



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
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Assistant Priest:

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Parish Administrator:

Kerry Van Rensburg
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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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WD3 1HU

Telephone: 01923 773387



@ChessValleyRC



ChessValleyParishes



ChessValleyParishes

Livestreaming:

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

SAFEGUARDING REPS.

Rickmansworth Parish

Carol Bartlett 01923 773841
rickmansworths2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Mill End Parish

Matt McKiernan 01923 493747
millendsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Chorleywood Parish

Peter Mackie 07802 229337
chorleywoodsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

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

TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) - 15TH OCTOBER 2023

The Word of God

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

Dei Verbum, which translates as "The Word of God," is one of the pivotal documents produced during the Second Vatican Council (1962-1965). This Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation seeks to address the role of divine revelation in the Catholic Church, emphasizing the importance of the Bible, Tradition, and the Magisterium. In this summary, we will explore the historical context, key themes, and lasting impact of *Dei Verbum* within the broader framework of Catholic theology and the development of modern biblical scholarship.

To understand the significance of *Dei Verbum*, we must first grasp the historical context in which it emerged. The mid-20th century was marked by a period of significant change and upheaval in the Catholic Church, as well as in the world at large. The Second Vatican Council, convened by Pope John XXIII in 1962, aimed to address the challenges and opportunities facing the Church in a rapidly changing world. One of the key issues facing the Church was the need to engage more directly with the modern world and modern scholarship. This included a re-evaluation of the Church's approach to the Bible and divine revelation. The historical-critical method of biblical interpretation had gained prominence in academic circles, challenging traditional views of scriptural inerrancy and interpretation. *Dei Verbum* represents a pivotal moment when the Church engaged with these challenges and opportunities, particularly in the realm of biblical scholarship and the understanding of divine revelation. This Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation continues to shape the way Catholics approach and engage with the Word of God, fostering a deeper appreciation of Scripture within the life of the Church and its relationship with the world.

The first chapter of *Dei Verbum* begins by emphasizing that God has chosen to reveal Himself to humanity out of love. Revelation is understood as God's self-disclosure, an invitation to a loving relationship with humanity. This understanding of revelation is foundational to the document's approach. God wants us to know His love for us. Revelation is not just words about God; it is a living experience of God. God does not just reveal in words how best we should live, but God reveals himself as well. As revelation unfolds we become more aware of how God is ultimately over all things and God is complete in Himself. In coming to know more what God is like, we come to understand the purpose for our human existence. Besides in dying to save us, Jesus makes known our human connection to God. Jesus is both message and messenger. Jesus reveals that God has called us to Himself and promises that salvation will ultimately lead to be with him for eternal life. The Father sent the Son so he could tell us about the inner life of God. Jesus is not only the Word made flesh; he leads us to eternal life. Jesus is revelation in its completeness. There is no greater or necessary revelation than this. All things are made full in Jesus. The Holy Spirit was sent to bring us to completion. The Holy Spirit provides us with God's grace so that God's revelation may take root in us (2-6).

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SUN 15TH OCTOBER	10.30am	Youth Choir sings at Mass	St John the Evangelist
MON 16TH OCTOBER	7.00pm	Catechists Training - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
TUE 17TH OCTOBER	2.30pm 4.30pm 6.30pm 7.00pm	SJF Ladies Meeting Youth Choir Youth Group - Hall Prayer & Life Workshop - Church	Jackie's house St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 18TH OCTOBER	2.15pm 7.30pm 8.00pm	Faith & Friendship Group - Hall RCIA - Hall GIFT Parents Session	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians Via Zoom
THU 19TH OCTOBER	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
SUN 22ND OCTOBER	9.30am	SVP Coffee Morning - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

	Our Lady Help of Christians	St John the Evangelist	St John Fisher
SATURDAY 14 TH OCTOBER	9.30am For the Synod of Bishops	6pm Mary Noble RIP	
SUNDAY 15 TH OCTOBER <i>TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am David Carroll RIP 11am William (WH) Osgood RIP (Anniv.) 6pm Colin Lawrence RIP (Anniv.)	10.30am Noreen Conroy	9am For the People of the Parishes
MONDAY 16 TH OCTOBER	9.30am Fr Dominic McKenna RIP		
TUESDAY 17 TH OCTOBER <i>ST IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH</i>	9.30am For the Synod of Bishops		9.30am For the sick and housebound of the parishes
WED 18TH OCTOBER <i>ST LUKE, EVANGELIST</i>	9.30am Cecilia Netto RIP	NO MASS TODAY	
THURSDAY 19 TH OCTOBER	9.30am For Peace in the Middle East		
FRIDAY 20 TH OCTOBER	9.30am Michael Delaney RIP		
SATURDAY 21 ST OCTOBER	9.30am For the Synod of Bishops	6pm Rosemarie Carter RIP (Anniv.)	
SUNDAY 22 ND OCTOBER <i>TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Mary & Evandro Girolami RIP (Anniv.) 11am Christopher Jubber (Ints.) 6pm For World Peace	10.30am Stuart Tapperely	9am For the People of the Parishes



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 & 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 31st 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.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Next Sunday is World Mission Sunday, when the Holy Father invites all Catholics to contribute to a special collection for Missio, his charity for world mission. Please support Missio in helping missionaries to work alongside communities throughout the world that are poor or in need, regardless of their background or belief. Join in on this special day, that unites Catholics all over the world in prayer and celebration of our Church's mission to share God's love with all people. If you use the donation envelopes to give by credit/debit card, please return the envelopes directly to Missio. Please visit Missio's website to give a single gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation if possible: missio.org.uk

MESSAGE FROM THE POPE

On Wednesday 4th October, Pope Francis released the Apostolic Exhortation *Laudate Deum* ('Praise God') on the subject of the climate crisis. This can be read at https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations/documents/20231004-laudate-deum.html

MASS FOR DECEASED PARISHIONERS

On Saturday 4th 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 5th November - 2pm Chorleywood Road Cemetery; Saturday 11th November - 2pm Chorleywood Lawn Cemetery; Sunday 19th November - 2pm Woodcock Hill Cemetery.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

The Remembrance Sunday Service will take place on Sunday 12th 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.

NEW WEBSITE & REGISTRATION

We have a new joint website combining information from across our parishes <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/rickmansworth/> Do look at it today! We also 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.

FAITH & FRIENDSHIP GROUP

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

YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group starts again Tuesday 17th October 6.30pm till 8pm in Our Lady's Hall. This is for anyone in secondary school. Come and have fun, food and make new friends or bring a friend with you. We look forward to seeing you. Parents please let us know who is coming by texting 07788 721222.

WARM WINTER COATS WANTED THIS OCTOBER

There will be 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, so if you are thinking of having a clear-out they can make good use of your coats. 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 or message 07852813420. The last date for donations is Sunday 29th October.

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 13th November with your child's name and age. The winner will be announced the following weekend, as the card goes to print.

DIOCESAN NOTICES

ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

The designs for our new school building which will be completed in 2025 can be seen on our website: <https://www.stjohns705.herts.sch.uk/Our-future-school/> We have two Open Days for prospective parents to view our school and find out more about the admission process. These will be taking place on Tuesday 7th November 2023 at 9.30am and Wednesday 22nd November 2023 at 1.45pm. To book a place on one of our open days, please contact the school office either by email admin@stjohns705.herts.sch.uk or call 01923 774004.

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

CHESSE 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, 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.

SVP TWINNING INDIA - WILL YOU SPONSOR A STUDENT'S EDUCATION FOR £15?

The Vidya Jyothi Scheme (meaning "Knowledge and Light") enables children in India to attend school. This provides a pathway out of poverty through education for them and their families. For only £15 you can sponsor one primary school student for a year. This covers their school fees, uniforms, books, transport and food - a bargain at any price! If you opt in to Gift Aid the amount increases to £18.75. Leaflets giving information are on the SVP noticeboard in the church porch. Alternatively visit <https://svp.org.uk/student-sponsorship/primary-school> to donate online. Thank you for your generosity!

NEW LIFE SKILLS COURSE

The following 8 session course will run at Mill Cafe, Methodist Church, Berry Lane, WD3 7HJ. This course is free to participants. Join a friendly community and gain skills to lift the pressure of life on a low income. The course covers topics around Healthy Finances, Healthy Eating and Healthy Relationships. Course Starts: Friday 13th October. 11am course, free lunch at 12.30pm. Book your place by contacting Elaine Hawkings on 07786 608303 or elainehawkings@caplifekills.org

MARYS MEALS FOREIGN CURRENCY APPEAL

The final day of this collection will be **Sunday 15th October**.

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.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

COFFEE MORNINGS

Please join us in the hall after the 8.30am Mass on Sunday 22nd October for our SVP Coffee Morning. There will also be a coffee morning after Mass on Sunday 5th 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 3rd 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) as soon as possible.

200 CLUB

The 200 Club begins again in October, with the first draw taking place beginning of November. 50% of the monthly draw income will be given out in THREE prizes, split 1st prize 50%, 2nd prize 30% and 3rd 20%. Parishioners who have asked to join earlier this year will be contacted by email soon. Unfortunately we're no longer able to issue cheques, so prizes will be paid by BACs. If anyone is interested in joining (or cancelling their membership) please contact Louise Leahy rickmansworthcof@rcdow.org.uk for further details. The membership fee is due by 23rd October.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

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

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

LADIES MEETING

The next ladies meeting is this coming Tuesday (17th October), 2.30pm at Jackie's house in Little Chalfont. Please ring Rosemary (01923 282500) or Jackie (01494 762197) for information.

UPCOMING EVENTS

22nd - 27th October - Pilgrimage to Florence, Siena and Assisi led by Fr Andrew
Saturday 4th November 11am - Deceased Parishioners Mass at Our Lady's
Sunday 5th November 2pm - Blessing of Graves at Chorleywood Road Cemetery
Saturday 11th November 2pm - Blessing of Graves at Chorleywood Lawn Cemetery
Sunday 12th November 2.30pm - Remembrance Sunday Service at St Mary's Church (CofE)
Sunday 19th November 2pm - Blessing of Graves at Woodcock Hill Cemetery
Sunday 3rd December 6pm - Parishes Youth Mass & Celebration at Our Lady's