s plan is essentially inclusive and gives priority to those living on the existential peripheries. Among them are many migrants and refugees, displaced persons, and victims of trafficking. The Kingdom of God is to be built with them, for without them it would not be the Kingdom that God wants. The inclusion of those most vulnerable is the necessary condition for full citizenship in God’s Kingdom. Indeed, the Lord says, “Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me a drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, sick and you took care of me, in prison and you visited me” (Mt 25:34-36).

Building the future with migrants and refugees also means recognizing and valuing how much each of them can contribute to the process of construction. I like to see this approach to migration reflected in a prophetic vision of Isaiah, which considers foreigners not invaders or destroyers, but willing labourers who rebuild the walls of the new Jerusalem, that Jerusalem whose gates are open to all peoples (cf. Is 60:10-11).

In the new Jerusalem of all peoples, the temple of the Lord is made more beautiful by the offerings that come from foreign lands. As we have seen, the arrival of Catholic migrants and refugees can energize the ecclesial life of the communities that welcome them. Often they bring an enthusiasm that can revitalize our communities and enliven our celebrations. Sharing different expressions of faith and devotions offers us a privileged opportunity for experiencing more fully the catholicity of the People of God.

Dear brothers and sisters, if we want to cooperate with our heavenly Father in building the future, let us do so together with our brothers and sisters who are migrants and refugees. Let us build the future today! For the future begins today and it begins with each of us. We cannot leave to future generations the burden of responsibility for decisions that need to be made now, so that God’s plan for the world may be realized and his Kingdom of justice, fraternity, and peace may come.

Extract from the message of Pope Francis for World Day of Migrants and Refugees 2022

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 - Youth:
rickmansworthalphyouth@rcdow.org.uk

Caitlin Scott - Confirmation:
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Margaret Simon - Youth Ministry
Leadership Team:
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FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

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
MON 26TH SEPTEMBER	7.00pm	Prayer Workshop - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
TUE 27TH SEPTEMBER	10.00am	Rosary after Mass	Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 28TH SEPTEMBER	9.00am 8pm	Rosary before Mass GIFT (Parents)	St John the Evangelist Via Zoom
THU 29TH SEPTEMBER	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 1ST OCTOBER	5.00pm - 5.45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	St John the Evangelist
SUN 2ND OCTOBER	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
SAT 24TH SEPTEMBER <i>OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM</i>	9.30am Anthonipillai Mary Joseph RIP (Anniv.)	6.00pm For the People of the Parishes	
SUNDAY 25TH 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
MONDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER	9.30am Private Intention		
TUE 27TH SEPTEMBER <i>ST VINCENT DE PAUL, PRIEST</i>	9.30am Charles Howland RIP		9.30am For the sick and housebound of the parishes
WEDNESDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER	9.30am For the sick and housebound of the parishes	NO 9.30AM MASS 12pm Funeral - Kathy Taggart RIP	
THU 29TH SEPTEMBER <i>SS MICHAEL, GABRIEL & RAPHAEL, ARCHANGELS</i>	NO MASS TODAY		11am Funeral - Paddy Goble RIP
FRI 30TH SEPTEMBER <i>ST JEROME, PRIEST</i>	9.30am Holy Souls		
SATURDAY 1ST OCTOBER <i>OUR THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS, VIRGIN</i>	9.30am For the sick and housebound of the parishes	6.00pm Seamus Fagan RIP	
SUNDAY 2ND OCTOBER <i>TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Special Intention 11am Hughie Sweeney RIP (Anniv.) & Barbara Freeman RIP 6pm Marian Banas RIP (Anniv.)	10.30am For the People of the Parishes	9am For the People of the Parishes
SANCTUARY LAMPS	This week our Sanctuary Lamp (Our Lady's) burns for the intentions of Fabby Montesdeoca.		

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

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 and Wednesday.

GRAND DESIGNS

The episode of channel 4's Grand Designs on Wednesday 21st September was based on a new development in the Chess Valley. As part of the episode they filmed an extract with the couple looking at the flint work on Our Lady Help of Christian's Church in Rickmansworth, wishing to imitate it on their home. Watch it on All-4 catch-up to see how they did!

CHESS VALLEY SVP

Chess Valley SVP works across the three parishes of Rickmansworth, Mill End and Chorleywood. The Group exists to fulfil the vision of the St Vincent de Paul Society to love our neighbour as ourselves, to help any individuals or families who are in any form of need to have hope, together with a sense of dignity, worth, wellbeing and peace of mind. It's mission is to seek and find those in need, to help them in a spirit of justice and to tackle the causes of poverty where we can. If you wish to find out more information about the Chess Valley SVP or make a donation towards their work, please contact the parish office.

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.

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.

PARISH OFFICE - please note that Kerry will be working from home on a Wednesday but can still be contacted by email.

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!

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's. 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.

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 Kerry at the parish office.

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

CARDINAL HUME CENTRE FOR THE HOMELESS IN WESTMINSTER. Mary's Garage Sale.

In May we raised £400 and doubled that up on their BIG GIVE page to £800. In June to August it was £1,600 which we will double up again, making a grand total of £4,000. So many thanks, in particular to Rosemary who spent hours arranging the displays, and to the excellent and kind Chorleywood antique dealer Andy Roberts, and to Ginnie Jenkins who helped with all the pricing, to Jenny and Juliet who helped in selling, and to every one who supported the Sale and the Silent Auction so generously in bringing and buying (and usually both!). Much love till next time, Mary xx

MISSIO/APF/RED BOX HOLDERS

Many thanks to our small band of faithful supporters for our hard pressed Missionaries. For this September quarter we have raised the sum of £118.47. New supporters would be very much appreciated. Mary 284975 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.

WESTMINSTER DIOCESE JOB VACANCIES -Please visit our website at <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/> where you can view the latest vacancies.