



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

Assistant Priest:

Fr Matteo Di Giuseppe
matteodigiuseppe@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Administrator:

Kerry Van Rensburg
rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk

Rickmansworth

Paul Matarewicz
p.matarewicz@gmail.com

Chorleywood

Anne Lorrimer-Roberts
anne@themessagemachine.com

Mill End

Geraldine Page
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

Carol Bartlett 01923 773841
rickmansworthsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Mill End Parish

Matt McKiernan 01923 493747
millendsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Chorleywood Parish

Peter Mackie 07802 229337
chorleywoodsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Diocesan Safeguarding

Coordinator 0207 798 9356

YOUTH MINISTRY

Margaret Simon - Youth Ministry
Leadership Team:

rickmansworthyouth@rcdow.org.uk

Jaison Jeyaventhana - Youth Choir

Director rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk

Caitlin Scott - Confirmation:

rickmansworthconfirmation@rcdow.org.uk

THIRTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C) - 13th NOVEMBER 2022

“For your sakes Christ became poor”

Sunday 13 November 2022 is the sixth World Day of the Poor, with the theme of *“For your sakes Christ became poor”* (2 Cor 8:9). Pope Francis, in his message for the day, laments that just as the world was emerging from the *“tempest of the pandemic”*, a new catastrophe appeared on the horizon: the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the brutal war which has followed. The war has displaced millions of Ukrainian people and caused global economic turbulence, with food shortages and rising energy costs which will affect the poorest this winter. The Pope reminds us of the generosity of people in welcoming refugees from recent conflicts in the Middle East. He understands that host communities can feel burdened, and it is difficult to maintain relief efforts, but he says, *“This is the moment for us not to lose heart but to renew our initial motivation. The work we have begun needs to be brought to completion with the same sense of responsibility.”*

In his message for the sixth World Day of the Poor, Pope Francis reminds us that from the very early days of the Church, attention to the needs of the poor was a feature of the community. St Paul, in his letter to the Christians in Corinth, is asking for help for the community in Jerusalem, who are suffering great hardship due to a food shortage in the country. He does not regard this request as a command but instead asks them to take up a collection as *“a sign of love, the love shown by Jesus himself”*. As Pope Francis reminds us, *“where the poor are concerned, it is not talk that matters; what matters is rolling up our sleeves and putting faith into practice through a direct involvement, one that cannot be delegated”*. It is important that no one lacks what is necessary and our concern is born out of sincere and generous concern which sees those who are poor as our brothers and sisters. It is not so much that we are helping them, but that they *“lend a hand to help me shake off the lethargy into which I have fallen”*. Before being the objects of our almsgiving, those who are poor *“can help set us free from the snares of anxiety and superficiality”*. That is why the Pope insists that our work is never for the poor, but with the poor and of the poor, work that brings people together (Fratelli Tutti, 169).

More than that, we are called to become poor ourselves. Not materially poor, that is *“a poverty that humiliates and kills”* as the Pope says. The poverty we are called to is the poverty of Jesus, this is the poverty that sets us free, sets us free from attachment to the idol of wealth and all the anxiety it brings. The poverty of Jesus was his self-emptying love, which excludes no one *“and seeks out everyone, especially the marginalised and those deprived of the necessities of life”*. Our freedom is the sharing of our lives out of love, restoring dignity to those trapped in injustice. This is what the Holy Father calls the way to create equality, *“to free the poor from their misery and the rich from their vanity, and both from their despair”*.

In his message in 2017, the Pope asked Catholic communities in the week preceding the World Day of the Poor to engage in acts of encounter and concrete expressions of charity. The focus is not fundraising, but encounter, accompaniment and change. The See -Judge-Act exercise is designed primarily for group use in a parish or a school to discern what actions might be taken. Do we know our community, who do we ‘see’ there, who do we not see, what is the Holy Spirit prompting us to do?

You will find more details of the diocesan Caritas agencies and independent charities that are members of Caritas Social Action Network on the website at www.csan.org.uk. These charities are engaged in different ways in tackling the causes of poverty, promoting justice and restoring dignity. You will find much inspiration from them for your own social action.

Extract of Caritas Social Action reflection on ‘World Day of the Poor 2022’

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| SUN 13TH NOVEMBER | 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 |
| MON 14TH NOVEMBER | 7.00pm | Prayer Workshop - Hall | Our Lady Help of Christians |
| TUE 15TH NOVEMBER | 10.00am 4.30pm - 5.45pm | Rosary after Mass Youth Choir Practice | Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist |
| THU 17TH NOVEMBER | 8.00pm - 9.30pm | Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall | Our Lady Help of Christians |
| FRI 18TH NOVEMBER | 10.00am | Rosary after Mass | Our Lady Help of Christians |
| SAT 19TH NOVEMBER | 5.00pm - 5.45pm | Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions | St John the Evangelist |
| SUN 20TH NOVEMBER | 11.30am 2.00pm 5.00pm - 5.45pm | Tea and Coffee after Mass - Hall Blessing of Graves Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions | St John the Evangelist Chorleywood Road Cemetery Our Lady Help of Christians |

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

| | Our Lady Help of Christians | St John the Evangelist | St John Fisher |
|--|--|--|---|
| SAT 12TH NOVEMBER <i>St JOSAPHAT, BISHOP</i> | 9.30am Holy Souls | 6.00pm Fr Duncan Adamson RIP | |
| SUNDAY 13 TH NOVEMBER <i>THIRTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i> | 8.30am Mary & Patrick McCullagh 11am Ann Mulholland RIP (Anniv.) 6pm For the People of the Parishes | 10.30am For those who died in war | 9am For those who died in war |
| MONDAY 14 TH NOVEMBER | 9.30am Sheila Hourihan RIP | 11.00am Funeral - Doris Daly RIP | |
| TUESDAY 15 TH NOVEMBER | 12.30pm Deceased Clergy of the Watford Deanery | | NO MASS TODAY |
| WED 16TH NOVEMBER <i>St EDMUND OF ABINGDON, BISHOP</i> | 9.30am Kate Harrison Ints. | NO MASS TODAY | 11.00am Funeral - Alan Garrett RIP |
| THURSDAY 17 TH NOVEMBER | 9.30am Holy Souls | | |
| FRIDAY 18 TH NOVEMBER | 9.30am Peggy & Roy Langdale RIP | | |
| SATURDAY 19 TH NOVEMBER | 9.30am Holy Souls | 6.00pm For the People of the Parishes | |
| SUNDAY 20 TH NOVEMBER <i>OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE</i> | 8.30am Christopher, Margaret & Dora Conway RIP 11am James Harbird RIP (Anniv.) 6pm Jad Damouni RIP | 10.30am Joseph Casey RIP (Anniv.) | 9am Special Intention DAC |
| SANCTUARY LAMPS | This week our Sanctuary Lamp (Blessed Sacrament) burns for Peter Scally RIP | This week our Sanctuary Lamp (Blessed Sacrament) burns for Shane Jobe RIP (Anniv.) | |

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, Maureen Douglas, Michael Gaukroger, Molly Gray, Leslie Edwards, Pauline Williams, Gloria Warmington and Patrick Purtill

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

BLESSING OF GRAVES

Fr Andrew will be blessing graves at Chorleywood Road Cemetery on Sunday 20th November at 2pm.

DEANERY MASS FOR THE DECEASED CLERGY OF THE WATFORD DEANERY

The clergy of Watford deanery will be celebrating a Mass on Tuesday 15th November at 12.30pm at Our Lady's Church for all those priests who have served our parishes and died. All are welcome to join the deanery for this Mass.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

The Remembrance Sunday Service will take place on Sunday 13th November at 2.30pm at St Mary's Church (CofE), Rickmansworth. It will be preceded by the Remembrance Sunday Parade.

1.30pm Remembrance Sunday Parade musters at Our Lady, Help of Christians

2.00pm Remembrance Sunday Parade moves off, to walk along the High Street

2.30pm Remembrance Sunday Service begins in St Mary's

Parishioners are invited to join us to mark this solemn and historic occasion

MILL END COMMUNITY ACT OF REMEMBRANCE

The Mill End Community Act of Remembrance will be held at the Reach Free School on Sunday 13th November at 2pm.

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. 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.

DORIS DALY RIP

The funeral of Doris Daly will take place at St John the Evangelist on Monday 14th November at 11.00am, followed by committal at Woodcock Hill Cemetery. We commend her to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for her family at this sad and difficult time.

ALAN GARRETT RIP

The funeral of Alan Garrett will take place at St John Fisher on Wednesday 16th November at 11.00am, followed by committal at Chilterns Crematorium. We commend him to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for his 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.*

ALPHA

Alpha face to face begins again on Tuesday 17th January from 7.30-9.15pm and runs every week until 28th March at Our Lady's hall. Alpha is an opportunity to explore life's big questions and the Christian faith in a friendly and informal environment. Each session includes snacks and hot/cold drinks, an engaging video designed to generate conversation, and a discussion time where you can say whatever you like or nothing at all. Sessions include topics such as 'Who is Jesus?', 'Why did Jesus die?' and 'How can I have Faith?' Registrations are now open so please do contact us online using the following email address; chessvalleyalpha@rcdow.org.uk to register your interest or you are welcome to phone Deidre Gilmore on 07941 931319. As before, places are being prioritised for those who have not previously tried Alpha, so please share the details and invite others to attend. If you are interested in attending Alpha but this isn't the right timing for you please do contact us as Alpha is an ongoing ministry within the Chess Valley Group of Parishes and we can hold your details for forthcoming Alphas. Please pass this invitation on to someone you know who might like to explore the meaning of life and have fun whilst doing so!

BETHLEHEM NATIVITY GROUP TBNG

A missionary from Bethlehem, The Holy Land, will visit Our Lady help of Christians & St John the Evangelist on the weekend 12th - 13th November to briefly talk about the Holy Land and 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 highly appreciated.

YOUTH GROUP

Our next Youth group meets on Tuesday 22nd November 6.30-8pm at Our Lady's. This is for anyone in school year 7 and above... Come and have fun, games, arts and crafts and snacks.... meet up with friends, make new friends, bring a friend with you. Parents/guardians please text names and numbers 07788 721222 to let us know who will be coming

GIFT AID — ONE-OFF ENVELOPES / BANK TRANSFERS

If you do pay tax, would you please consider using the 'one-off' envelopes when requesting a Mass, towards baptism etc, or even for a donation towards a specific purpose. Completing the form attached to the envelope is vitally important to enable us to claim the tax. If you have signed a Gift Aid Declaration in the past, we are currently only able to claim gift aid on your offertory donations (standing orders / offertory envelopes).

If you'd like to Gift Aid your bank transfer donations, please email giftaid@rcdow.org.uk with the following details:

- Your parish name
- Your title, first name and surname
- Your address and postcode
- The date of your gift
- The amount and what it is for (eg, Mass Intention, Baptism etc).
- Please add the line: 'Please Gift Aid my donations'

Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

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, 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

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.

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.

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. 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.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

CAR PARK REMINDER

Please be careful to follow the one way system and to drive slowly around the car park to ensure all our parishioners are safe when coming to Church.

CHRISTMAS FAIR - 27TH NOVEMBER

We're looking forward to our Boutique Christmas Fair and would appreciate donations of bottles of wine/spirits and unwanted gifts (in new condition) for our tombola and raffle. A box will be in the church porch. If you can help on the day please email Laura.sharp@live.co.uk

200 CLUB

Congratulations to Teresa Dinsey £29, Richard Dumughn £21.75, Judy Gordon £14.50, Sean Godfrey £7.25

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.

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 11th December (after the 10.30am Mass)

Could we please ask for donations of **bottles** and **sweets** for the tombolas. These can be brought in from now and left in the box at the back of the church. Raffle tickets are now on sale after every weekend Mass.

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

THE REPOSITORY

The repository will be open from this Sunday and usually every Sunday after Mass with someone available to assist you. There is a selection of cards for different occasions including Christmas cards. We can only take cash payments at present.

CHARITY CHRISTMAS FAIR

Our Parish Christmas fair will be on Saturday 3rd December 10-12.30pm. All proceeds will go towards the Cardinal Hume Centre for the Homeless in Westminster and Franciscan Missionary Nuns working for the poor and disabled in Africa. Thank you for the wonderful gifts you have brought in so far. Please put all your gifts into the kitchen. Today we will be handing out posters. Please take one or more to put into your house and car windows. Let's let Chorleywood know we are open again!! Thanks as always for your support. Mary 284975 xx

DIOCESAN NOTICES

WITNESS TO HOPE

The Prayers and Readings of Advent. Talks by Fr John Deehan will be delivered via Zoom on the following dates: 17th & 24th November, 1st & 8th December. Contact Anna, annadupelycz@rcdow.org.uk for more information and to register.