



### 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 Matarewicz  
[p.matarewicz@gmail.com](mailto:p.matarewicz@gmail.com)

#### Chorleywood

Anne Lorrimer-Roberts  
[anne@themessagemachine.com](mailto:anne@themessagemachine.com)

#### Mill End

Geraldine Page  
[geraldine.page21@gmail.com](mailto:geraldine.page21@gmail.com)

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WD3 1HU  
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 @ChessValleyRC

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A) - 19<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2023

#### ‘Behold your mother’

The Church’s liturgy sets before our eyes the icon of the Virgin Mary, Mother of God. The first day of the year is the Feast of the Mother of God, followed by the Epiphany, commemorating the visit of the Magi. The Evangelist Matthew writes: “going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him” (Mt 2:11). It is the Mother who, after giving birth to him, presents the Son to the world. She gives us Jesus, she shows us Jesus, she lets us see Jesus.

Every human person owes his or her life to a mother, and almost always owes much of what follows in life, both human and spiritual formation, to her. Yet, despite being highly lauded from a symbolic point of view — many poems, many beautiful things said poetically of her — the mother is rarely listened to or helped in daily life, rarely considered central to society in her role. Rather, often the readiness of mothers to make sacrifices for their children is taken advantage of.

It also happens that in Christian communities the mother is not always held in the right regard, she is barely heard. Yet the centre of the life of the Church is the Mother of Jesus. Perhaps mothers, ready to sacrifice so much for their children and often for others as well, ought to be listened to more. We should understand more about their daily struggle to be efficient at work and attentive and affectionate in the family; we should better grasp what they aspire to in order to express the best and most authentic fruits of their emancipation. A mother with her children always has problems, always work. I remember there were five of us children at home, and while one was doing one thing, the other wanted to do another, and our poor mama went back and forth from one’s side to another, but she was happy. She gave us so much.

Mothers are the strongest antidote to the spread of self-centred individualism. “Individual” means “what cannot be divided”. Mothers, instead, “divide” themselves, from the moment they bear a child to give him to the world and help him grow. Archbishop Oscar Romero said that mothers experience a “maternal martyrdom”. In the homily for the funeral of an assassinated priest, he said: “Giving one’s life does not only mean being killed; giving one’s life, having the spirit of a martyr, it is in giving in duty, in silence, in prayer, in honest fulfilment of his duty; in that silence of daily life; giving one’s life little by little. Yes, like it is given by a mother, who without fear and with the simplicity of the maternal martyrdom, conceives a child in her womb, gives birth to him, nurses him, helps them grow and cares for them with affection. She gives her life. That’s martyrdom”.

A society without mothers would be a dehumanized society, for mothers are always, even in the worst moments, witnesses of tenderness, dedication and moral strength. Mothers often pass on the deepest sense of religious practice: in a human being’s life, the value of faith is inscribed in the first prayers, the first acts of devotion that a child learns. It is a message that believing mothers are able to pass on without much explanation: these come later, but the seed of faith is those early precious moments. Without mothers, not only would there be no new faithful, but the faith would lose a good part of its simple and profound warmth. And the Church is mother, with all of this, she is our mother! We are not orphans, we have a mother! Our Lady, mother Church, is our mum. We are not orphans, we are children of the Church, we are children of Our Lady, and we are children of our mothers.

Dearest mothers, thank you, thank you for what you are in your family and for what you give to the Church and the world. And to you, beloved Church, thank you, thank you for being mother. And to you, Mary, Mother of God, thank you for letting us see Jesus.

Extract from General Audience of Pope Francis, 7 January 2015

### SAFEGUARDING REPS.

#### Rickmansworth Parish

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

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

Jaison Jeyaventhana - Youth Choir  
Director [rickyouthchoir@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickyouthchoir@rcdow.org.uk)

Caitlin Scott - Confirmation:  
[rickmansworthconfirmation@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworthconfirmation@rcdow.org.uk)

## FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

<b>SAT 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>	11.15am 5.00pm - 5.45pm	Baptisms Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
<b>SUN 19<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>	10.00am 11.30am 5.00pm - 5.45pm	Tea and Coffee after Mass - Lounge Tea and Coffee after Mass - Hall Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	St John Fisher St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>TUE 21<sup>ST</sup> MARCH</b>	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
<b>WED 22<sup>ND</sup> MARCH</b>	7.00pm	RCIA - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>THU 23<sup>RD</sup> MARCH</b>	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>FRI 24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>	7.00pm	Stations of the Cross	St John Fisher
<b>SAT 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>	5.00pm - 5.45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	St John the Evangelist
<b>SUN 26<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>	9.30am 11.30am 5.00pm - 5.45pm	SVP Coffee Morning - Hall Sunday Brunch - 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
<b>SATURDAY</b> 18 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	<b>9.30am</b> Aadhiran Zayne Jude-Roger RIP	<b>6pm</b> For the People of the Parishes	
<b>SUNDAY</b> 19 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH <i>FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT</i>	<b>8.30am</b> John D'Cruz RIP <b>11am</b> Bill Graham RIP (Anniv.) <b>6pm</b> Jad Damouni RIP	<b>10.30am</b> Elsa Kondys RIP	<b>9am</b> Ron Latimer RIP (90 <sup>th</sup> Birthday)
<b>MON 20<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b> <i>ST JOSEPH</i>	<b>9.30am</b> Michael Conway (Ints.)		
<b>TUESDAY</b> 21 <sup>ST</sup> MARCH	<b>9.30am</b> Michael Conway (Ints.)		<b>9.30am</b> Eileen McConway RIP (Anniv.)
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 22 <sup>ND</sup> MARCH	<b>9.30am</b> Alan Johnson (Ints.)	<b>9.30am</b> Audrey Green RIP	
<b>THURSDAY</b> 23 <sup>RD</sup> MARCH	<b>9.30am</b> Martin & Nina Burke RIP		
<b>FRIDAY</b> 24 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH	<b>9.30am</b> Ola & Adam Budzynski RIP <b>11.00am</b> Funeral - Patrick Tarrant RIP		
<b>SAT 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b> <i>THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD</i>	<b>9.30am</b> For the sick and housebound of the parishes	<b>6pm</b> Hannah Logan RIP (Anniv.)	
<b>SUNDAY</b> 26 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH <i>FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT</i>	<b>8.30am</b> Nalene (Ints.) <b>11am</b> Mrs Joseph (Ints.) <b>6pm</b> For the People of the Parishes	<b>10.30am</b> Mary Murphy RIP (Anniv.)	<b>9am</b> For the People of the Parishes
<b>SANCTUARY LAMPS</b>	This week our Sanctuary Lamps (Blessed Sacrament and Our Lady's) burn for Martin & Nina Burke 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 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, Colin Dowling, Kitty Finucane, Anne Trenchard, Paul Kennett, Ann Penn, Pam Fitzpatrick, Julian Harris, David Cottingham, Derek Treanor and Maggie Stacey

## NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

### **MOTHERING SUNDAY**

We wish all mothers and grandmothers a wonderful Mothering Sunday. At the end of all the Masses this weekend there will be a special blessing for all the mothers and grandmothers present.

### **PATRICK TARRANT RIP**

The funeral of Patrick Tarrant will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians at 11.00am on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March, 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.

### **KATE MARGETTS RIP**

The funeral of Kate Margetts will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians at 11.00am on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March, followed by committal at Breakspear Crematorium. We commend her to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for her family at this sad and difficult time.

### **MICHAEL FLANAGAN RIP**

The funeral of Michael Flanagan will take place at St John the Evangelist at 10.00am on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March, followed by committal at West Herts Crematorium. We commend him to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for his family at this sad and difficult time.

### **MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES - A CATHOLIC RESPONSE**

On 14<sup>th</sup> March the Department for International Affairs of the Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales published *Love the Stranger – A Catholic Response to Migrants and Refugees*. This document has been written over several months and reminds us of our Christian duty to see in this debate the person who has left their homeland in search of a better life. For more details and to view the document go to: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/>

### **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

The praying of Lenten Stations of the Cross will once again circulate around the three parishes on a Friday at 7.00pm as follows:

St John Fisher, Chorleywood: 24<sup>th</sup> March

St John the Evangelist, Mill End 31<sup>st</sup> March

Our Lady's Rickmansworth: 7<sup>th</sup> April

The devotions will be led by parishioners. We hope that many parishioners from across the three parishes will come and join us for this important aspect of our Lenten spirituality.

### **LENTE RETREAT DAY**

There will be a retreat day open to all on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March from 10am - 3pm at St John's Church, Mill End. Canon Stuart Wilson will be our guest speaker. Please bring a pack lunch and be prepared for some time of silence!

### **CARDINAL'S LENTE APPEAL 2023**

Funds raised this year will be shared between the four pillars of the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal: Marriage & Family Life; Youth & Evangelisation; The Education Service and Caritas Westminster. The effects of the pandemic, followed by the cost of living crisis, are making daily life harder for all. Price rises last year meant many families faced an impossible choice: HEAT or EAT? And this crisis is far from over. The Church continues to respond, with thousands of people putting their faith into action by serving those in need. And for those who can't give financially please see the posters on how you can volunteer and help those in need. Please take a donation envelope for more information. You can use the QR code to make your donation online. Thank you for your generosity.

### **YOUTH GROUP**

Let's get ready for Easter. There will be a youth group meeting on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March in Our Lady's Church Hall 10am - 11.30am. Those in school year 7 and above. Fun, games and snacks. Looking forward to seeing you all. Come with a friend or come and make new friends. Parents/guardians please message 07788 721222 to let us know who is coming.

### **THE FAITH AND FRIENDSHIP GROUP**

Will meet again at 2.15pm in Our Lady's Parish Hall on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March. Do join us for tea, chat and a DVD about developing personal prayer.

### **CHESS VALLEY SVP**

Chess Valley SVP are providing a Warm Winter Space in the church hall at St John the Evangelist, Mill End, every Thursday between 2 to 4pm, for the duration of the winter months. Hot drinks, cakes and biscuits are provided. Please let those you feel would benefit from this know. For further information, please email [chessvalleysvp@gmail.com](mailto:chessvalleysvp@gmail.com)

### **MILL END FOOD BANK**

Chess Valley SVP will be collecting specific items needed by the food bank to supplement their food boxes. 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. At present the Food bank is well stocked. Jam is no longer required, but they are now short of: **tinned vegetables and fruit juices.**

### **6<sup>th</sup> RICKMANSWORTH SEA SCOUT GROUP –**

Our **Book Sale** will be held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March from 7 to 9pm. Any donations of items can be brought to the Scout HQ behind Our Lady's Church on Thursday/Friday Evenings or collection can be arranged by telephoning – 246169 / 776035. Current and Past Supporters are reminded that help is needed to run these events.

### **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.

**ALPHA** runs every week from 7.30-9.15pm until 28<sup>th</sup> March at Our Lady's Hall.

## NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

**PILGRIMAGE TO FLORENCE, SIENA & ASSISI LED BY FR ANDREW GALLAGHER, 22<sup>ND</sup> - 27<sup>TH</sup> OCT 2023**  
£795 pp. plus flights (Easyjet from London Luton). **Book now as flight prices are rising!** Accommodation will be 2 nights near Florence, 3 nights in the centre of Assisi on a Half Board basis. Also includes half day guided tours in Florence, Siena and Assisi and an English speaking courier for the whole tour. Further information and booking forms can be obtained from the Parish Office [rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk) or from Gill at Tangney Tours 01732 886666.

### YOUTH CHOIR

The Youth Choir (aged 8-13) 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 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 - SATURDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

Its back! The Greatest Quiz Night in The World. Probably. We're delighted to be holding the first Quiz Night since before the COVID-19 pandemic on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm in Our Lady Help of Christians Church Hall. Hosted by our very own Paul Burke and the Social Committee, there are prizes up for grabs as well as wooden spoons for the team in last. Always a fun filled informal evening, tables of 8 or join a team on the night. Tickets are £15, which includes fish and chips for each participant, and a bar. Tickets can be bought now online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/olhcs-brillant-quiz-tickets-527275674737> or after each Mass at Our Lady's on 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> March.

For more details contact Paul Burke 07774 973773. Hope to see you there supporting our first event of 2023.

### COFFEE MORNINGS

Please join us in the hall after the 8.30am Mass on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> March for our SVP Coffee Morning. There will also be a coffee morning after Mass on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> April. Donations go to Our Lady's Building Fund.

**200 CLUB** - congratulations to Adrian Parker £29, Chris Doran £21.75, Teresa Dinsey £14.50 and Annie Kent £7.25

### PARISH ANNUAL FINANCIAL REVIEW

Copies of the summary of the 2022 Annual Financial Report to the Diocese are available. Parishioners are invited to take a copy home with them.

## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

### SUNDAY BRUNCH

Sunday Brunch (with bacon and sausage rolls) will take place on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March 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!

### PARISH ANNUAL FINANCIAL REVIEW

Copies of the summary of the 2022 Annual Financial Report to the Diocese are available. Parishioners are invited to take a copy home with them.

## ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

### HOLY THURSDAY

Traditionally at the Mass of the Last Supper the priest washes the feet of 12 parishioners remembering that act of humility and service by Christ on the night before he died. If you would like your foot to be washed at this Mass please sign up on the list in the Church porch.

**TEA AND COFFEE** will be served in the lounge after Mass today

### SOCIAL EVENT - Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March – please join us.

This weekend is the last opportunity to sign up for the Parish dinner at West Herts College on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March (6.30pm) as we need to get the numbers and menu choices to the College a week before the event. The cost of the 3 course dinner is £18 payable on the evening. There is a very good wine list available on the evening. Parking is free in the College car park. There will be Committee members available after Mass should you have any queries.

### MISSIO/APF RED BOX HOLDERS

Please bring your boxes/envelopes to Church or to my door by Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March for this quarter's collection. We urgently need new donors for our Missionaries. Any amount, each Quarter, £5, £10, £20 or your loose change in a box would be gratefully received. Thank you. Contact Mary Latimer 284975.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March 10am Youth Group at Our Lady's Hall, Rickmansworth

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March 10am Lenten Retreat Day at St John's, Mill End

Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March 7.30pm Our Lady's Parish Quiz

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 6.30pm St John Fisher's Social Event at West Herts College

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May 11am Our Lady's Mass and Marian Procession and Parish Celebration

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June 10.30am St John the Evangelist Mass and Corpus Christi Procession and Parish Celebration

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June St John Fisher Parish Celebration following 9am Mass

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July 12.15pm Joint Parish Social Event at Our Lady's