



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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Chorleywood

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SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) - 23RD JULY 2023

Pilgrims of Hope

In 2025 the Catholic Church will celebrate a Jubilee year, which is a special celebration that the Church holds once every 25 years. It is a year of pilgrimages, of a focus on the spiritual life, of confession and special Masses, and of a general turn towards God in thanksgiving, and in repentance. The first-ever “Holy Year” was instituted by Pope Boniface VIII in 1300 and was initially celebrated every 100 years. Then, following biblical tradition, it was marked every 50 years, and it was finally decided by Pope Paul II in 1490 to observe the jubilee year every 25 years, so that each person could experience one in his or her lifetime.

Pope Francis has chosen the motto for 2025 to be ‘Pilgrims of Hope’ and writes that: *“We must fan the flame of hope that has been given [to] us, and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision.”*

In preparation for this Jubilee Year he asks that Catholics around the world dedicate 2023 to rediscovering the treasures of the Second Vatican Council, and then from Advent to celebrate a Year of Prayer. This is a great opportunity for us to be renewed and reaffirmed in our faith and in our relationship with God.

If we were to be asked what were the teachings of the Second Vatican Council, many of us would struggle beyond perhaps saying that was when Mass stopped being in Latin and the priest turned to face the people. But even in that observation we are showing a great ignorance of the beautiful treasure that was gifted to us both in the discussions of the Council and in the 16 documents that came from it, as a result of Pope St John XXIII’s call for the Church to open its windows and let in the Holy Spirit. There are so many gems of faith that lie undiscovered, and the call of the Holy Father for us all to dig deeper and reflect on the discussions of the Council is a great grace for the Church.

Of course, finding the time to read these 16 documents can be a challenge for all of us, and so to help us at least grow in our understanding of the Council, from September until Advent on the front of our newsletter we will attempt to summarise the four major documents from the Second Vatican Council, for our parishes to get some feel for the themes and riches found in them. These documents are the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church (*Lumen Gentium*), the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*), the Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation (*Dei Verbum*) and the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World (*Gaudium et Spes*). These four documents have had a profound impact on the way our Church today lives out its call to spread the good news of the Gospel and to make disciples, but they also point to further developments that can be made to enrich our Church and the way we live our own personal faith in these times. We do encourage you to read these summaries, reflect and pray with them.

This exercise is another great way for us to grow in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, experiencing and living through the power of the Holy Spirit. Let us pray for one another as we prepare for this Jubilee Year and let us seek to live as pilgrims of hope on this journey of faith together.

PARISH VISION STATEMENT

The Catholic Parishes of Rickmansworth, Chorleywood and Mill End aspire to share the Good News of God’s saving love.

We are vibrant, welcoming communities, united in worshipping God and serving our neighbours.

We invite every person to join us in growing together in a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, experiencing and living through the power of the Holy Spirit.

SAFEGUARDING REPS.

Rickmansworth Parish

Carol Bartlett 01923 773841
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Mill End Parish

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Chorleywood Parish

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YOUTH MINISTRY

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

Confirmation:
rickmansworthconfirmation@rcdow.org.uk

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SAT 22ND JULY	11.15am 5.00pm - 5.45pm	Baptisms Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
SUN 23RD 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
WED 26TH JULY	2.15pm	Faith & Friendship Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
THU 27TH JULY	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 28TH JULY	10.00am	Coffee Morning - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 29TH JULY	5.00pm - 5.45pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions	St John the Evangelist
SUN 30TH JULY	9.30am 11.30am 5.00pm - 5.45pm	SVP 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 22ND JULY <i>ST MARY MAGDALENE</i>	9.30am Fr Mark Leenane RIP	6pm Beata Budzynska (Ints.)	
SUNDAY 23RD JULY <i>SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Anna Khurwal RIP 11am Jack Crowley RIP (Anniv.) 6pm For the People of the Parishes	10.30am Jean Mulderrig RIP (Anniv.)	9am David Henderson (Ints.)
MONDAY 24 TH JULY	9.30am Christopher Jubber (Ints.)		
TUESDAY 25TH JULY <i>ST JAMES, APOSTLE</i>	9.30am For the sick and housebound of the parishes		NO MASS TODAY
WED 26TH JULY <i>SS JOACHIM & ANNE</i>	9.30am Fr Mark Leenane RIP	NO MASS TODAY	
THURSDAY 27 TH JULY	9.30am For the sick and housebound of the parishes		
FRIDAY 28 TH JULY	9.30am Fr Mark Leenane RIP		
SATURDAY 29TH JULY <i>SS MARTHA, MARY & LAZARUS</i>	9.30am For the sick and housebound of the parishes	6pm John Griffin (Ints.)	
SUNDAY 30TH JULY <i>SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am For the People of the Parishes 11am Fr Mark Leenane RIP 6pm For the People of the Parishes	10.30am For the People of the Parishes	9am Joy Cannon RIP
SANCTUARY LAMPS			



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.

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 and Derek Treanor

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

WELCOME

On 23rd July we welcome Fr Anthony Pellegrini who will be celebrating the 8.30am Mass in Rickmansworth and 10.30am Mass in Mill End, whilst Fr Andrew is on the diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes.

There will be no 9.30am Mass in Chorleywood on Tuesday 25th July or Tuesday 8th August.

There will be no 9.30am Mass in Mill End on Wednesday 26th July or Wednesday 9th August.

ASSUMPTION

Tuesday 15th August is the Solemnity of the Assumption, a holy day of Obligation. Masses will be at the usual times: 7pm Vigil in Chorleywood on Monday 14th and then 9.30am Rickmansworth, 11am Mill End and 7pm Rickmansworth on Tuesday 15th.

BRASS ON THE GRASS – WORD OF THANKS

A huge thank you to all those who contributed to our summer event on Sunday 16th July. It was a great success and so many people worked incredibly hard to make it such a joyful afternoon. A special thank you to the Sea Scouts and 3 Parish Social Committees for organising the tents and the catering, and all those who prayed that it wouldn't rain! The brass band had an enjoyable afternoon entertaining us and are asking if they can come again.

FAREWELL TO THE SCOTT FAMILY

This month we say farewell to the Scott family who have been part of our parish community over the last few years. We are especially grateful to Caitlin who has helped lead our Confirmation Classes with great enthusiasm and been part of our team that prepare families for baptism. Please keep the family in your prayers as they move away from the area.

SVP NATIONAL RAFFLE

SVP members will be selling tickets for the SVP National Raffle at all Masses for the next few weekends. The National Raffle is the biggest annual fundraising event held by the SVP, and 50% of the proceeds will go to your local Chess Valley SVP Group. Books are just £5 each; please support us in helping the people who need it most.

WORLD YOUTH DAY AT HOME: SATURDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER, 11AM-4PM

An event for those aged 12-35 not to be missed, bringing World Youth Day to Pinner with a summer picnic and a taste of activities of WYD taking place in Lisbon. Those aged 12-16 must be accompanied by adults and we would love to go as a group from the 3 parishes. If you are interested email Margaret from Y.M.L.T on rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk for more information.

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. All are welcome.

DELAYED ANNIVERSARY MASS

On Monday 31st July Fr Andrew and the three men who were ordained with him will celebrate Mass together at Our Lady's Church at 5pm. All are welcome to come and join them for the Mass.

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.

FAITH & FRIENDSHIP GROUP

The Faith and Friendship group will meet at 2.15pm on the following Wednesdays: 26th July, 6th and 20th September and 4th and 18th October to discuss a DVD on The Holy Spirit.

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE

A Certificate of Catholic Practice is exactly what it says - it confirms, for the purposes of a Catholic school application, that families are practising Catholics, i.e. attend Mass every weekend. The school form states that families practice the faith and are known to the priest signing the form. If you do not attend Mass every weekend and are not known to Fr Andrew, he is unfortunately unable to sign the form. If you have recently moved into the area, your previous parish priest can provide certification. If you require a CCP to be signed by Fr Andrew, in the first instance, please see him after Mass

MARY'S MEALS

Mary's Meals would like to invite you to collect all your foreign currency* no matter how old or obscure. After the summer break especially if some of you have travelled abroad, we would like you to put all your foreign coins/notes aside; we will be collecting all your foreign currency in September/October with special Mary's Meals envelopes available at the back of church. Currently the charity feeds over 2.4 million young children one good meal every day in their place of education – by giving Mary's Meals your foreign currency you can help feed the next hungry child. *We will also take UK coins/notes that aren't legal tender

DIOCESAN NOTICES

WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY 2023

The World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly 2023, 23rd July has the theme: 'His Mercy is from Age to Age'. There are a range of ideas, ways to celebrate, and helpful resources on the website www.catholicgrandparentsassociation.org

Let's celebrate! <https://www.ukvocation.org/grandparentsday>

CATHOLIC CERTIFICATE IN RELIGIOUS STUDIES

This is two-year part-time course, starting in September, which provides an ideal formation resource for parish catechists & lay ministers. For further details on the course content and opportunities to apply for a bursary, please contact

annadupelycz@rcdow.org.uk

WESTMINSTER DIOCESE JOB VACANCIES - please visit our website at <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/>

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

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.

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 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.

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 an email to Fr Andrew to have a chat about what is involved and how our parishes can help you to take the next step.

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.

MARCH FOR LIFE UK HAPPENS IN LONDON ON SATURDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER

Many are concerned about restrictions on freedom but it's often not until these restrictions affect us personally that we speak up. Abortion destroys the most fundamental freedom, the freedom to live and leaves so many women and men deeply hurting. Join thousands of others at this family-friendly event to speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves. Full details can be found at marchforlife.co.uk

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

PARISH HALL COURTYARD GARDEN

A big thank you to all those who donated money towards new furniture in our Courtyard Garden of the Parish Hall. This space is for all parishioners using the hall to use, so please do open the door, explore and relax, when you are next there.

LIGHTING OF VOTIVE CANDLES

Please only use the candles that are to be used for the candle stands in our parishes. Other candles that are used are often not suitable for the stands and therefore dangerous, and will be blown out and disposed of.

APF / MISSIO - would promoters please collect the magazines for distribution. Thank you.

COFFEE MORNINGS

Please join us in the hall after the 8.30am Mass next Sunday 30th July for our SVP Coffee Morning. There will also be a coffee morning after Mass on Sunday 6th July. Donations go to Our Lady's Building Fund.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

KNANAYA CATHOLIC MISSION

We welcome the Knanaya Catholic Mission who will be having a monthly Mass for their community on the fourth Sunday of the Month at St John's Church, starting from Sunday 23rd July.

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

TEA & COFFEE

Tea and coffee will be served in the lounge after mass today. Everyone very welcome.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 23rd September – Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham
22nd - 27th October - Pilgrimage to Florence, Siena and Assisi led by Fr Andrew
Saturday 4th November 11am - Deceased Parishioners Mass at Our Lady's