



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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Rickmansworth

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Chorleywood

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Mill End

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SAFEGUARDING REPS.

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YOUTH MINISTRY

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Caitlin Scott - Confirmation:
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THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C) - 23rd OCTOBER 2022

Giving witness as authentic missionaries

This Sunday's Gospel challenges us to reflect upon how we should give authentic missionary witness. We are presented with two contrasting witnesses: the Pharisee and the Tax Collector. The Pharisee, no doubt a good and holy man in the sight of the people, presents God with a list of egocentric achievements: I pray, I am just and faithful, I fast, I pay tithes. He thanks God he is on a higher spiritual plain than the rest of humanity, especially that wretch of a tax collector over there! The Tax Collector knew he was considered to be ritually impure through his contact with Gentiles. His own people despised him for his dishonest and exploitative ways. In contrast to the Pharisee, his approach to God demonstrates simple humility, 'Have mercy on me a sinner'. He is conscious of his sinfulness and dependent on a forgiving God to show him the way forward in his life. Jesus' conclusion is that humility is indispensable for all who wish to be at rights with God.

Pope Francis teaches that 'humility is the only way that leads us to God. At the same time, specifically because it leads us to Him, humility leads us also to the essentials of life, to its truest meaning, to the most trustworthy reason for why life is truly worth living. Without humility we are 'cut off', we are cut off from understanding God and from understanding ourselves. Humility is needed to understand ourselves and each other, and all the more so to understand God.'

True humility, far from discouraging us from witnessing, is in fact the driving force of all mission. We are called to give witness to the new life that Jesus gives us when we discover him present and active in the midst of our daily lives; new life that transcends death. We know we are in need of his forgiveness, his compassion and his guiding hand. We embrace the strength of knowing we are loved by the Father, redeemed by the Son and empowered by the Spirit. This gift of our Catholic faith is given to be shared. We cannot keep it to ourselves.

A well-worn question may provide a fitting conclusion to the theme of this year's World Mission Sunday: If you were on trial for being a missionary disciple of Jesus Christ, would the court find enough evidence to convict you?

The second collection today, coordinated by Missio – the Holy Father's charity for world mission – will be a great help to missionaries like Maria, who works in an impoverished area of Ethiopia. Through vocational training programmes run by the Kidist Mariam Centre, Maria and her amazing team are trying to bring communities together to build hope for a better future. Maria's hope is that all people have access to opportunities to learn and thrive. She witnesses to her faith every day, believing in the potential of each person to do their best and realise their dreams of a better life.

Thank you for your support of Missio, which strives to share with all the hope that only Jesus can bring to our world.

Message of Missio on World Mission Sunday 2022

<https://missio.org.uk>

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SUN 23RD OCTOBER	9.30am 11.30am 5.00pm - 5.45pm	SVP Coffee Morning 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 24TH OCTOBER	7.00pm	Prayer Workshop - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
TUE 25TH OCTOBER	10.00am	Rosary after Mass	Our Lady Help of Christians
THU 27TH OCTOBER	2.30pm 8.00pm - 9.30pm	SJF Ladies Meeting Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Rosemary's Home Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 28TH OCTOBER	10.00am	Rosary after Mass	Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 29TH OCTOBER	5.00pm - 5.45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	St John the Evangelist
SUN 30TH OCTOBER	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
SATURDAY 22 ND OCTOBER	9.30am Kate Hartin RIP	6.00pm Dolores Vaughan RIP (Anniv.)	
SUNDAY 23 RD OCTOBER <i>THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Maurice & Norah MacWilliam RIP 11am For the People of the Parishes 6pm Jad Damouni RIP	10.30am For the People of the Parishes	9am Michael Draper RIP
MONDAY 24 TH OCTOBER	9.30am Emma Montesdeoca RIP		
TUESDAY 25 TH OCTOBER	9.30am Ramiro Montesdeoca RIP		9.30am Fr Duncan Adamson RIP
WEDNESDAY 26 TH OCTOBER	9.30am Patricia McGovern RIP	NO MASS TODAY	
THURSDAY 27 TH OCTOBER	9.30am Marian Forrest RIP (Anniv.)		
FRIDAY 28TH OCTOBER <i>SS SIMON & JUDE, APOSTLES</i>	9.30am Rosemary Staddon RIP		
SAT 29TH OCTOBER <i>BLESSED MARTYRS OF DOUAI COLLEGE</i>	9.30am For the sick and housebound of the parishes	6.00pm Fr Duncan Adamson RIP	
SUNDAY 30 TH OCTOBER <i>THIRTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Peggy & Roy Langdale RIP 11am Genova D'Cruz RIP 6pm Augustus Joachim RIP	10.30am Richard Taylor RIP (Anniv.)	9am For the People of the Parishes
SANCTUARY LAMPS	This week the Sanctuary Lamp (Blessed Sacrament) burns for Marian Forrest RIP (Anniv.)		This week our Sanctuary Lamps burn for Rhoda Lodge RIP (Our Lady's) and Alan Jacobi RIP (Blessed Sacrament)

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

SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS – HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Tuesday 1st November is the Solemnity of All Saints and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses across the three parishes will be as follows: St John Fisher, Chorleywood - Vigil (Monday) 7.30pm, Our Lady's, Rickmansworth – 9.30am and 7.30pm; St John the Evangelist, Mill End – 9.30am (attended by staff and students of St John's School).

MASS FOR DECEASED PARISHIONERS

On Saturday 5th November we will have a Mass for all deceased members of our parishes at 11am in Our Lady Help of Christians Church. At this Mass we will particularly remember all those who have died over the past year so please do encourage those recently bereaved to attend. This Mass will be immediately followed by the blessing of graves at Our Lady's Garden of Rest and refreshments in our Lady's Parish Hall.

BLESSING OF GRAVES

During November Fr Andrew and Fr Matteo will be blessing graves in the local cemeteries:

Sunday 6th November – 2pm Chorleywood Lawn Cemetery

Saturday 12th November – 2pm Woodcock Hill Cemetery

Sunday 20th November – 2pm Chorleywood Road Cemetery

PRAYING FOR THE HOLY SOULS IN NOVEMBER

November is a month when we traditionally pray for the repose of the faithful departed, remembering in a special way our departed family members and friends. Holy Souls sheets on which you can write the names of your departed loved ones and friends are available from this weekend. These can then be placed inside one of the brown "November Dead" envelopes, with any offering you wish to make, and then be placed in the "Holy Souls" box provided. During the month of November weekday Masses across the three parishes will be offered for the Holy Souls and your intentions will be placed in a special box in front of the altar as a focus for our prayer for the faithful departed.

MICHAEL DRAPER RIP

The funeral of Michael Draper will take place at St John Fisher on Thursday 3rd November at 11.00am, followed by committal at Chorleywood Lawn Cemetery. We commend him to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for his family at this sad and difficult time.

ROSEMARY STADDON RIP

The ashes of Rosemary Staddon RIP will be interred in the Garden of Rest after the 9.30am Mass on Friday 28th October.

SLT MEMBERSHIP

Our Senior Leadership Team was established in January 2019 to assist the parish priest in planning tactically for the on-going development of our parish following the 'maintenance to mission' principles of *Divine Renovation*. Since its inception Paul Forrest has been on the SLT representing Rickmansworth parish and has made a significant contribution. Soon Paul will be moving away and so we are very grateful to Paul Matarewicz for agreeing to take on this important role. A huge thank you to both Pauls for their commitment to ensuring our parishes remain focused on our mission to encounter Jesus and to serve others.

NEWSLETTER NOTICES

Please send notices for next weekend's newsletter by 10am on Tuesday 25th October.

BETHLEHEM NATIVITY GROUP

A missionary group from Bethlehem Nativity will be visiting Our Lady Help of Christians, Rickmansworth on Sunday 13th November to sell religious articles made out of olive wood from the Holy Land to help and support the poor Christian families. Any help you could give to them will be much appreciated.

CONFIRMATION

For those in Year 9 and above attending Mass who wish to register to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2023, please speak to Fr Andrew or Fr Matteo after Mass. Application forms will only be handed to prospective candidates after Mass and will not be available for collection from the Parish Office.

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE

A Certificate of Catholic Practice is exactly what it says - it confirms, for the purposes of a Catholic school application, that families are practising Catholics, i.e. attend Mass every weekend. The school form states that families practice the faith and are known to the priest signing the form. If you do not attend Mass every weekend and are not known to Fr Andrew, he is unfortunately unable to sign the form. If you have recently moved into the area, your previous parish priest can provide certification. If you require a CCP to be signed by Fr Andrew, in the first instance, please see him after Mass.

CHESS VALLEY SVP

Chess Valley SVP will be providing a Warm Winter Space in the church hall at St John the Evangelist, Mill End, every Thursday afternoon between 2 to 4pm, beginning on Thursday 3rd November and for the duration of the winter months. Hot drinks, cakes and biscuits will be provided. Please let those you feel would benefit from this know. For further information, please email chessvalleysvp@gmail.com

YOUTH CHOIR

We 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 starting from 1st November. 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.

MASS INTENTIONS

At the Altar the priest offers Mass for the good of the whole Church and for a particular intention. Do you want a Mass offered for a particular intention? Perhaps you would like a deceased friend or relative remembered, or you would like a Mass said for someone who is sick or for your own intention. For Mass to be offered it is the tradition that a stipend is donated to contribute to the upkeep of your priests. Please contact the parish office if you would like a Mass offered over the coming weeks.



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.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

MEMORIAL BOOK

The memorial book has not been updated for the last couple of years. If you would like to add a family member, or a parishioner to this book, please let Kerry know their name and date of death as soon as possible.

CHRISTMAS FAIR - 27TH NOVEMBER

Our Parish Christmas Fair returns first weekend of Advent. Please save the date.

200 CLUB

The 200 Club begins again in October and if you are interested in joining (or cancelling your membership) please contact Kerry on 01923 773387 for further details. The membership fee is due by the Friday 28th October for those who prefer to pay their annual subscription (£60) by cheque.

COFFEE MORNINGS

Please join us in the hall after the 8.30am Mass on Sunday 23rd October for our SVP Coffee Morning. There will also be a coffee morning after Mass on Sunday 6th November. Please join us in the hall for a catch up and make new parish friends. Donations go to Our Lady's Building Fund.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

WARM WINTER COATS WANTED

This November we are hoping to collect warm winter coats for the charity "Calling London" as we so successfully did last year. They distribute the coats to various charities helping the homeless, refugees, the elderly, and those in low income households. Any coats are welcome as long as they are clean and warm, but they particularly need children's and large adult sizes. This year the need is likely to be particularly acute so please help if you can. Donations should be left in the Church porch during November and they will be collected and sent to the charity. Last date for donations is Sunday 20th November.

For more information, or if you would like to be involved please email coatdrivewd3@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS FAIR

We are delighted to announce the Fair will be returning this year on Sunday 11th December, after the 10.30am Mass. Please make a note in your diaries and come and support the Fair. We will be asking shortly for donations. Raffle tickets will go on sale from the beginning of November after all weekend Masses.

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

CHARITY CHRISTMAS FAIR

Hooray!! Our Christmas Fair is coming back to Church on Saturday, 3rd December, 10am to 12.30pm. As in the past, all proceeds will be split between *The Cardinal Hume Centre for the Homeless* in Westminster and *The Franciscan Missionaries of Mary* looking after many poor and disabled children and young people in Africa. Please start to collect your offerings and bring them to the kitchen: bottles; unwanted gifts; jewellery; toiletries; toys; etc. watch for weekly news!! Thank you, love, Mary x 284975.

THE FLAT ABOVE THE CHURCH has now been let and our new tenants will be moving in this weekend.

LADIES' MEETING - THURSDAY 27TH OCTOBER AT 2.30PM

Will be held at Rosemary's home. Regulars and new members most welcome. Please call Rosemary 282500 for more details.

DIOCESAN NOTICES

SCHOOL GOVERNOR NEEDED

There is a parent governor vacancy on the St John's school governing body. Please contact the Governors if you are interested in this position. In light of the school building developments, parents with a background in this area would be advantageous. In the first instance, please email admin@stjohns705.herts.sch.uk.

TALK ORGANISED BY THE FRIENDS OF WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL

Thursday 27th October at 7.00pm in Westminster Cathedral Hall. Creators of Peace (COP) is a global network of people on each continent making a difference - inspired by their participation in Creators of Peace Circles, conferences, dialogues and other COP initiatives. For peace to be meaningful it must be inclusive, but it often isn't. <https://iofc.org.uk/initiatives/creators-of-peace/> Talk by Miranda Shaw and Elizabeth Lasker £10 Tickets from Friends@rcdow.org.uk or 020 7798 9059

MARCH FOR LIFE UK

March for Life UK are holding a solemn public witness in Parliament Square, London on Thursday 27th October 12.30pm - 2pm commemorating the passing of the Abortion Act in 1967. Since then 10 million have been aborted. Please attend if you can - wear black (or as dark as possible). Don't bring posters. Full details at <https://www.marchforlife.co.uk/2022/10/07/join-us-on-the-27th-october/>