



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

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 @ChessValleyRC

 ChessValleyParishes

 ChessValleyParishes

Livestreaming:

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

SAFEGUARDING REPS.

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YOUTH MINISTRY

Margaret Simon - Youth Ministry

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ALL SAINTS (YEAR C) 2ND NOVEMBER 2025

St John Henry Newman: Doctor of the Church

The drama of Newman's life invites us to examine our lives, to see them against the vast horizon of God's plan, and to grow in communion with the Church of every time and place.

At the end of his life, Newman would describe his life's work as a struggle against the growing tendency to view religion as a purely private and subjective matter, a question of personal opinion. Here is the first lesson we can learn from his life: in our day, when an intellectual and moral relativism threatens to sap the very foundations of our society, Newman reminds us that, as men and women made in the image and likeness of God, we were created to know the truth, to find in that truth our ultimate freedom and the fulfilment of our deepest human aspirations. In a word, we are meant to know Christ, who is himself "the way, and the truth, and the life" (Jn 14:6).

Newman's life also teaches us that passion for the truth, intellectual honesty and genuine conversion are costly. The truth that sets us free cannot be kept to ourselves; it calls for testimony, it begs to be heard, and in the end its convincing power comes from itself and not from the human eloquence or arguments in which it may be couched. Not far from here, at Tyburn, great numbers of our brothers and sisters died for the faith; the witness of their fidelity to the end was ever more powerful than the inspired words that so many of them spoke before surrendering everything to the Lord. In our own time, the price to be paid for fidelity to the Gospel is no longer being hanged, drawn and quartered but it often involves being dismissed out of hand, ridiculed or parodied. And yet, the Church cannot withdraw from the task of proclaiming Christ and his Gospel as saving truth, the source of our ultimate happiness as individuals and as the foundation of a just and humane society.

Finally, Newman teaches us that if we have accepted the truth of Christ and committed our lives to him, there can be no separation between what we believe and the way we live our lives. Our every thought, word and action must be directed to the glory of God and the spread of his Kingdom. Newman understood this, and was the great champion of the prophetic office of the Christian laity. He saw clearly that we do not so much accept the truth in a purely intellectual act as embrace it in a spiritual dynamic that penetrates to the core of our being. Truth is passed on not merely by formal teaching, important as that is, but also by the witness of lives lived in integrity, fidelity and holiness; those who live in and by the truth instinctively recognize what is false and, precisely as false, inimical to the beauty and goodness which accompany the splendour of truth.

One of the Cardinal's best-loved meditations includes the words, "God has created me to do him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which he has not committed to another". Faith is meant to bear fruit in the transformation of our world through the power of the Holy Spirit at work in the lives and activity of believers. No one who looks realistically at our world today could think that Christians can afford to go on with business as usual, ignoring the profound crisis of faith which has overtaken our society, or simply trusting that the patrimony of values handed down by the Christian centuries will continue to inspire and shape the future of our society. In times of crisis and upheaval God raises up great saints and prophets for the renewal of the Church and Christian society; we trust in his providence and his continued guidance. Each of us, in accordance with his or her state of life, is called to work for the advancement of God's Kingdom. Each of us has a mission, each of us is called to change the world, to work for a culture of life, a culture forged by love and respect for the dignity of each human person. As our Lord tells us in the Gospel, our light must shine in the sight of all, so that, seeing our good works, they may give praise to our heavenly Father.

*Extract from Address of Pope Benedict XIV at Hyde Park, 18 September 2010.
Pope Leo XIV officially proclaimed St John Henry Newman
the 38th Doctor of the Church on 1 November 2025.*

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SUN 2ND NOVEMBER	9.30am	Coffee Morning - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
MON 3RD NOVEMBER	7.30pm 7.30pm - 8.30pm	Alpha - Hall Alpha Holy Hour - Church	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 5TH NOVEMBER	2.15pm	Faith & Friendship Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
THU 6TH NOVEMBER	2.00pm 8.00pm	SVP Warm Winter Space - Hall Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
FRI 7TH NOVEMBER	7.00pm	The Chosen - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 8TH NOVEMBER	11.00am After 11.00am Mass	Deceased Parishioners Mass Blessing of Graves - Garden of Rest	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
SUN 9TH NOVEMBER	11.30am 2.00pm 2.30pm	Tea & Coffee - Hall Remembrance Sunday Parade Chorleywood Remembrance Sunday Parade	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians Lady Ela Drive

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

	Our Lady Help of Christians	St John the Evangelist	St John Fisher
SATURDAY 1 ST NOVEMBER	9.30am John Willie Kilkenny RIP	6pm Kato & Hoffer Family Ints.	
SUNDAY 2 ND NOVEMBER <i>ALL SAINTS</i>	8.30am Valerie MacDonnell RIP 11am Genova D'Cruz RIP 6pm Cecilia Guerreiro De Lima (80 th Birthday)	10.30am Pauline Harrison RIP	9am For the People of the Parishes
MONDAY 3RD NOVEMBER <i>THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS' DAY)</i>	9.30am Holy Souls		
TUESDAY 4TH NOVEMBER <i>ST CHARLES BORROMEIO</i>	NO MASS TODAY		9.30am Holy Souls
WEDNESDAY 5 TH NOVEMBER	9.30am Holy Souls	NO MASS TODAY	
THURSDAY 6 TH NOVEMBER	9.30am Holy Souls		
FRIDAY 7 TH NOVEMBER	9.30am Justin Quinn RIP		
SATURDAY 8 TH NOVEMBER	11am For the Deceased Members of our Parishes	6pm Julia Rice & Phyllis Rice RIP (Anniv.)	
SUNDAY 9 TH NOVEMBER <i>THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA</i>	8.30am Margaret Cook (Ints.) 11am For those who died in War 6pm For the People of the Parishes	10.30am For those who died in war	9am Gregory McEwen RIP (Anniv.)
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AND CONFESSION	Sundays 5pm - 5.40pm	Saturdays 5pm - 5.40pm	Confessions on request and by appointment

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISHES

Our Lady Help of Christians: Kathleen Collins, Neville Mathews, Ginny Goodgol, Maria Wallis, Henry Cutting, Nalene Nixon, Maureen Douglas, Michael Gaukroger, Leslie Edwards, Pauline Williams, Gloria Warmington, Veronica Finnegan, Mark & Janet Kirwan, Ann Aldridge, Judy Gordon and Sean.

St John the Evangelist: Paul O'Connor, Louise Borg, Sandie Tew, John Smith and Grace Haddad

St John Fisher: Nora O'Toole, Francis De Souza, Georgina Kelham, Pete Murray, Steve Kibbey, Matthew Leone, Jean-Pierre Roche, Angela Hoy, Anne Trenchard, Paul Kennett, Julian Harris, Edith Moid and Derek Treanor.

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

JUSTIN QUINN RIP

It is with sadness that we share the death of Justin Quinn RIP who died last Sunday. We commend him to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for his family at this sad and difficult time. Details of his funeral arrangements will be announced in due course.

MASS FOR DECEASED PARISHIONERS

On Saturday 8th 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

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

The Remembrance Sunday Service will take place on Sunday 9th 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.

There will be no Remembrance Service at the Reach School this year.

Chorleywood Remembrance Sunday Parade

Sunday 9th November from 2.30pm starting from Lady Ela Drive (by the Lawn Cemetery) walking to Christ Church, Chorleywood where there will be a short Service of Remembrance.

DEANERY MASS FOR THE DECEASED CLERGY OF THE WATFORD DEANERY

The clergy of Watford deanery will be celebrating a Mass on Tuesday 11th November at 12 noon at Our Lady & St Michael's, Garston for all those priests who have served our parishes and died. All are welcome to join the deanery for this Mass.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS COMPETITION

Our annual competition to provide the picture for our Christmas Information Card is now open. 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 entries to the parish office by Sunday 16th November with your child's name and age.

BLESSING OF GRAVES

During November Fr Andrew and Fr Dom will be blessing graves in the local cemeteries: Saturday 15th November 2.00pm at Chorleywood Lawn Cemetery; Sunday 16th November 2.00pm Woodcock Hill Cemetery and Saturday 22nd November at 2.00pm at Chorleywood Road Cemetery.

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/>

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.

GROWING IN FAITH TOGETHER (GIFT)

Our family catechesis for all those with children aged 5-11 takes place once a month. The sessions are engaging, spirit filled and fun, and they are for all the family. We celebrate Mass, enjoy a time of fellowship before sharing catechesis and activities on a different theme each month. **GIFT Parents** As part of GIFT we also hold Faith Formation for parents on one evening each month online (Zoom). These sessions are designed to help all our parents grow in their own faith, enabling them to lead their family on their journey of faith. **In our parishes participation in GIFT is a gateway to discerning with you the readiness of your children to begin preparation for the Sacraments.** One parent has recently fed back *"Participating in GIFT has been the best decision not only for my child but for me as a Catholic"*. If your family would like to sign up for GIFT then please register via our parish website under 'Parish Life' or contact the parish office.

REGISTRATION

We encourage all parishioners to register for the parish using the 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.



NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

OUR PARISHES' SEA SCOUT GROUP

The Group are always pleased to welcome young people to join in with the variety of activities offered by the various sections. We are also in need of adult volunteers for all age groups to help us continue with this provision within the Parish and wider community. For further information please contact: info@6thRickySeaScouts.org.uk

FAITH & FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Faith and Friendship group will meet at 2.15pm in the small hall on the following Wednesdays: 5th & 19th November, 3rd & 17th December. Please join us to make new friends in the parish and to follow a DVD about getting to know the Bible.

THE CHOSEN SEASON 2

We invite you to join us for Season 2 of The Chosen, a compelling portrayal of the life of Jesus through the perspectives of those who encountered Him. The group will meet for eight sessions, every Friday evening between 7-9pm at Our Lady's Hall, to watch an episode followed by discussion. Please let us know if you would like to join by emailing santoshialles@yahoo.com or feel free to turn up on the day.

ALPHA - INVITATION TO PRAY

There will be a Holy Hour every Monday evening from 7.30-8.30pm in Our Lady's Church during the Alpha Course, where we can join the Alpha Intercessory Prayer Team to pray for guests and those attending Alpha. You will also be able to join this time of prayer via our Live-Stream. In addition to this we would also love to invite you to pray daily for our parish community and its ongoing formation. Maybe you could consider praying the following prayer: *Thank you loving Father for all those you have called to participate in Alpha; we ask your blessing upon all, both team and guests. Without you we can do nothing you are the Way, the Truth and the Life. Pour out your Holy Spirit and abundant blessings and gifts during this Alpha. May Alpha ignite or re-ignite the flame of faith in all hearts so that we may experience the wonder, joy and hope that being in relationship with you brings. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be world without end. Amen*

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. 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

URGENTLY NEEDED – MILL END FOOD BANK

There is a current shortage of tinned soup, tinned vegetables, tinned custard/rice pudding, tinned meat e.g. casseroles/ mince (not corned beef), baked beans, tinned tomatoes, pasta sauce, snacks e.g. cup of soup/pot noodles/cereal bars, long life juice/squash, tea, coffee. **Please ensure that food items donated are not out of date.** Non food items: shampoo, shower gel, laundry products, deodorant, toothpaste – adult and children's. Items can be placed in the boxes provided at the back of each church.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

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

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST'S ADVENT FAIR

This year's Fair will be on Sunday 30th November after the 10.30am Mass from 11.30am-1pm in the church hall. There will be Sunday brunch available along with Christmas stalls and a visit from Father Christmas! Please make a note in your diaries to come along and support the Fair. Donations of bottles and sweets for the tombolas are greatly appreciated and can be left in the church porch from now on. Raffle tickets will go on sale from 15th November after all weekend Masses so please bring some cash to Mass! A reminder that the fair will also be cash only. Thank you for your support.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Children's liturgy this term will take place on the following dates: 9th, 23rd and 30th November, 7th December. 24th December 5.30pm Christmas Eve Mass, Children are invited to participate in the Story of the Nativity (costumes provided, no speaking parts required).

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

MARY'S GARAGE SALE IN AID OF THE CARDINAL HUME CENTRE FOR THE HOMELESS

Please come - open until the end of November! The **Raffle** and **Silent Auction** are being set up in the Church Lounge. Draw on 16th November at Coffee Morning. For info call Mary on 07795 276728. xxx

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 8th November 11.00am - Deceased Parishioners Mass and Blessing of Garden of Rest, Rickmansworth
Saturday 15th November 2.00pm - Blessing of Graves at Chorleywood Lawn Cemetery
Sunday 16th November 2.00pm - Blessing of Graves at Woodcock Hill Cemetery
Saturday 22nd November 2.00pm - Blessing of Graves at Chorleywood Road Cemetery
Sunday 30th November 11.30am to 1.00pm - Advent Fair at St John the Evangelist
Sunday 30th November 6pm - Youth Mass at Our Lady's
Sunday 14th December 3pm - Joint Parishes Christmas Carol Service at St John the Evangelist