



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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SAFEGUARDING REPS.

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YOUTH MINISTRY

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

Jaison Jeyaventhana - Youth Choir
Director rickyouthchoir@rcdow.org.uk

Caitlin Scott - Confirmation:
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THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) - 22ND JANUARY 2023

Blessed are those who hear the word of God!

7. In His gracious goodness, God has seen to it that what He had revealed for the salvation of all nations would abide perpetually in its full integrity and be handed on to all generations. Therefore, Christ the Lord in whom the full revelation of the supreme God is brought to completion, commissioned the Apostles to preach to all men that Gospel which is the source of all saving truth and moral teaching, and to impart to them heavenly gifts. This Gospel had been promised in former times through the prophets, and Christ Himself had fulfilled it and promulgated it with His lips. This commission was faithfully fulfilled by the Apostles who, by their oral preaching, by example, and by observances handed on what they had received from the lips of Christ, from living with Him, and from what He did, or what they had learned through the prompting of the Holy Spirit. The commission was fulfilled, too, by those Apostles and apostolic men who under the inspiration of the same Holy Spirit committed the message of salvation to writing.

But in order to keep the Gospel forever whole and alive within the Church, the Apostles left bishops as their successors, "handing over" to them "the authority to teach in their own place." This sacred tradition, therefore, and Sacred Scripture of both the Old and New Testaments are like a mirror in which the pilgrim Church on earth looks at God, from whom she has received everything, until she is brought finally to see Him as He is, face to face (1 John 3:2).

9. Hence there exists a close connection and communication between sacred tradition and Sacred Scripture. For both of them, flowing from the same divine wellspring, in a certain way merge into a unity and tend toward the same end. For Sacred Scripture is the word of God inasmuch as it is consigned to writing under the inspiration of the divine Spirit, while sacred tradition takes the word of God entrusted by Christ the Lord and the Holy Spirit to the Apostles, and hands it on to their successors in its full purity, so that led by the light of the Spirit of truth, they may in proclaiming it preserve this word of God faithfully, explain it, and make it more widely known. Consequently, it is not from Sacred Scripture alone that the Church draws her certainty about everything which has been revealed. Therefore, both sacred tradition and Sacred Scripture are to be accepted and venerated with the same sense of loyalty and reverence.

10. Sacred tradition and Sacred Scripture form one sacred deposit of the word of God, committed to the Church. Holding fast to this deposit the entire holy people united with their shepherds remain always steadfast in the teaching of the Apostles, in the common life, in the breaking of the bread and in prayers (Acts 2, 42), so that holding to, practicing and professing the heritage of the faith, it becomes on the part of the bishops and faithful a single common effort. But the task of authentically interpreting the word of God, whether written or handed on, has been entrusted exclusively to the living teaching office of the Church, whose authority is exercised in the name of Jesus Christ.

It is clear, therefore, that sacred tradition, Sacred Scripture and the teaching authority of the Church, in accord with God's most wise design, are so linked and joined together that one cannot stand without the others, and that all together and each in its own way under the action of the one Holy Spirit contribute effectively to the salvation of souls.

Extract from Dei Verbum, Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation, 1965

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SUN 22ND JANUARY	9.30am 3.30pm 5.00pm - 5.45pm	SVP Coffee Morning - Hall Joint Service for Week of Prayer & Christian Unity Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
MON 23RD JANUARY	6.30pm - 8.00pm	Confirmation Session - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
TUE 24TH JANUARY	4.30pm - 5.45pm 7.30pm - 9.15pm 7.30pm - 8.15pm	Youth Choir Practice Alpha - Hall Alpha Prayer Ministry - Church	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 25TH JANUARY	2.15pm	Faith and Friendship Group - Small Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
THU 26TH JANUARY	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 28TH JANUARY	5.00pm - 5.45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	St John the Evangelist
SUN 29TH JANUARY	11.30am 5.00pm - 5.45pm	Sunday Brunch - 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
SAT 21ST JANUARY <i>St Agnes, Virgin</i>	9.30am For the sick and housebound of the parishes	6pm For the People of the Parishes	
SUNDAY 22 ND JANUARY <i>THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am For the People of the Parishes 11am Mervyn Mascarenhas RIP 6pm Jad Damouni RIP	10.30am Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI RIP	9am For the People of the Parishes
MONDAY 23 RD JANUARY	9.30am Tommy Mantle RIP		
TUES 24TH JANUARY <i>St Francis de Sales</i>	9.30am Dorothy Thwaites RIP		NO MASS TODAY
WED 25TH JANUARY <i>THE CONVERSION OF St Paul the Apostle</i>	9.30am Robert Hall RIP	NO MASS TODAY	
THU 26TH JANUARY <i>St Timothy and Titus, Bishops</i>	9.30am Eugene Maguire RIP (Anniv.)		
FRIDAY 27 TH JANUARY	9.30am Joyce Mainey RIP		
SAT 28TH JANUARY <i>St Thomas Aquinas, Priest & Doctor</i>	9.30am Anna O'Keefe RIP	6pm Edda Ali RIP	
SUNDAY 29 TH JANUARY <i>FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI RIP 11am Patricia McInerney RIP 6pm Jacqui McCann RIP	10.30am Der Leane RIP	9am For the People of the Parishes
SANCTUARY LAMPS	This week our Sanctuary Lamp (Our Lady's) burns for Josie Westhrop RIP		

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 and Gloria Warmington.

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

St John Fisher: Nora O'Toole, Francis De Souza, Georgina Kelham, Pete Murray, Steve Kibbey, Matthew Leone, Jean-Pierre Roche, Angela Hoy, Colin Dowling, Kitty Finucane, Anne Trenchard, Paul Kennett, Ann Penn, Pam Fitzpatrick, Julian Harris and David Cottingham.

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

MASSES THIS WEEK

Fr Andrew will be away for his post-Christmas break this week so there will be no weekday Mass in Chorleywood or Mill End this week.

ASH WEDNESDAY (February 22nd)

This year we would once again like to prepare our own ash from last year's palms (or palms from any previous year should you have them!). Please hunt around at home for them and bring them to the sacristy after Mass before Wednesday 15th February so they can be burned and used on Ash Wednesday. Thank you!

JOINT SERVICE FOR WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

We will be hosting this annual Service at St John's, Mill End on Sunday 22nd January at 3.30pm to pray for Christian Unity with our brothers and sisters from the Christian Churches across Rickmansworth and Mill End. Please do join us in welcoming them and being united in prayer.

ANNUAL PARISHES MEETING 2023

This will take place on Saturday 18th February at 2pm and will be on Zoom for members of all three parishes. This is a great opportunity to hear what has been happening in the parishes and what vision we have in the years ahead. Zoom details will be published in the newsletter in the coming weeks.

SEEKING SUPPORT?

If you are struggling in these difficult economic times to pay for shopping or need any other support, please do get in touch with the parish office and we will try to help you. Please remember your parish is here for your spiritual support but also as a community you can turn to when you have any other need.

NEW PARISHIONERS WELCOMING EVENT

We are aware that over the past two years there are many people who are new to the parish. Please do pick up one of our leaflets in the Church porch and fill in the form so we know who you are. There will also be a Welcome soup lunch with the Parishes' Senior Leadership Team for all new parishioners on Saturday 4th February at 12 noon in Our Lady's Parish Hall. Please do come along and introduce yourselves and find out more about how our parishes work together and ways in which you can get involved. To assist with catering please do let Kerry in the parish office know you are planning to attend and if you have any allergies on rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk

THE FAITH AND FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Will meet again at 2.15pm in Our Lady's Parish Hall on the following Wednesdays: January 25th, February 8th, March 1st, 15th and 29th. Do join us for tea, chat and a DVD about developing personal prayer.

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

NEW YEAR PROJECT

If you are looking to do something in 2023 to help grow in understanding your faith why not try 'The Bible in a Year' or 'The Catechism in a Year' podcasts by Fr Mike Schmitz. Full details can be found at <https://ascensionpress.com/>

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.**

VINNIE PACKS

The SVP are distributing over 10,000 Vinnie Packs containing cold weather essentials to the homeless this winter. Please could you consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £4.10 per pack? Donations can be sent to **Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ** with cheques made out to SVP or by bank transfer to NatWest **sort code 60-60-04, account no. 46088237**. Thank you so much for your support.

ALPHA

Alpha runs every week from 7.30-9.15pm until 28th March at Our Lady's hall.

ALPHA - INVITATION TO PRAY

We are inviting all parishioners to join the Alpha Intercessory Prayer Team by either praying from home or to join in person for some or all of the Tuesdays from 7.30-8.15pm to pray for the guests and team attending Alpha. In addition to this we would also love to invite you to pray daily for our parish community and its ongoing formation. Maybe you could consider praying the following prayer: **Thank you loving Father for all those you have called to participate in Alpha; we ask your blessing upon all, both team and guests. Without you we can do nothing you are the Way, the Truth and the Life. Pour out your Holy Spirit and abundant blessings and gifts during this Alpha. May Alpha ignite or re-ignite the flame of faith in all hearts so that we may experience the wonder, joy and hope that being in relationship with you brings. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit...**

SPONSORED SANCTUARY LAMPS.

In each of our churches 2 sanctuary lamp candles burn throughout the week – one by the tabernacle indicating the Lord's presence, and the other by the statue of Our Lady. Would you like one of these to burn in memory of a loved one, or for a particular intention? If so, we are asking for a donation of £10 per week, for your intention to be remembered and recorded in the weekly newsletter. Please hand your donation into the Parish Office or to one of the priests marked 'Sanctuary Lamp Donation', together with a note stating your particular intention, and the Church and the location of the lamp that you would like to burn for that intention.

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.

YOUTH CHOIR

The Youth Choir (aged 8-13) sings 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 Jason in supervising the children during the rehearsals then please also contact the parish office for more details.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

QUIZ NIGHT - SAVE THE DATE - SATURDAY 25TH MARCH

We'd love a great turnout for our first event of 2023 so please save the date now. More details to follow.

COFFEE MORNING

Please join us in the hall after the 8.30am Mass this Sunday for our SVP Coffee Morning.

CALVARY CROSS UPDATE

We are nearly there! The new cross is now on site and has been prepared, the statue is nearly restored and now we are just waiting for confirmation when the scaffold can be put up. We hope that the Cross will be back at the heart of our parish grounds soon. Thank you for your patience.

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

SUNDAY BRUNCH

Sunday Brunch (with bacon and sausage rolls) will take place on Sunday 29th January after 10.30am Mass. All proceeds raised will go to Aid to the Church in Need. We hope that you will come and join us!

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

THE REPOSITORY

After Mass on Sunday there will be a selection of cards for different occasions. We can now do contactless sales as well.

DIOCESAN NOTICES

WORLD DAY OF THE SICK ON SATURDAY 11TH FEBRUARY 2023

Cardinal Vincent will celebrate Mass at Westminster Cathedral at 2.30pm. During this Mass anointing of the sick will be offered. If you would like to attend then please contact the parish office to register for a ticket.

THE ANNUAL MASS FOR MATRIMONY

The Annual Mass for Matrimony will be celebrated in the Cathedral by the Cardinal on Saturday 13th May at 2.30pm. If you are celebrating a significant wedding anniversary in 2023 and would like to attend then contact the parish office to register for more details.

OPEN MORNING FOR PROSPECTIVE CHORISTERS

Westminster Cathedral Choir School warmly welcomes families interested in chorister places for boys currently in Years 2, 3 or 4, for an open morning on Sunday 5th February from 10am to 12noon. Becoming a chorister offers boys the opportunity to sing in our world-famous choir, and to join a world-class school for boys age 4 – 13, with up to 100% off fees on a means-tested basis. To register for the open morning contact Lucy Auger: Telephone 020 7798 9081 or email lauger@choirschool.com or visit www.choirschool.com for more information.

PARENTING FOR FAITH

A new online course starting for those with Babies and Toddlers over 5 weeks from 23rd March via Zoom starting at 8.00pm. <https://www.celebratetrust.org/parentingforfaith>

GRANTS TO HELP PAY OFF ENERGY DEBTS

As this is the month when bills can be highest, please be aware that those who are in debt to their energy supplier might be able to get a grant from a charitable trust to help pay it off. More details can be found at: <https://fuelpovertyresource.org.uk/focus-on/fuel-debt-and-trust-funds/>