



### 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 Matteo Di Giuseppe  
[matteodigiuseppe@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:matteodigiuseppe@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  
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WD3 1HU  
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 @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 - Youth:  
[rickmansworthalphayouth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworthalphayouth@rcdow.org.uk)

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

## TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C) - 9<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2022

### Bringing redemption to those abandoned

To the modern man or woman, having heard it used in books, films and in computer games, the mention of Armageddon arouses thoughts of the final battle or judgement at the end of the world or the end of time. The valley of Armageddon, an historical site of many biblical battles and events, has alternative names, such as Valley of Jezreel or Jehoshaphat. At the time of Jesus, due to a particular Hebrew Exile, it was known as the land between Samaria and Galilee. This was in effect ‘no man’s land’; a place where, despite its fertility, no man or woman lived. For the leper, the disease left him or her in ‘no man’s land’ – no family, no friends, no food, no faith! In contracting leprosy everything that gave a person dignity was stripped away. Living on the border between Samaria and Galilee signified living in a land that was for ‘no man’ – a person’s humanity was stripped away. No wonder the leper, in his or her incurable state, was abandoned to see out their days in this place. The only redemption that the leper – or rather the ten lepers – experienced was in the person of Christ who provided healing and, intrinsic to that healing, restoration to fullness of life.

It has often been said that the prisoner is the leper of our times. In their incarceration, the prisoner, man, woman, adult or child, finds themselves in ‘no man’s land’, in Armageddon. Stripped away from family, stripped away from loved ones, stripped away from work and education. The only thing that potentially remains a constant in their lives, unlike the lepers of Jesus’ time, is their access to faith services. Access to a Chaplain, the provision of the sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation, a visiting volunteer from the local parish, support from a Pact family worker, help from a member of the SVP society: these are all ways in which the lepers of our time, the prisoners, can experience the person of Christ and experience that healing and restoration to the fullness of life for which we all long.

As the notion of Armageddon transcends time, so does the concept of rejection and redemption. As Christ brought redemption in his own person to the lepers, so this concept of bringing redemption to those most abandoned in our own time transcends time; redemption for those most abandoned is found in and through the baptised – you and me.

*A Reflection from Very Rev. Canon Paul Douthwaite, National Catholic Chaplain for Prisons for the Week of Prayer for Prisoners and their families 9th-15th October 2022*

### The Prisons Week Prayer

Lord, you offer freedom to all people.  
We pray for those in prison.  
Break the bonds of fear and isolation that exist.  
Support with your love prisoners and their families and friends,  
prison staff and all who care.  
Heal those who have been wounded by the actions of others,  
especially the victims of crime.  
Help us to forgive one another,  
to act justly, love mercy  
and walk humbly together with Christ,  
in his strength and in his Spirit, now and every day.  
Amen

More information about supporting Prisoners and their Families through PACT can be found at: <https://www.prisonadvice.org.uk>

## FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

<b>SUN 9<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</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>MON 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b>	7.00pm	Prayer Workshop - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>TUE 11<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b>	10.00am 6.30pm	Rosary after Mass Youth Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>WED 12<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b>	9.00am 2.15pm	Rosary before Mass Friendship & Faith Group - Hall	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>THU 13<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b>	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>SAT 14<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b>	5.00pm - 5.45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	St John the Evangelist
<b>SUN 15<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</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>SATURDAY</b> 8 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER	<b>9.30am</b> For the sick and housebound of the parishes	<b>6.00pm</b> For the People of the Parishes	
<b>SUNDAY</b> 9 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER <i>TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	<b>8.30am</b> Mayden Family (Ints.) <b>11am</b> Dan & Ann O'Sullivan RIP (Anniv.) <b>6pm</b> Colin Lawrence RIP	<b>10.30am</b> For the People of the Parishes	<b>9am</b> For the People of the Parishes
<b>MONDAY</b> 10 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER	<b>9.30am</b> For the sick and housebound of the parishes		
<b>TUESDAY</b> 11 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER	<b>NO MASS TODAY</b>		<b>NO MASS TODAY</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 12 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER	<b>9.30am</b> For the sick and housebound of the parishes	<b>9.30am</b> For the sick and housebound of the parishes	
<b>THU 13<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b> <i>ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR</i>	<b>9.30am</b> Cathy Purtill RIP		
<b>FRIDAY</b> 14 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER	<b>9.30am</b> Peggy & Roy Langdale RIP		
<b>SAT 15<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b> <i>ST TERESA OF JESUS, VIRGIN &amp; DOCTOR</i>	<b>9.30am</b> For the sick and housebound of the parishes	<b>6.00pm</b> Rosemarie Carter RIP (Anniv.)	
<b>SUNDAY</b> 16 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER <i>TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	<b>8.30am</b> For the People of the Parishes <b>11am</b> Timothy Patrick Fogarty RIP (Anniv.) <b>6pm</b> W.H. (Bill) Osgood RIP (Anniv.)	<b>10.30am</b> For the People of the Parishes	<b>9am</b> For the People of the Parishes
<b>SANCTUARY LAMPS</b>	This week the Sanctuary Lamps (Our Lady's and Blessed Sacrament) burn for the intentions of the Mayden 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

### MASS FOR DECEASED PARISHIONERS

On Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> November – 2pm Chorleywood Lawn Cemetery

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November – 2pm Woodcock Hill Cemetery

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> 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

### CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY – World Food Crisis Appeal

Millions of families are facing a food crisis that could be the worst in living memory. As each day goes by, the situation worsens. As people of faith we must act. Your donations can help CAFOD's local experts to provide emergency food supplies to families in the worst affected countries in East Africa and support communities around the world working hard to put food on the table. Please give today or start a monthly gift to CAFOD. Use the envelope for our parish collection or go to [cafod.org.uk/fastday](http://cafod.org.uk/fastday).

### CALLING ALL YOUTH

School years 7 and above. Come and join us for fun, games and snacks. Meet up with friends; make new friends; bring a friend. Our Lady's Parish Hall. Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 6.30-8pm. Parents please text names and numbers attending to 07788 721222.

### FRIENDSHIP AND FAITH GROUP

The group will start meeting in Our Lady's hall on Wednesday October 12<sup>th</sup> from 2.15 - 4.00pm with time to socialise over a cup of tea, watch and discuss a video entitled 'Beloved Disciples', and end with a time of prayer. Future dates this year will be November 2<sup>nd</sup>, November 16<sup>th</sup> and December 7<sup>th</sup>. **Everyone welcome.**

### 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.

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

### RELICS OF ST BERNADETTE PILGRIMAGE

We have organised a coach to visit the relics of St Bernadette when they are in Stevenage on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> 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

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 has started at the Parish Hall of Our Lady's on Monday at 7pm. 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.

### 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.**



### 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](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.

### 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.

### COME AND SING!

We are very blessed in each of our three parishes that we have adults who are willing to lead and support our singing in our choirs and music groups to enhance our Sunday worship. These are always open to new members. If you enjoy singing (even as a beginner!) then please do approach the groups or Fr Andrew to find out how you can get involved.

## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

### RETURN OF THE REALLY GREAT QUIZ, SATURDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 7PM

The famous OLHC quiz night is back! If you haven't experienced a Paul Burke Egghead style quiz night with us before, now is the time! Ticket includes chip supper (email [Laura.sharp@live.co.uk](mailto:Laura.sharp@live.co.uk) if you have any dietary requirements). Tables of 8, organise your own team or let us introduce you to a team on the night. Doors open 7pm, quiz starts at 7.30pm. Please bring cash for the bar! Tickets (£15 each) available after Mass or on Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/olhcs-really-great-quiz-night-tickets-426851914567>

### STALLS AVAILABLE AT THIS YEAR'S BOUTIQUE CHRISTMAS FAIR

If you own your own business and would like to hire a table at the Christmas Fair this year on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November, please contact [Laura.sharp@live.co.uk](mailto:Laura.sharp@live.co.uk)

### 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 21<sup>st</sup> October for those who prefer to pay their annual subscription (£60) by cheque.

### APF MISSIO

Would promoters please collect the Autumn Magazines from the church porch and start collecting monies. Please consider supporting this. If you would like a new box, contact Maurice Delaporte on 01923 774855. Thank you.

### 200 CLUB

Congratulations to Angela Steele (£30), Heather Kean (£22.50), Liz Waddington (£15), Collette Bridge Madden (£7.50).

## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

### RED MISSIO BOXES

If you have a box could you please bring it to church or contact me and I can collect from you. Many thanks for your continued support. Geraldine

### 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

### 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 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](http://www.stbernadette.org.uk)

### URGENT CALL FOR HOSTS FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS

Hosting a homeless asylum seeker can be a rewarding experience for a host and a true life-line for the individual who is housed this way. There are different hosting schemes available and they are all looking to accept more volunteer hosts. The schemes will support you as a host during the hosting placement. Clients will continue to receive ongoing support from the charity referring them to help them resolve their immigration situation and end their homelessness for good.

In particular St Mungo's are currently working with seven people still housed in hotels and in need of somewhere to stay. The situation is urgent as the funding for the hotels comes to an end at the end of September and without a hosting solution these individuals are likely to be rendered homeless. Please contact Rosa Lewis, Caritas Project Lead for Refugees: [rosalewis@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rosalewis@rcdow.org.uk)