



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)

Address for all correspondence:  
5 Park Road, Rickmansworth  
WD3 1HU  
Telephone: 01923 773387

 @ChessValleyRC

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR A) - 30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2023

#### Good Shepherd Sunday

*Gracious and loving God, we thank you for the gift of our priests.  
Through them, we experience your presence in the sacraments.  
Help our priests to be strong in their vocation.  
Set their souls on fire with love for your people.  
Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to  
follow in the footsteps of Jesus.  
Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom.  
Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel.  
Allow them to experience joy in their ministry.  
Help them to become instruments of your divine grace.  
We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest.  
Amen.*

We need them in life's early morning,  
We need them again at its close;  
We feel their warm clasp of true friendship,  
We seek them while tasting life's woes.  
When we come to this world we are sinful,  
The greatest as well as the least.  
And the hands that make us pure as angels  
Are the beautiful hands of a priest.

At the altar each day we behold them,  
And the hands of a king on his throne  
Are not equal to them in their greatness  
Their dignity stands alone.

For there in the stillness of morning  
Ere the sun has emerged from the east,  
There God rests between the pure fingers  
Of the beautiful hands of a priest.

When we are tempted and wander  
To pathways of shame and sin  
'Tis the hand of a priest that will absolve us.  
Not once but again and again.  
And when we are taking life's partner  
Other hands may prepare us a feast  
But the hands that will bless and unite us,  
Are the beautiful hands of a priest.

God bless them and keep them all holy,  
For the Host which their fingers caress,  
What can a poor sinner do better  
But to praise Thee who chose thee to bless  
When the death dews on our eyes are falling,  
May our courage and strength be increased  
To see, raised above us in blessing  
The beautiful hands of a priest.

*This poem was passed down in Ireland and around 1963 was given by Fr. Crowley of Dunsallagh to the Clare singer Tom Linehan who recorded it in song.*

### 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 29<sup>TH</sup> APRIL</b>	5.00pm - 5.45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	St John the Evangelist
<b>SUN 30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL</b>	11.30am 5.00pm - 5.45pm	Sunday Brunch - Hall Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>TUE 2<sup>ND</sup> MAY</b>	4.30pm - 5.45pm	Youth Choir Practice	St John the Evangelist
<b>WED 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY</b>	7.00pm	RCIA - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>THU 4<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b>	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>SAT 6<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b>	5.00pm - 5.45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	St John the Evangelist
<b>SUN 7<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b>	9.30am 11.30am 5.00pm - 5.45pm	Coffee Morning - Hall 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

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

	Our Lady Help of Christians	St John the Evangelist	St John Fisher
<b>SAT 29<sup>TH</sup> APRIL</b> <i>ST CATHERINE OF SIENA</i>	<b>9.30am</b> Alan & Virginia Johnson (Ints.)	<b>6pm</b> For the People of the Parishes	
<b>SUNDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL</b> <i>FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</i>	<b>8.30am</b> Simon West (Ints.) <b>11am</b> Edward Linney RIP <b>6pm</b> Kevin Corr RIP	<b>10.30am</b> Ned Pender RIP	<b>9am</b> Hugh & Mary Anderson RIP
<b>MONDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> MAY</b>	<b>9.30am</b> For those suffering from Cancer and Aids		
<b>TUE 2<sup>ND</sup> MAY</b> <i>ST ATHANASIUS</i>	<b>11am</b> Funeral - John Caneparo RIP		<b>9.30am</b> For the Sick & Housebound of the Parishes
<b>WED 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY</b> <i>SS PHILIP &amp; JAMES, APOSTLES</i>	<b>9.30am</b> Lawrence Joseph Rooney RIP	<b>9.30am</b> Michael Flanagan RIP	
<b>THU 4<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b> <i>THE ENGLISH MARTYRS</i>	<b>9.30am</b> Holy Souls		
<b>FRIDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b>	<b>9.30am</b> Fr Peter Maher RIP		
<b>SATURDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b>	<b>9.30am</b> For the Sick & Housebound of the Parishes	<b>6pm</b> Billy Kerins	
<b>SUNDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b> <i>FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</i>	<b>8.30am</b> For the People of the Parishes <b>11am</b> Fr Peter Maher RIP <b>6pm</b> Wera Wernicke RIP	<b>10.30am</b> For the People of the Parishes	<b>9am</b> Michael Fields RIP
<b>SANCTUARY LAMPS</b>			This week our Sanctuary Lamps burn for Moyra O'Donnell RIP (Blessed Sacrament) & Rhoda Lodge RIP (Our Lady's)

### 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, Henry Cutting, Nalene Nixon, Maureen Douglas, Michael Gaukroger, Molly Gray, Leslie Edwards, Pauline Williams, Gloria Warmington, Sr Win Crowther and Hugh Nolan.

**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

### PRIEST TRAINING FUND

This Sunday is Good Shepherd Sunday and our second collection will support the Priest Training Fund. This fund pays for the priestly formation of men for the Catholic priesthood. There are currently **14** men studying at Allen Hall seminary for our own Diocese, and two men are studying in Rome. Last year **4** men were ordained to the priesthood to serve as our future priests. The fund also supports the ongoing enrichment and formation of our ordained priests. Your gift ensures we can provide training for these men responding to Christ's call to dedicate their lives to serve God's people. Please be as generous as you can. Please also pray for vocations and for all our priests. If you do not have a donation envelope, plenty are still available at the back of the church. You can use the QR code to make your donation online or visit [www.rcdow.org.uk/donations](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/donations). Thank you for your generosity.

### SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI EXHIBITION

6 May – 30 July 2023 the National Gallery will be presenting the first major UK art exhibition to explore Saint Francis of Assisi's life and legacy. Presenting the art and imagery of Saint Francis from the 13th century to today, this exhibition looks at why this saint is a figure of enormous relevance to our time due to his spiritual radicalism, commitment to the poor, and love of God and nature, as well as his powerful appeals for peace, and openness to dialogue with other religions. It brings together paintings from the National Gallery Collection by Sassetta, Botticelli, and Zurbarán with international loans including works by Caravaggio, Josefa de Óbidos, Stanley Spencer, Antony Gormley, Giuseppe Penone, Andrea Büttner, and an exciting new commission from Richard Long. Free tickets for the exhibition can be booked via <https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/exhibitions/saint-francis-of-assisi>

### JOHN CANEPARO RIP

The funeral of John Caneparo will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians at 11.00am on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May, followed by committal at Breakspear Crematorium. We commend him to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for his family at this sad and difficult time.

### GIFT AID

Thank you to everyone who has Gift-Aided their offering. Gift Aid adds 25p to the value of every £1 given, at no extra cost to you. If you are a UK tax payer and would like to Gift Aid your offering please contact Fr Shaun, Fr Damian or Kerry. Please let us know if your tax circumstances have changed (2022/23 tax year) so that we do not ask for a tax refund if you haven't paid the associated tax. We will also need to know if you have changed your address recently.

### FAITH & FRIENDSHIP GROUP

The Faith and Friendship group will continue to meet at 2.15pm on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> May, 14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> June (DVD of meditations on The Mass).

### 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**.

### A CAP (CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY)

**LIFE SKILLS COURSE** will run at Mill End Baptist Church, Field Way, Rickmansworth, WD3 7EJ. This course is free to participants and there will be some provision for young children. **There will be one to one coaching and ongoing group support.** The course will run at 1.30pm on the following Wednesdays in May: 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup>. Further information available at [millendbaptist.org.uk](http://millendbaptist.org.uk) or contact Elaine Hawkings 07786 608303.

### 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.

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

The offertory collection figures for the months of January, February and March are below. Thank you for your generous donations.

	Envelopes	SO & Online	Loose & Contactless	TOTAL
Our Lady's	555.50	15,302.00	5,657.79	21,515.29
St John the Evangelist	896.50	4,887.00	2,519.23	8,302.73
St John Fisher	90	5,341.49	291.25	5,722.74

## DIOCESAN NOTICES

### WESTMINSTER DIOCESE JOB VACANCIES

Please visit our website at <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/> where you can view the latest vacancies.

## NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

### **PILGRIMAGE TO FLORENCE, SIENA & ASSISI LED BY FR ANDREW GALLAGHER, 22<sup>ND</sup> - 27<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER**

Full package price £1069 pp. (British Airways from London Heathrow). 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.

### **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 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.

## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

### **BANK HOLIDAY BIG HELP OUT**

As part of the Coronation Celebrations King Charles has encouraged us to take part in a volunteering activity in our community on Bank Holiday Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May. We are in need of some assistance in clearing up the parish site and some basic works around the grounds to ensure it is ready for the summer, and invite parishioners to join us on that day from 9.30am-12pm as part of our investment in our own parish community. If you are ready and able to help then please contact Mike Quinn on [Michael.Quinn@6thrickyseascouts.org.uk](mailto:Michael.Quinn@6thrickyseascouts.org.uk), so he can organise the day.

### **PARISH MARIAN PROCESSION AND CELEBRATION**

The 11am Mass on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> May will be followed by a Marian Procession around the grounds of the Church, finishing with a blessing of the restored Calvary Cross, which we are told will finally be in place by this date. The procession will be followed by a social event where you are invited to bring a picnic for your household. There will be a bar provided by our parish social committee. We encourage all parishioners to join us for this special celebration.

### **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. *Please also remember to register your vehicle if you are using the site out of our regular Mass times.*

### **COFFEE MORNING**

Please join us for our coffee morning after Mass on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June. Donations go to Our Lady's Building Fund.

### **200 CLUB**

Congratulations to Annie Kent £29, Anita Khurwal £21.75, Liz Waddington £14.50 and Maureen Douglas £7.25.

## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

### **MISSIO AND RED BOX APPEAL**

A big thank you to all who donated through the Red Boxes in 2022. In our Parish we raised £1,155.48. Please visit [missio.org.uk](http://missio.org.uk) to find out more about how your support changes lives for the better. If you would like a Red Box in your home please ask Geraldine. Every penny makes a difference. Thank you.

**PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES** are available for collection from the sacristy this weekend.

### **SUNDAY BRUNCH**

Sunday Brunch (with bacon and sausage rolls) will take place on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> April 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.

### **CARDINAL HUME CENTRE FOR THE HOMELESS IN WESTMINSTER**

Mary's Garage is open again **now** for this very worthy cause. **By appointment** for the whole of May, culminating in **two open days** on Friday and Saturday 26 and 27 May. We have amazing items already from 50p to £60 (a Yamaha keyboard)! Please come to bring, buy & browse, or all 3. All enquiries to Mary on 284975. With thanks and love, Mary

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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