



### 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>

## 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)

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5 Park Road, Rickmansworth  
WD3 1HU  
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 @ChessValleyRC

 ChessValleyParishes

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#### Livestreaming:

<https://www.churchservices.tv/rickmansworth>

### SAFEGUARDING REPS.

#### Rickmansworth Parish

Carol Bartlett 01923 773841  
[rickmansworths2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworths2@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

### YOUTH MINISTRY

Margaret Simon - Youth Ministry  
Leadership Team:  
[rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk)

Jaison Jeyaventhana - Youth Choir  
Director [rickyouthchoir@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickyouthchoir@rcdow.org.uk)

## THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) - 29<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023

### Divine Inspiration and Interpretation

In the third part of our Vatican II series we finish looking at the Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation, *Dei Verbum*.

The third chapter of the document reaffirms the central role of Sacred Scripture in the life of the Church. It states that the Bible is not merely a human product but is inspired by God. This inspiration ensures that the Scriptures are trustworthy and authoritative for matters of faith and morals. It affirms that those chosen to write down the words were inspired by the Holy Spirit who revealed what God desired to be written. None of the Scripture writers were robbed of human intelligence or knowledge, but in a special way their human characteristics, including their limitations, were used to deliver God's message faithfully without error. The document states that Scripture is without error in the sense that it is for our salvation, not in the sense of scientific or historical accuracy. Interpretation of Scripture comes from the Holy Spirit, too. Interpretation requires insight into historical analysis, literary analysis, understanding tradition, human sciences, and comprehending the purpose which the text served to its initial audience. Interpretation must be about faithfulness to true revelation if it is to bear the proper fruit. The Bible is a text inspired by God which is entrusted to the Church for the nurturing of faith and for one's life guidance (11-13).

In chapter four the document focuses on the Old Testament reminding us that Israel was chosen by God to establish a covenant of love with humankind. They were chosen to experience divine love and through this experience become an example for all nations. The Old Testament remains significant because it communicates how God remained active in the history of mankind and because it reveals the plan of God as to provide a definitive saviour; namely his only Son Jesus Christ. The Old Testament feeds us a wealth of prayers, insight into the teachings of God within a history of salvation. The mystery of salvation begins in the midst of the Old Testament, and so has enduring value up to its fulfilment in the God-Man Jesus Christ (14-16).

The document then moves on to reflect on the role of the New Testament noting that the Gospel writers told the story of Jesus in a way that the growing Church would understand and communicate as the truth of our salvation. In the New Testament salvation is completely achieved as through Christ's sacrifice he brings order into the world and establishes the reign of God on earth. Jesus reveals the Father as well as the Holy Spirit and completes God's plan. The four Gospels are the foremost teachings in Scripture. They contain the foundation of our faith. The Gospels provide the framework for the Church. They teach us how our lives are meant to be lived in conformity with Jesus Christ. In fact, the Gospels contain the story of salvation of every one of us and the truth about Jesus Christ (17-20).

The sixth chapter of the Constitution then moves onto reflecting on the role of Sacred Scripture in the life of the Church. It underscores the significance of the Word of God in the liturgical life of the Church. It encourages the faithful to engage with Scripture through the liturgy, and it promotes the practice of preaching that is firmly grounded in the Word of God. It is important to note that both the Eucharist and Scripture are celebrated in our Liturgy and Christ is delivered and consumed at the one table of God's Word and Body. The Word of God supports the Church and strengthens it and the true story of Theology rests in Scripture. We must come to know Scripture more and more, for, through Scripture we meet Christ. Ignorance of Scripture is to lack serious knowledge of Jesus and of who we are to become as the Word of God is truth that lasts forever.

The document states that everyone is to have access to the Word of God, as although it is possible for people to come to know God by contemplating the created world, with Scripture we can respond much more appropriately to God's call. Yes, revelation is complete in Jesus, but this does not mean we are not meant to experience God in our life. God is met in many dimensions of life, in the good and the bad, in the joy and in the suffering. True faith requires there be a response to Divine Revelation (21-26).

## FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

<b>SUN 29<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b>	10.00am	<b>CLOCKS GO BACK</b> Coffee and Tea after Mass	St John Fisher
<b>TUE 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER</b>	4.30pm 7.00pm	Youth Choir Prayer & Life Workshop - Hall	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>THU 2<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	2.00pm 8.00pm - 9.30pm	Warm Space - Hall Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>SAT 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	12 noon	Blessing of Graves - Garden of Rest	Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>SUN 5<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	9.30am 2.00pm	Coffee Morning - Hall Blessing of Graves	Our Lady Help of Christians Chorleywood Road Cemetery

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

	Our Lady Help of Christians	St John the Evangelist	St John Fisher
<b>SATURDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b> <i>SS SIMEON &amp; JUDE, APOSTLES</i>	<b>9.30am</b> Marian Forrest RIP (Anniv.)	<b>6pm</b> Billy Dunne RIP	
<b>SUNDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b> <i>THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	<b>8.30am</b> Mary & Aldo De Michiel RIP (Anniv.) <b>11am</b> Frazer Bradshaw RIP <b>6pm</b> Angela & Giovanni Maccini RIP (Anniv.)	<b>10.30am</b> For the People of the Parishes	<b>9am</b> Sheila Crouchen (nee Treanor) RIP
<b>MONDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER</b>	<b>9.30am</b> Genova D'Cruz RIP		
<b>TUESDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER</b>	<b>11.00am</b> Funeral - Jean Simm RIP		<b>7.00pm</b> For the People of the Parishes
<b>WEDNESDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER</b> <i>ALL SAINTS</i>	<b>9.30am</b> Elizabeth Mary Kendrick RIP <b>7.00pm</b> For the People of the Parishes	<b>11.00am</b> Josie & Tommy Livingston RIP (Anniv.)	
<b>THURSDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> NOVEMBER</b> <i>THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS DAY)</i>	<b>9.30am</b> Holy Souls		
<b>FRIDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER</b>	<b>9.30am</b> Holy Souls		
<b>SAT 4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b> <i>ST CHARLES BORROMEO</i>	<b>11.00am</b> For all deceased members of our parishes	<b>6pm</b> Anne Doherty (Ints.)	
<b>SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER</b> <i>THIRTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	<b>8.30am</b> For the People of the Parishes <b>11am</b> Giuseppe Reda RIP <b>6pm</b> Fr Tim O'Connor RIP	<b>10.30am</b> Ray Shaw	<b>9am</b> Gregory McEwen RIP (Anniv.)
<b>SANCTUARY LAMPS</b>	This week our Sanctuary Lamp (Our Lady's) burns In Thanksgiving	This week our Sanctuary Lamp (Blessed Sacrament) burns in thanks for the many favours of St Anthony	

### 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 & Martin Penn, Pam Fitzpatrick, Julian Harris and Derek Treanor

## NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

### JEAN SIMM RIP

The funeral of Jean Simm will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians at 11.00am on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October, followed by committal at Chorleywood Lawn Cemetery. We commend her to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for her family at this sad and difficult time.

### SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS – HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November is the Solemnity of All Saints and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses across the three parishes will be as follows: St John Fisher, Chorleywood - Vigil (Tuesday) 7.00pm, Our Lady's, Rickmansworth – 9.30am and 7.00pm; St John the Evangelist, Mill End – 11.00am (attended by staff and students of St John's School).

### SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND COLLECTION

Next weekend is the annual collection for sick and retired priests. Last year, the Diocese of Westminster provided care to 82 retired priests, at a cost of £850,000. The number of our priests over the age of 65 is steadily increasing, and caring for our brother priests in their senior years, or at a time of illness, is a fundamental part of the mission of our diocese. Whilst we work with the NHS and local authorities to ensure funding gaps are met, we still rely heavily on the generosity of parishioners who contribute to this worthy fund each year.

### CONFIRMATION

For those in Year 9 and above attending Mass who wish to register to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2024, please speak to Fr Andrew or Fr Matteo after Mass. Application forms will only be handed to prospective candidates after Masses and will not be available for collection from the Parish Office. The deadline to hand in the application form is Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

### EMAIL SCAM

Please be aware that there is a new hoax email from prayerchurch193@gmail.com in circulation purporting to be from Fr Andrew. Please do not respond to this email. Emails from Fr Andrew, Fr Matteo or Kerry will always be from a Diocesan email account (ending rcdow.org.uk) and not a Gmail account or anything similar.

### ACCOMMODATION SOUGHT

A young male teacher who has recently been appointed at a local Catholic school is looking for affordable accommodation during the week in the area, preferably in a Christian/Catholic household or studio. If you have anywhere suitable, please get in touch with the parish office.

### PRAYING FOR THE HOLY SOULS IN NOVEMBER

November is a month when we traditionally pray for the repose of the faithful departed, remembering in a special way our departed family members and friends. Holy Souls sheets on which you can write the names of your departed loved ones and friends are available from this weekend. These can then be placed inside one of the brown "November Dead" envelopes, with any offering you wish to make, and then be placed in the "Holy Souls" box provided. During the month of November weekday Masses across the three parishes will be offered for the Holy Souls and your intentions will be placed in a special box in front of the altar as a focus for our prayer for the faithful departed

### FUNERAL PLAN

November is a month where we should think about our own death and be helping the community to pray for us when that time comes. The Church encourages us to be prepared for the day when our lives are ended, and to support our family and friends by having a plan for our funeral written down. Sheets to help us with this will be available to take away throughout November. Information on how to prepare our funerals can be found at <https://rcdow.org.uk/liturgy/preparing-for-a-funeral/>

### MASS FOR DECEASED PARISHIONERS

On Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November we will have a Mass for all deceased members of our parishes at 11am in Our Lady Help of Christians Church. At this Mass we will particularly remember all those who have died over the past year so please do encourage those recently bereaved to attend. This Mass will be immediately followed by the blessing of graves at Our Lady's Garden of Rest and refreshments in Our Lady's Parish Hall.

### BLESSING OF GRAVES

During November Fr Andrew and Fr Matteo will be blessing graves in the local cemeteries: Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November - 2pm Chorleywood Road Cemetery; Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November - 2pm Chorleywood Lawn Cemetery; Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November - 2pm Woodcock Hill Cemetery.

### REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

The Remembrance Sunday Service will take place on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 2.30pm at St Mary's Church (CofE), Rickmansworth. It will be preceded by the Remembrance Sunday Parade beginning at Our Lady Help of Christians at 2.00pm. Parishioners are invited to join us to mark this solemn and historic occasion.

The Community Act of Remembrance in Mill End and Maple Cross is taking place again this year at the Reach Free School from 2.00pm.

### WARM WINTER SPACE

Chess Valley SVP will once again be providing a Warm Winter Space in the church hall at St John the Evangelist, Mill End, every Thursday afternoon between 2 to 4pm, beginning on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November and for the duration of the winter months. Hot drinks, cakes and biscuits will be provided. Please let those you feel would benefit from this know. For further information, please email [chessvalleysvp@gmail.com](mailto:chessvalleysvp@gmail.com)

### FAITH & FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Will meet at 2.15pm on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> November (DVD about Saints), and Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December (special meeting to welcome People Connex).

### CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS COMPETITION

Each year in our parishes we produce an information card about our service times over Christmas. This year we invite our young people to draw/paint/design an image to go on the front cover of this card. It must be linked to the Christmas Nativity Story and be in Portrait layout. Please submit it to the parish office by Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November with your child's name and age. The winner will be announced the following weekend, as the card goes to print.

## NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

### UPPER ROOM LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME-

Aged 18-22 years old? Westminster Youth Ministry is developing a training programme for Young Catholic Leaders. This will be a journey of formation, training, and prayer with 20 other young Catholics in the Diocese experiencing inspiring places and talks, building relationships with others, and accessing unique resources to learn and grow in practical skills for leadership and mission. Applications close on the 11<sup>th</sup> November. Visit <https://youth.rcdow.org.uk/programmes/upper-room-leadership-programme/> to apply or email [youth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:youth@rcdow.org.uk) for enquiries.

### REGISTRATION

We encourage all parishioners to register for the parish using the new Churchsuite system, available via the website under 'Register with the parishes'. As part of the registration system you will also be sent an updated skills audit. Please do complete this to help us find a way that you can invest in your parish using your gifts and in the time available to you.

### WARM WINTER COATS WANTED THIS OCTOBER

There is a collection of warm winter coats for the charity "Calling London" who distribute coats to various charities helping the homeless, refugees, elderly and those in low income households. Any coats are welcome as long as they are clean and warm. Donations should be left in **St John's Mill End church porch**. Collection of coats can also be arranged. For more information, or if you would like to be involved please email [coatdrivewd3@gmail.com](mailto:coatdrivewd3@gmail.com) or message 07852813420. The last date for donations is Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> October.

### CHESS VALLEY SVP

Members can offer regular visits to people who need company in our local community. If you know of anyone who is isolated or lonely and would appreciate a visit please email [chessvalleysvp@gmail.com](mailto:chessvalleysvp@gmail.com), you will need their permission to do so. All our members are recruited in line with our safer recruitment policy (including a DBS) and follow our Safeguarding policies.

## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

### COFFEE MORNING

There will be a coffee morning after Mass on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November. Donations go to Our Lady's Building Fund.

### ADVENT FAIR

Our annual Advent event is taking place at our Lady Help of Christian's Hall on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December from 8.30am until lunchtime. We are currently looking for stall holders! If you are interested in joining us for some festive fun and renting a stall (£20) to sell your beautiful wares, please email Nina ([Nina.rice1@icloud.com](mailto:Nina.rice1@icloud.com)) as soon as possible.

### STAMPS FOR THE MISSIONS

Thank you for saving your stamps for the Missions, the box is in the church porch. Please keep them coming! *Sheila H*

## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

### STUART TAPERELL RIP

Thank you all so very much, we have received so much comfort from the parish of St John's through their words, cards and mostly their prayers, we are so very grateful to you all in our very worst time. *Maria Hagan & family.*

### CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Can you help with our Children's liturgy team? We need adult helpers to supervise the classes. We would also like to invite secondary school age children to help run the classes, this volunteering can count towards DofE awards. All classes are pre written for catechists to follow and crafts are pre prepared. All you need to do is be at the 10.30am Sunday Mass on the day to help out with the class (over 18's need to have a DBS check). For more information or to volunteer please speak to Liz Townsend or any member of the Children's liturgy team or email [liztownsenduk@gmail.com](mailto:liztownsenduk@gmail.com)

## ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

**TEA AND COFFEE** will be served in the lounge after Mass today.

### PRE-CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISING FOR THE CARDINAL HUME CENTRE

Bring and Buy will take place throughout November at Mary's Garage in Turney's Orchard every Saturday morning and any other time by appointment. Please bring all your best quality goods for the raffle, silent auction, gifts, pictures, toiletries, toys, etc. Christmas Hyacinths and other plants will also be on sale. Ending on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November.

**Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November** 10am-12pm there will be a coffee morning in the Church Lounge and Marguerite will sell her cakes. Christmas Cakes: Large £20, Small £12. Other cakes, lemon drizzle, sponges, fruit, ginger etc, will be £5. They can be pre-ordered from Marguerite or Mary or you can buy on the day. Raffle tickets will also be on sale. Every £1 we raise will be doubled. With any queries, suggestions and/or offers of help for this project please phone Mary 284975.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November 11am - Deceased Parishioners Mass at Our Lady's  
Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2pm - Blessing of Graves at Chorleywood Road Cemetery  
Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2pm - Blessing of Graves at Chorleywood Lawn Cemetery  
Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2.30pm - Remembrance Sunday Service at St Mary's Church (CofE)  
Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2pm - Blessing of Graves at Woodcock Hill Cemetery  
Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 6pm - Parishes Youth Mass & Celebration at Our Lady's  
Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December 3pm - Joint Parishes Christmas Carol Service at St John's, Mill End