



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:

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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

 ChessValleyParishes

 ChessValleyParishes

Livestreaming:

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

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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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 SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) - 8TH OCTOBER 2023

The Liturgical Year, Sacred Music, Art & Furnishings

In the second part of our Vatican 2 series we conclude looking at the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, Sacrosanctum Concilium.

In the fifth chapter of this document the Church reflects on the celebration of the liturgy throughout the year. It tells us *'in the course of the year, [the Church] unfolds the whole mystery of Christ from the incarnation and nativity to the ascension, to Pentecost and the expectation of the blessed hope of the coming of the Lord'*. SC102 Here the document talks of the importance of weekly celebrating the Lord's day in memory of the Resurrection, of celebrations of events in the life of Mary and of the annual feasts of martyrs and other saints. The Council also affirms the importance of celebrating pious practices in various seasons of the year by instruction, prayer and works of penance and mercy. The document decreed that the minds of the faithful should be directed primarily towards the feasts of the Lord, and so rather than celebrate all the feasts of saints over the course of the year, due preference should be given to hearing about the life of Christ and the mystery of salvation within the texts of the time of year. It also focused on the Lenten season giving greater emphasis on to baptism and penance, and to holding the paschal fast as sacred. The Council also commended the veneration of authentic relics and images of saints who offer to the faithful fitting examples to imitate.

The document moves onto reflecting on the musical tradition of the Church, calling it a *'treasure of inestimable value, greater than even that of any other art... as a combination of sacred music and words, it forms a necessary or integral part of the solemn liturgy'* SC112. It recognises that both in scripture and in the words of the Church Fathers, music has held a special place in the Liturgy and therefore *'the treasury of sacred music is to be preserved and cultivated with great care'*. It encouraged that the faithful be taught relevant chant, with Gregorian chant being specially suited to the Roman liturgy, so that they would be able to *'contribute that active participation which is rightly theirs'*. The Council decreed that great importance should be attached to the teaching and practice of music in seminaries, houses of studies and schools. There was also recognition of musical traditions of other lands, and their music was to be held in proper esteem and in a suitable place within the liturgy. The use of the pipe organ was particularly praised, but other instruments were permitted with the consent of the local authority and provided they were appropriate for sacred use. The chapter concluded by emphasising that all compositions for liturgy must always be in conformity with Catholic doctrine, and chiefly from sacred scripture and other liturgical sources.

The final chapter of this document reflects on Sacred Art and furnishings. It comments *'of their nature the arts are directed towards expressing in some way the infinite beauty of God in works made by human hands'*. The Council emphasised that all *'things set apart from use in divine worship should be worthy, becoming and beautiful, signs and symbols of things supernatural'* SC122. It talks of the importance of training artists to this end, and always ensuring a high standard of craft for use in our places of worship. The document decreed the importance of admitting styles from every period, but always favouring truly sacred art of noble beauty rather than sumptuous display. It also called for the continued practice of placing sacred images in churches for veneration by the faithful. Finally, the chapter talks of the need for careful consideration to be made to ensure worthy and well-planned construction of sacred buildings, particularly in line with the new norms of the reformed liturgy discussed earlier in the document.

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

TUE 10TH OCTOBER	4.30pm 7.00pm	Youth Choir Prayer & Life Workshop - Hall	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 11TH OCTOBER	7.30pm	RCIA - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
THU 12TH OCTOBER	8.00pm - 9.30pm	Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 14TH OCTOBER	2.00pm	Wedding - Alice Edmonds & Gavin Barclay	Our Lady Help of Christians

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

	Our Lady Help of Christians	St John the Evangelist	St John Fisher
SATURDAY 7TH OCTOBER <i>OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY</i>	9.30am Giovanni & Alice Vescovo (Ints.)	6pm Eddie McLaughlin RIP (Anniv.)	
SUNDAY 8TH OCTOBER <i>TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am For the Synod of Bishops 11am Dan & Ann O'Sullivan RIP (Anniv.) 6pm For the People of the Parishes	10.30am Pat O'Connor RIP	9am Teresa Hukowski RIP
MONDAY 9TH OCTOBER <i>ST JOHN HENRY NEWMAN</i>	9.30am Fr Dominic McKenna RIP		
TUESDAY 10TH OCTOBER	9.30am For the sick and housebound of the parishes		NO MASS TODAY
WEDNESDAY 11TH OCTOBER	NO MASS TODAY	9.30am Special Intention (RE)	
THURSDAY 12TH OCTOBER	9.30am Anthony McQueenie RIP		
FRIDAY 13TH OCTOBER <i>ST EDWARD THE CONFESSOR</i>	9.30am Deborah Stern RIP		
SATURDAY 14TH OCTOBER	9.30am For the Synod of Bishops	6pm Mary Noble RIP	
SUNDAY 15TH 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

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

MASSES THIS WEEK

On 8th October we welcome Fr Anthony Pellegrini who will be celebrating the 9am Mass in Chorleywood and the 11am Mass in Rickmansworth, whilst Fr Matteo is away. There will be no Mass on Tuesday in Chorleywood and Wednesday in Rickmansworth.

ANTHONY McQUEENIE RIP

The ashes of Anthony McQueenie will be interred in the Garden of Rest after the 9.30am Mass on Thursday 12th October.

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

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY APPEAL - FRIDAY 6TH OCTOBER

Dr Nasha's mobile medical clinic gets life-saving help to where it's needed most, fast – so when her team arrived in Meera's village in Pakistan after it had been destroyed by flooding, Meera rushed to the clinic to get her children the treatment they needed. Please donate so that more families can get the expert help they need. Use the envelope or give online - cafod.org.uk.

ANNUAL MASS COUNT

Over the next two weekends the Mass count will be taking place at all Sunday Masses as part of the diocesan requirement for it's statistics. Please can you be generous to our Welcomers who count everyone into Mass, by doing your best to be with us before Mass begins, so they are able to participate without distraction.

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 .

JUSTICE AND PEACE PARISH CONTACT

We are looking for volunteer to provide a link between our parish and the Westminster Justice & Peace Commission, which is an agency of the Diocese. The main task of the contact person is to receive the monthly E-Bulletin and, where possible, promote events and actions for peace and justice within the parishes. A role description can be found here: <https://westminsterjusticeandpeace.org/parish-contacts/> Please let Fr Andrew know if this is something you may like to support the parishes with.

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 18th October to discuss a DVD on The Holy Spirit.

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@caplifefskills.org

MARYS MEALS APPEAL 2023

Mary's Meals would like to invite you to collect all your foreign currency* no matter how old or obscure (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. 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.

PRAYER AND LIFE WORKSHOPS

Prayer and Life Workshops take place weekly on a Tuesday 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.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

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

MISSIO/APF/RED BOX HOLDERS

The September quarter collection amounted to £182.80. I think this is the highest September ever. Very many thanks to one and all. New donors very welcome. Best love, *Mary*

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 19th November 2pm - Blessing of Graves at Woodcock Hill Cemetery
Sunday 3rd December 6pm - Parishes Youth Mass & Celebration at Our Lady's
Sunday 17th December 3pm - Joint Parishes Christmas Carol Service at St John's, Mill End