



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:

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Rickmansworth

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Chorleywood

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@ChessValleyRC

SAFEGUARDING REPS.

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Mill End Parish

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Chorleywood Parish

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Diocesan Safeguarding

Coordinator 0207 798 9356

YOUTH MINISTRY

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

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

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

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) - 2ND JULY 2023

Instrumentum laboris – A synodal update

On Tuesday 20th June the Instrumentum laboris document was published. This will be the basis for the work of the participants in the General Assembly of the Synod on Synodality, which begins in October 2023 and concludes with a second Assembly a year later.

Deliberately conceived as a starting point and not a point of arrival, Instrumentum laboris brings together the experiences of dioceses around the world over the last two years, starting from October 2021, when Pope Francis set in motion a journey to discern what steps to take “to grow as a synodal Church.” The document is intended as an aid for discernment “during” the General Assembly, while at the same time serving as a means of preparation for participants as it looks ahead to the gathering. “Indeed, the purpose of the synodal process” the document states, repeating the words of the earlier Document for the Continental stage, “is not to produce documents but to open horizons of hope for the fulfilment of the Church’s mission.”

Instrumentum laboris is composed of an explanatory text and fifteen worksheets that reveal a dynamic vision of the concept of “synodality.” Specifically, there are main sections: Section A highlights the experience of the past two years and indicates a way forward to become an ever more synodal Church; Section B – entitled “Communion, Mission, Participation” – focuses on the “three priority issues” at the heart of the work to be done in October 2023. These three main themes are: Growing in communion by welcoming everyone, excluding no one; recognizing and valuing the contribution of every baptised person in view of mission; and identifying governance structures and dynamics through which to articulate participation and authority over time in a missionary synodal Church.

“Rooted in this awareness,” the document affirms, “is the desire for a Church that is also increasingly synodal in its institutions, structures, and procedures.” It notes that a synodal Church is first and foremost a “Church of listening” and therefore “desires to be humble, and knows that it must ask forgiveness and has much to learn.” It continues, “The face of the Church today bears the signs of serious crises of mistrust and lack of credibility. In many contexts, crises related to sexual abuse, and abuse of power, money, and conscience have pushed the Church to undertake a demanding examination of conscience so that ‘moved by the Holy Spirit’ the Church ‘may never cease to renew herself’, in a journey of repentance and conversion that opens paths of reconciliation, healing, and justice.”

A synodal Church is also “a Church of encounter and dialogue” with believers of other religions and with other cultures and societies. It is a Church that “is not afraid of the variety it bears,” but on the contrary, “values it without forcing it into uniformity.” The Church is synodal when it is unceasingly nourished by the mystery it celebrates in the liturgy, during which it experiences everyday “radical unity” in the same prayer, in the midst of a “diversity” of languages and rites.

Other significant passages concern the question of authority (“Does authority arise as a form of power derived from the models offered by the world, or is it rooted in service?” is one of the questions); the need for “integral formation, initial and ongoing” for the People of God; as well as the need for “a similar effort” aimed at the renewal of the language used in the “liturgy, preaching, catechesis, sacred art, as well as in all forms of communication addressed to the Faithful and the wider public, including through new or traditional forms of media.” The renewal of language, the text states, must “aim to make these riches accessible and attractive to the men and women of our time, rather than an obstacle that keeps them at a distance.”

Instrumentum laboris can be downloaded via the website of the Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk>

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| SAT 1ST JULY | 5.00pm - 5.45pm | Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions | St John the Evangelist |
| SUN 2ND JULY | 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 |
| TUE 4TH JULY | 4.30pm - 5.45pm | Youth Choir Practice | St John the Evangelist |
| THU 6TH JULY | 8.00pm - 9.30pm | Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall | Our Lady Help of Christians |
| FRI 7TH JULY | 10.00am | Coffee Morning - Hall | Our Lady Help of Christians |
| SAT 8TH JULY | 12 noon 5.00pm - 5.45pm | Baptisms Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions | Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist |
| SUN 9TH JULY | 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 |

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

| | Our Lady Help of Christians | St John the Evangelist | St John Fisher |
|--|---|---|---|
| SATURDAY 1ST JULY <i>DEDICATION OF THE CATHEDRAL</i> | 9.30am For the sick and housebound of the parishes 12.30pm Ann Garibaldi RIP | 6pm Joan Griffin RIP | |
| SUNDAY 2ND JULY <i>THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i> | 8.30am Feely Family (Ints.) 11am Fr Andrew Gallagher (on his Anniv.) 6pm For the People of the Parishes | 10.30am For the People of the Parishes | 9am For the People of the Parishes |
| MONDAY 3RD JULY <i>ST THOMAS, APOSTLE</i> | 9.30am For the People of the Parishes | | |
| TUESDAY 4TH JULY | 9.30am For the People of the Parishes | | NO MASS TODAY |
| WEDNESDAY 5TH JULY | NO MASS TODAY | 9.30am PJ Keating RIP | |
| THURSDAY 6TH JULY | 9.30am For the People of the Parishes | | |
| FRIDAY 7TH JULY | 9.30am George Forrest RIP (Anniv.) | | |
| SATURDAY 8TH JULY | 9.30am For the sick and housebound of the parishes | 6pm For the People of the Parishes | |
| SUNDAY 9TH JULY <i>FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i> | 8.30am For the People of the Parishes 11am For the People of the Parishes 6pm For the People of the Parishes | 10.30am Eve Clark RIP | 9am Joy Cannon RIP |
| SANCTUARY LAMPS | This week our Sanctuary Lamp (Blessed Sacrament) burns for George Forrest 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, Henry Cutting, Nalene Nixon, Maureen Douglas, Michael Gaukroger, Molly Gray, Leslie Edwards, Pauline Williams, Gloria Warmington, Veronica Finnegan and Sean

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

WELCOME

We welcome Fr Anthony Pellegrini to our parishes as he celebrates the 8.30am Mass at Our Lady's, Rickmansworth and 10.30am Mass at St John the Evangelist, Mill End for us this weekend.

JOY CANNON RIP

It is with sadness that we share the death of Joy Cannon RIP. Her funeral will take place at Chilterns Crematorium at 1pm on Thursday 13th July. We commend her to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for her family at this sad and difficult time.

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

This weekend there will be a retiring collection for Peter's Pence, which provides Pope Francis with the funds he needs to carry out his charitable works around the world. The proceeds benefit the most disadvantaged: victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Please give generously.

PRAYER AND LIFE WORKSHOPS

A new season of Prayer and Life Workshops will take place weekly from Tuesday 5th September at 7pm at the Parish Hall of Our Lady Help of Christians Church. These workshops offer us a possibility of a deeper relationship with Christ in prayer, learning different models of prayer over a period of 15 weeks. You will also learn how to find spiritual freedom from life's conflicts. Do consider this life-changing and spiritually enriching workshop to help you grow in faith. A taster session of what is involved will take place on Tuesday 18th July at 7pm in the Parish Hall of Our Lady's Church. All are welcome.

SEA SUNDAY

Next Sunday is Sea Sunday, when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Without them we would not have most of the items we buy in the shops. Apostleship of the Sea (AoS) is the official maritime welfare and mission agency of the Catholic Church in Great Britain. It supports more than one million seafarers arriving in our ports every year. It is a vitally important mission to a hidden group of people, many of whom are Catholic. To donate online please visit <https://www.stellamaris.org.uk/donate/> or text 'SEA' to 70460 to donate £5.

BLESSING OF SCHOOL BAGS

On Sunday 3rd September at Mass we will be offering a blessing of school bags marking the start of the new academic year. Please do encourage families to come and join us with their new or trusted old school bags on this weekend to ask for the Lord's blessing on their studies.

JOINT PARISHES SUMMER EVENT: 'BRASS ON THE GRASS'

On Sunday 16th July we will be holding a Joint Parishes Summer Event from 12.15pm 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. Please also register your attendance on the sheets provided in the church porch to assist us in our preparations.

PREPARING FOR THE 16TH JULY.

We will need a team of volunteers to assist us on Saturday 15th July to help put up a marquee and prepare tables and chairs. If you are able to assist us with this from 10am please let Mike know on Michael.Quinn@6thrickyseascouts.org.uk

PARISH GROUP FAYRE

At the joint parishes event on 16th July we would like to offer groups working in our parish communities the opportunity to have a stall advertising their role and being available to answer any parishioners questions. If you are part of a group that would like to have a pitch, then please let Fr Andrew know.

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.

ALTAR SERVERS

If there is anyone who would like to join our growing team of Altar Servers across our three parishes please could they email Fr Andrew for a registration form and details about training that will take place over the next couple of months. New servers must have received their First Holy Communion before they can begin this ministry

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.

DIOCESAN NOTICES

FOUNDATION GOVERNORS

The All Saints Catholic Academy Trust (ASCAT) is currently seeking to recruit Foundation Governors for a number of our Schools local Governing Boards, across the Trust, to ensure high standards of achievement for all children and young people in the school by setting the school's vision, ethos and strategic direction; holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils; and overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent. If you are interested in the opportunity to apply to become a Foundation Governor please contact Christina Reffold, Director of Governance & Compliance via email governance@ascat.co.uk

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, 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.

WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE

The diocesan pilgrimage to Walsingham will take place on Saturday 23rd September. We will be organising a coach from the parishes with a cost of £30 per adult and £15 per child for the day with an 8am departure and returning around 7pm. Please contact the parish office to book your place and for further details.

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*

THINKING ABOUT GETTING MARRIED?

Please be aware that if you are planning to get married it takes at least 6 months to prepare for this to take place in the Catholic Church. Please contact the parish office if you would like more information.

PRAYING THE ROSARY TOGETHER

You are warmly invited to join the Rosary Group at Our Lady's Monday to Friday after 9.30am Mass and at St John the Evangelist on Wednesday at 9am.

SVP IN SUDAN AND SOUTH SUDAN NEED YOUR HELP!

Due to the recent civil unrest in Sudan emergency services and supplies of basic foodstuffs there are virtually non-existent and refugees are fleeing over the border to South Sudan and other neighbouring countries, exacerbating the already huge demand there for medical and other services provided by the SVP in these countries. Please help them by donating at <https://svp.org.uk/donate?project=Twinnage%20and%20Overseas%20Aid> You can donate to both the Sudans, thus giving the SVP the option to decide where best your donation can be used. Thank you and God bless.

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.**

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.

COFFEE MORNING

Please join us in the hall after the 8.30am Mass on Sunday 2nd July for our coffee morning. Donations go to Our Lady's Building Fund.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

COFFEE AND TEA AFTER 10.30AM MASS

Tea and coffee is available in the parish hall after Mass each Sunday. Do please come and join us for a cuppa and a chat.

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

HYMN BOOK AMNESTY

Are there any Laudate (green) hymn books lurking on your bookshelves? Over the years 30% have disappeared from St John Fisher. Please bring them back - no questions will be asked!

THE REPOSITORY

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

APF/MISSIO/RED BOX HOLDERS

Our quarterly collection in June for Missionary Priests amounted to £147.08. Thank you very much for your generosity. Love, Mary 284975

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday 16th July 12.15pm Joint Parish Barbecue & Social at Our Lady's
Saturday 23rd September – Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham
22nd - 27th October - Pilgrimage to Florence, Siena and Assisi led by Fr Andrew