



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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Assistant Priest:

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Parish Administrator:

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Rickmansworth

Paul Matarewicz
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Chorleywood

Anne Lorrimer-Roberts
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Mill End

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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

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) - 25TH JUNE 2023

A martyr in our midst

On the left-hand side of Westminster Cathedral, in the second side chapel, lie the mortal remains of St John Southworth. In preparation for his feast day on 27 June, they move into the middle of the main aisle.

St John Southworth has a very special place in our history and in our hearts. A Lancashire man, he had been ordained a priest in 1619 at the English College in Douai, in northern France, at a time when it was impossible to prepare men for the Catholic priesthood in this country. To be a Catholic priest in England in those days was considered to be an act of treason and punished by the cruel death of hanging, drawing and quartering. This is how St John Southworth died on 28 June 1654 at Tyburn, near Marble Arch in central London.

By then he was no stranger to central London. His priestly ministry started in Lancashire. But after his first arrest, he was moved to a gaol in London. In 1630, he was spared execution and deported to France. He returned, determined in his mission, to minister in the streets of central London, around Westminster, to those impoverished and sick because of the plague. In 1637, he was again imprisoned. Again, he avoided trial and for 14 years continued his clandestine ministry in our streets, in and out of prison. Finally, in 1654, he was arrested and brought to trial. He refused to deny that he was a priest. The magistrate, sick of so many executions, reluctantly sent him to his death on the gallows.

St John Southworth is a key patron saint of the priests of this diocese. He is an inspiration and an intercessor for us. We bring his body into the central aisle of the cathedral not only for his feast day but so that he is there among the candidates for the priesthood on the day of their ordination. During the singing of the Litany of the Saints, they prostrate themselves, face down on the floor. In their midst is the prostrate body of the Martyr. But he lies face up, reflecting the glory of God shining in him as he now enjoys the fullness of God's grace in heaven. He is indeed our special patron.

Today I ask you to pray for all our priests. Pray particularly for the new priests and the priest(s) serving in your parish. Our lives may not be as dramatic nor as full of public conflict as the life of St John Southworth. Yet we priests strive to express in our daily ministry exactly the same dedication to the mission of Jesus Our Lord as he did. Like him, we depend on the support and love of faithful people. For St John Southworth that was literally a matter of life and death. While that deadly drama has ended, over the centuries a marvellous tradition has remained of genuine love for priests and a readiness to support them, through thick and thin. I ask you, today, to continue that tradition and share it with your families.

Of course, we priests and bishops are sinners. There is no hiding our mistakes and faults. Indeed, we have learned painfully, that trying to hide major failures, especially in relation to the most vulnerable, seriously compounds the failures and betrayals that so damage our shared mission. Today I express my sorrow at our failings and I ask for your patience, forbearance and, indeed, forgiveness. In the Church, we are bound together in Christ Jesus. He is full of mercy. We can only strive to show that mercy to each other, always and everywhere.

*Extract from Pastoral letter on Priesthood from Cardinal Vincent Nichols,
Archbishop of Westminster, 24th June 2018*

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SAT 24TH JUNE	5.00pm - 5.45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	St John the Evangelist
SUN 25TH JUNE	9.30am 10.00am 11.30am 5.00pm - 5.45pm	SVP Coffee Morning - Hall St John Fisher Parish Celebration Tea and Coffee after Mass - Hall Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	Our Lady Help of Christians St John Fisher St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
TUE 27TH JUNE	4.30pm - 5.45pm	Youth Choir Practice	St John the Evangelist
WED 28TH JUNE	2.15pm	Faith and Friendship Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
THU 29TH JUNE	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 30TH JUNE	10.00am	Coffee Morning - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
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

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

	Our Lady Help of Christians	St John the Evangelist	St John Fisher
SATURDAY 24TH JUNE <i>THE NATIVITY OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST</i>	NO MASS TODAY	6pm John and Mary Gibbs RIP	
SUNDAY 25TH JUNE <i>TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Nalene (Ints.) 11am Marie Molloy RIP 6pm For the People of the Parishes	10.30am Fr Matteo Di Giuseppe (on his 1 st Anniv.)	9am For the People of the Parishes
MONDAY 26 TH JUNE	9.30am Holy Souls		
TUESDAY 27TH JUNE <i>ST JOHN SOUTHWORTH</i>	9.30am Michael Conway (Ints.)		9.30am For the sick and housebound of the parishes
WEDNESDAY 28TH JUNE <i>ST IRENAEUS</i>	9.30am Margaret Mullery (Ints.)	9.30am For the sick and housebound of the parishes	7pm For the People of the Parishes
THURSDAY 29 TH JUNE <i>SS PETER & PAUL, APOSTLES</i>	9.30am For the People of the Parishes 7pm For the People of the Parishes	11am For the People of the Parishes	
FRIDAY 30 TH JUNE	9.30am Oliver Heslin RIP		
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>TWELFTH 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

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 and Veronica Finnegan.

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

SOLEMNITY OF ST PETER AND ST PAUL

Masses for this Holy Day of Obligation will be taking place on Wednesday 28th 7pm Chorleywood (Vigil), and on Thursday 29th at 9.30am and 7pm in Rickmansworth and 11am in Mill End.

PETER'S PENCE COLLECTION

Next 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.

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.

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.

ANN GARIBALDI RIP

The ashes of Ann Garibaldi will be interred in the Garden of Rest after the 12.30pm Mass on Saturday 1st July.

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.

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.

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.

FAITH & FRIENDSHIP GROUP

The Faith and Friendship group will meet at 2.15pm on Wednesday 28th June (DVD of meditations on The Mass).

GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER (GIFT)

Our 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 on a different theme each month.

GIFT Parents As part of GIFT we also hold Faith Formation for parents on one evening each month online (Zoom). These sessions are designed to help all our parents grow in their own faith, enabling them to lead their family on their journey of faith. In our parishes participation in GIFT is also a gateway to discerning with you the readiness of your children to begin preparation for the Sacraments. 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.

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.

6TH RICKMANSWORTH SEA SCOUT GROUP

6th Rickmansworth Sea Scout Group, who have their HQ on the grounds of Our Lady's Church, have for many years been affiliated with the Rickmansworth parishes. We are hoping that this relationship will continue and grow. The group are currently seeking new leaders for their Beavers (aged 6-8), Cubs (8-10½) and Scouts (10½ - 14) to support them. New members are also very welcome. For more information please contact 6thRickySeaScouts@gmail.com

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

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.

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

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 MORNINGS

Please join us in the hall after the 8.30am Mass on Sunday 25th June for our SVP Coffee Morning. There will also be a coffee morning after Mass on Sunday 2nd July. Donations go to Our Lady's Building Fund.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

PARISH WORKS DAY - 1ST JULY

We are in need of some assistance in clearing up the parish site and some basic works around the grounds. We would invite parishioners to join us on that day from 9.30am - 12 noon as part of our investment in our own parish community. If you are ready and able to help then please see either Sandra Miller / Geraldine Page after Mass or email rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk with your contact details. Many thanks.

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 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
22nd - 27th October - Pilgrimage to Florence, Siena and Assisi led by Fr Andrew