



St John The Evangelist

Berry Lane, Rickmansworth, WD3 7HG
<http://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

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Rickmansworth

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Chorleywood

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@ChessValleyRC



ChessValleyParishes



ChessValleyParishes

Livestreaming:

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

SAFEGUARDING REPS.

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Coordinator 0207 798 9356

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Leadership Team:

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Jaison Jeyaventhana - Youth Choir

Director rickyouthchoir@rcdow.org.uk

TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) - 22ND OCTOBER 2023

Transmission of the Word

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

The second chapter of this document begins by observing that in the very early Church, Christians preached and taught orally. They also sought to set an example by the way they lived. In time it became necessary to look for the inspiration of the Holy Spirit to write down God's message. Therefore, God inspired with his Spirit the authors of the several books we find in the Bible in order to communicate his Word. Later on, the Apostles handed on the authority to teach and interpret the Word to the bishops who took their places.

Through the unending line of succession, the bishops are tasked with securing and protecting the Word of God and to see that it is kept intact to the end of time. The Word is the gift of faith, freely given by God, and faith develops through the Holy Spirit. Development of faith happens when we study, contemplate and put belief into action. This is why sacred Scripture and Church Tradition are closely connected and validly important to the growth of one's faith. Scripture is the Word of God and can be found in The Old Testament and the New Testament. Sacred Tradition is the Word of God passed on to us in various forms: Liturgy, prayers, and the teachings of the Apostles and their successors. The chapter ends by then looking at these two sources of Scripture and Sacred Tradition together, coming from the same origin (Christ), having the same goal (God) and working together (through the Holy Spirit) to help every person to move towards that goal. The document also reminds us that through their joint work God speaks to her bride the Church even now, so that she can unveil the mysteries which have not yet been unveiled and allow the Gospel to become a living voice for all the people of all times.

Hence, these two sources have a unity in their diversity. They are both the Word of God. Although, one is the very speech of God written by a human author under divine inspiration, the other is the living Church that from the Apostles onwards transmits, preserves, expounds and spread the same Word as it was handed to her. The Church does this through the authority which has been given to her from Christ himself (Mt 28), and therefore, by preaching, teaching, experiencing what she teaches, and by administering the sacraments. If God has chosen to speak to his Church in these forms, then, every Christian is called to pay the same homage and to hear from both sources. Otherwise, by listening to the Word with only one ear, one loses the possibility of knowing God as best as one is meant to.

The Constitution puts it in this way: *"The Church does not draw her certainty about all revealed truths from the Holy Scripture alone. Hence, both Scripture and Tradition must be accepted and honoured with equal feelings of devotion and reverence"*. (9)

It seems that it was Pope Paul who suggested these words, and many of the Council fathers wanted such a statement to be included.

Having related the two main sources of Revelation, the Church makes a further effort to show that they are also related to the Magisterium. The document points out that the Magisterium is not above the Word of God but is at its service. The Magisterium has the task of keeping, expressing and communicating the deposit of faith. The bishops are the Church's official teachers. The word Magisterium means 'official teacher'. The bishops are charged with the duty to hand on the Word of God as it was handed on to them. The text of the Bible is sovereign in the Catholic Church.

Jesus came to reveal the truths and commission all of us to preach these truths. Some are ordained with authority to interpret and preach what they have read, come to believe, and put into practice. However, most believers communicate what they come to know through Scripture that is Jesus Christ, by the way they live it in their family and in the world. In fact, we all make up the Church and we all have a role to play in communicating God's Word (7-10).

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SUN 22ND OCTOBER	9.30am	SVP Coffee Morning - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
TUE 24TH OCTOBER	7.00pm	Prayer & Life Workshop - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
THU 26TH OCTOBER	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
SUN 29TH OCTOBER		CLOCKS GO BACK	

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

	Our Lady Help of Christians	St John the Evangelist	St John Fisher
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
MONDAY 23 RD OCTOBER	9.30am Molly Foley RIP		
TUESDAY 24 TH OCTOBER	9.30am Fr Dominic McKenna RIP		NO MASS TODAY
WEDNESDAY 25 TH OCTOBER	9.30am For the sick and housebound of the parishes	NO MASS TODAY	
THURSDAY 26 TH OCTOBER	9.30am Fr Dominic McKenna RIP		
FRIDAY 27 TH OCTOBER	9.30am For Peace in the Middle East		
SATURDAY 28TH OCTOBER <i>SS SIMEON & JUDE, APOSTLES</i>	9.30am Marian Forrest RIP (Anniv.)	6pm Billy Dunne RIP	
SUNDAY 29 TH OCTOBER <i>THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Mary & Aldo De Michiel RIP (Anniv.) 11am Frazer Bradshaw RIP 6pm Angela & Giovanni Maccini RIP (Anniv.)	10.30am For the People of the Parishes	9am Sheila Crouchen (nee Treanor) RIP
SANCTUARY LAMPS	This week our Sanctuary Lamp (Our Lady's) burns for Marian Forrest RIP (Anniv.)		



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

MASSSES THIS WEEK

On 22nd October we welcome Canon Michael Munnelly who will be celebrating the 8.30am Mass in Rickmansworth and the 10.30am Mass in Mill End, whilst Fr Andrew is away. There will be no Mass on Tuesday in Chorleywood and Wednesday in Mill End.

DAY OF FASTING AND PRAYER

Pope Francis has called on all Catholics to make Friday 27th October a day of Fasting and Prayer for peace in the Holy Land. The 9.30am Mass in Rickmansworth will be followed by a Holy Hour for this intention on Friday. If you wish to make a financial gift to aid those suffering in the Holy Land at this time we recommend doing so through the Friends of the Holy Land <https://www.friendsoftheholylnd.org.uk/>

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

This 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. 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

SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS – HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Wednesday 1st 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).

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. Full information on how to prepare our funerals can be found at the diocesan website: <https://rcdow.org.uk/liturgy/preparing-for-a-funeral/>

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.

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 2nd 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

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).

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.

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

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 11th November. Visit <https://youth.rcdow.org.uk/programmes/upper-room-leadership-programme/> to apply or email youth@rcdow.org.uk for enquiries.

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.

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, 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.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

COFFEE MORNINGS

Please join us in the hall after the 8.30am Mass this Sunday 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

Congratulations to Maureen Douglas (£29), Richard Dumughn (£21.75), Judy Gordon (£14.50) and Mary Thomson (£7.25).

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

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 25th November.

Sunday 19th 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

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