



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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SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR A) - 21ST MAY 2023

Communicating heart to heart

One of the brightest and still fascinating examples of “speaking with the heart” is offered by Saint Francis de Sales, a Doctor of the Church, whom I wrote about in Totum Amoris Est, 400 years after his death. In addition to this important anniversary, I would like to mention another anniversary that takes place in 2023: the centenary of his proclamation as patron of Catholic journalists by Pius XI with the Encyclical, Rerum Omnium Perturbationem. A brilliant intellectual, fruitful writer and profound theologian, Francis de Sales was Bishop of Geneva at the beginning of the XVII century during difficult years marked by heated disputes with Calvinists. His meek attitude, humanity and willingness to dialogue patiently with everyone, especially with those who disagreed with him, made him an extraordinary witness of God’s merciful love. One could say about him: “A pleasant voice multiplies friends, and a gracious tongue multiplies courtesies” (Sir 6:5). After all, one of his most famous statements, “heart speaks to heart”, inspired generations of faithful, among them Saint John Henry Newman, who chose it as his motto, Cor ad cor loquitur. One of his convictions was, “In order to speak well, it is enough to love well”. It shows that for him communication should never be reduced to something artificial, to a marketing strategy, as we might say nowadays, but is rather a reflection of the soul, the visible surface of a nucleus of love that is invisible to the eye. For Saint Francis de Sales, precisely “in the heart and through the heart, there comes about a subtle, intense and unifying process in which we come to know God”. By “loving well”, Saint Francis succeeded in communicating with Martin, the deaf-mute, becoming his friend. This is why he is also known as the protector of people with impairments in communicating.

It is from this “criterion of love” that, through his writings and witness of life, the saintly Bishop of Geneva reminds us that “we are what we communicate”. This goes against the grain today, at a time when — as we experience especially on social media — communication is often exploited so that the world may see us as we would like to be and not as we are. Saint Francis de Sales disseminated many copies of his writings among the Geneva community. This “journalistic” intuition earned him a reputation that quickly went beyond the confines of his diocese and still endures to this day. His writings, Saint Paul VI observed, provide for a “highly enjoyable, instructive and moving” reading. If we look today at the field of communications, are these not precisely the characteristics that an article, a report, a television or radio programme or a social media post should include? May people who work in communications feel inspired by this saint of tenderness, seeking and telling the truth with courage and freedom and rejecting the temptation to use sensational and combative expressions.

May the Lord Jesus, the pure Word poured out from the heart of the Father, help us to make our communication clear, open and heartfelt.

May the Lord Jesus, the Word made flesh, help us listen to the beating of hearts, to rediscover ourselves as brothers and sisters, and to disarm the hostility that divides.

May the Lord Jesus, the Word of truth and love, help us speak the truth in charity, so that we may feel like protectors of one another.

An extract from message of Pope Francis for the 57th World Communications Day

SAFEGUARDING REPS.

Rickmansworth Parish

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Mill End Parish

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YOUTH MINISTRY

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

Caitlin Scott - Confirmation:
rickmansworthconfirmation@rcdow.org.uk

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SAT 20TH MAY	11.30am 2.30pm 5.00pm - 5.45pm	Baptisms JPPC Meeting Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	St John the Evangelist St John Fisher St John the Evangelist
SUN 21TH MAY	10.30am 11.30am 5.00pm - 5.45pm	First Holy Communions Tea and Coffee after Mass - Hall Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	St John the Evangelist St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
TUE 23RD MAY	4.30pm - 5.45pm	Youth Choir Practice	St John the Evangelist
THU 25TH MAY	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 26TH MAY	10.00am	Coffee Morning - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 27TH MAY	5.00pm - 5.45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	St John the Evangelist
SUN 28TH MAY	9.30am 11.30am 5.00pm - 5.45pm	SVP Coffee Morning 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
SATURDAY 20 TH MAY	9.30am For GIFT Families	6pm Frank Shanley RIP	
SUNDAY 21 ST MAY <i>SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</i>	8.30am Patrik Biel RIP (9 th Anniv.) 11am Sr Winifred Crowther RIP 6pm For the People of the Parishes	10.30am For those receiving their First Holy Communion	9am For the People of the Parishes
MONDAY 22 ND MAY	11.00am Funeral - Hugh Nolan RIP		
TUESDAY 23 RD MAY	9.30am Holy Souls		9.30am Patrick Biel RIP (9 th Anniv.)
WED 24TH MAY <i>PATRONAL FEAST OF OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS</i>	9.30am For the People of the Parish	9.30am Mary Noble RIP	
THURSDAY 25TH MAY <i>ST BEDE, THE VENERABLE</i>	1pm Funeral - Sr Win Crowther RIP		
FRIDAY 26TH MAY <i>ST PHILIP NERI, PRIEST</i>	9.30am Sr Win Crowther RIP		
SATURDAY 27TH MAY <i>ST AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY</i>	9.30am Fr Richard Marriott RIP	6pm For the People of the Parishes	
SUNDAY 28 TH MAY <i>PENTECOST SUNDAY</i>	8.30am For the People of the Parishes 11am Moira Finnegan RIP 6pm Patrick Tarrant RIP	10.30am Mary Noble RIP	9am Tony McConway RIP (Anniv.)
SANCTUARY LAMPS	This week our Sanctuary Lamp (Our Lady's) burns for the intentions of all students taking exams and for the intentions of the Kelly Family	This week our Sanctuary Lamps burn for Tom & Una Bugler RIP (Blessed Sacrament) & Joss & Stephen Dowds RIP (Our Lady's)	This week our Sanctuary Lamps burn for John Harris RIP (Blessed Sacrament) & Suzanna Ashworth 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 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 and Derek Treanor

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

HUGH NOLAN RIP

The funeral of Hugh Nolan will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians on Monday 22nd May at 11am followed by burial at Woodcock Hill Cemetery. We commend him to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for his family at this sad and difficult time.

MARY TERESA NOBLE RIP

The funeral of Mary Noble will take place at St Bede's, Croxley Green on Monday 22nd May at 11.30am. We commend her to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for her family at this sad and difficult time.

SR WIN CROWTHER RIP

The funeral of Sr Win Crowther will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians on Thursday 25th May at 1.00pm followed by burial at Woodcock Hill Cemetery. Sr Win was one of the community of the Daughters of Jesus who served Rickmansworth for many years. We commend her to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for her family at this sad and difficult time.

MARY MOUNTAIN RIP

The funeral of Mary Mountain will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians on Thursday 1st June at 11am followed by burial 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.

WEEKDAY MASSES

There will be no 9.30am Mass on Monday or Thursday next week due to funerals.

PENTECOST RED

On Sunday 28th May we remember the Holy Spirit coming down upon the Apostles at Pentecost empowering them to spread the Gospel. To celebrate this special day in our Church's year we encourage everyone to wear red to Mass on that day, reminding us of the gift that has also been given to us.

JOINT PARISHES SUMMER EVENT: 'BRASS ON THE GRASS'

On Sunday 16th July we will be holding a Joint Parishes Summer Event from 12.30pm at Our Lady's. There will be a BBQ, a Bar, activities for children, and a live performance by Potters Bar Town Brass Band featuring Fr Andrew. Bishop Paul McAleenan will also be joining us for the day. Please put this in your diary and do come along for an afternoon of entertainment and a chance to get to know other members of our parishes.

YOUTH EVENT - SUNDAY 4th JUNE

Picnic on the lawn at Our Lady's after 11am Mass (12-2pm). Calling all young people bring your friends and family for fun and games (any children of primary age or younger must be accompanied by an adult). You bring your own food and picnic blanket and chair and we'll provide the drinks and cake. Please message. 07788 721222 to let us know names and numbers coming. Look forward to seeing you.

THINKING ABOUT BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

Have you, or someone you know, been thinking about becoming a catholic? Are you a baptised catholic but have never received the Sacrament of Confirmation and would now like to complete your initiation? If the answer to either of these questions is 'yes', please drop me an email and we can have a chat about what is involved and how our parishes can help you to take the next step. Fr Andrew

CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

This Sunday is World Communications Day when we pray in a particular way for the very valuable work being done on behalf of the Church by the communications office of the Bishop's Conference. If you would like to support this work please donate online at <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/donate-world-communications-day/>

PILGRIMAGE TO FLORENCE, SIENA & ASSISI LED BY FR ANDREW GALLAGHER, 22ND - 27TH

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 or from Gill at Tangney Tours 01732 886666.

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 are now short of: **Jam, custard, rice pudding, tea bags, coffee (both original and decaf), tinned fruit, fruit juice or squash, washing-up liquid, shower gel, shampoo and conditioner, chocolates.**

FAITH & FRIENDSHIP GROUP

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

CATHOLIC WORKER FARM OPEN DAY – June 10th from 3pm onwards.

The farm accommodates 19 refugee women and children. There will be an international buffet, live performances and a house tour. It's totally free! Bring your friends and family. For more information, check out their website www.thecatholicworkerfarm.org or call them at 01923777201. Their address is Lynsters Farm, Old Uxbridge Road, Rickmansworth, WD39XJ.

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

GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER (GIFT)

Our new family catechesis for all those with children aged 5-11 takes place once a month. 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) 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.

YOUTH CHOIR

The Youth Choir (aged 8-13) sing on a Sunday once a month at Our Lady's and once a month at St John's, Mill End. There are rehearsals 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.

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>

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

HALL GARDEN DEVELOPMENT

Over the past year a small team of volunteers have been working hard to create a beautiful garden space at the back of the hall. This space is almost ready to enjoy but we would like to buy some practical garden furniture to make it a friendly and welcoming space for all hall users to use. If you would like to make a donation towards this furniture, please contact the parish office.

200 CLUB - congratulations to Anita Khurwal £29, Judy Gordon £21.75, Pauline Starck £14.50 and Chris Doran £7.25.

COFFEE MORNINGS

Please join us in the hall after the 8.30am Mass next Sunday 28th May for our SVP Coffee Morning. There will also be a coffee morning after Mass on Sunday 4th June. Donations go to Our Lady's Building Fund.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION AND PARISH CELEBRATION

On Sunday 11th June we will have a Corpus Christi Procession which will be followed by a Parish celebration in the Hall. Please bring a picnic for the celebration. Tea, coffee and soft drinks will be provided.

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 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.

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

ST JOHN FISHER PARISH CELEBRATION

On Sunday 25th June our 9am Mass will finish with special prayers for the intercession of St John Fisher, and this will be followed by refreshments and cake in the Parish Garden.

TEA AND COFFEE will be served after Mass this Sunday. All are invited.

MARY'S GARAGE SALE FOR THE CARDINAL HUME CENTRE FOR THE HOMELESS

Mary's garage is open for **one more week only!!** By appointment until Thursday evening then 2 open days: Friday and Saturday 26 and 27 May, 10.30-12.30 and 2-5. Chairs on the forecourt and very light refreshments will be served. The garage is full to bursting point with interesting items: new paintings and greeting cards by our own so talented Fiona Ryan-Watson; the rocking caterpillar, china, glass, cosmetics: jewellery etc. and, if you can't find anything to buy, there is the inevitable **Donation Basket!** 6 days left!! Love and thanks Mary 284975

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 11th June 10.30am St John the Evangelist Mass and Corpus Christi Procession and Parish Celebration
Sunday 25th June St John Fisher Parish Celebration following 9am Mass
Sunday 16th July 12.15pm Joint Parish Barbecue & Social at Our Lady's
Saturday 23rd September – Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham