



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

Assistant Priest:

Fr Dom Matokovic
domagojmatokovic@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Administrator:

Kerry Van Rensburg
rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk

Francis Holly (Discipleship)
fgholly@hotmail.com

Jo Rodrigues (Faith in Action)
jorodrigues425@gmail.com

Lizzie Quinn (Families & Youth)
elizabeth_quinn@icloud.com

Richard Booth (Evangelisation)
boothrm1925@gmail.com

Address for all correspondence:
5 Park Road, Rickmansworth
WD3 1HU
Telephone: 01923 773387

 @ChessValleyRC

 ChessValleyParishes

 ChessValleyParishes

Livestreaming:

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

SAFEGUARDING REPS.

Rickmansworth Parish

Carol Bartlett 01923 773841
rickmansworthsg2@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

Youth Choir Director:
rickyouthchoir@rcdow.org.uk

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C) 19TH OCTOBER 2025

A new missionary age.

Brothers and sisters, today a new missionary age opens up in the history of the Church. If for a long time we have associated with mission the word “depart”, the going out to distant lands that did not know the Gospel or were experiencing poverty, today the frontiers of the missions are no longer geographical, because poverty, suffering and the desire for a greater hope have made their way to us. The story of so many of our migrant brothers and sisters bears witnesses to this: the tragedy of their flight from violence, the suffering which accompanies it, the fear of not succeeding, the perilous risk of traveling along the coastline, their cry of sorrow and desperation. Brothers and sisters, those boats which hope to catch sight of a safe port, and those eyes filled with anguish and hope seeking to reach the shore, cannot and must not find the coldness of indifference or the stigma of discrimination!

Mission is not so much about “departing”, but instead “remaining” in order to proclaim Christ through hospitality and welcome, compassion and solidarity. We are to remain without fleeing to the comforts of our individualism; to remain so as to look upon those who arrive from lands that are distant and violent; to remain and open our arms and hearts to them, welcoming them as brothers and sisters, and being for them a presence of consolation and hope. There are many missionary men and women, but also believers and people of good will, who work in the service of migrants, and promote a new culture of fraternity on the theme of migration, beyond stereotypes and prejudices. But this precious service involves each one of us, within the limits of our own means. As Pope Francis affirmed, this is the time for all of us to let ourselves be “permanently in a state of mission” (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 25).

This entails at least two important missionary tasks: *missionary cooperation* and *missionary vocation*.

First of all, I ask you to promote a renewed *missionary cooperation* among the Churches. In the communities of ancient Christian tradition, such as those of the West, the presence of many brothers and sisters from the world’s South should be welcomed as an opportunity, through an exchange that renews the face of the Church and sustains a Christianity that is more open, more alive and more dynamic. At the same time, all missionaries that depart for other lands are called to live with respect within the culture they encounter, directing to the good all that is found true and worthy, and bringing there the prophetic message of the Gospel.

I would like to recall the beauty and importance of *missionary vocations*. I refer in particular to the Church in Europe: today there is a need for a new missionary effort by laity, religious and priests who will offer their service in missionary lands. We need new ideas and vocational experiences capable of sustaining this desire, especially in young people. Beloved friends, I willingly give my blessing to the local clergy of the particular Churches, to missionaries and those discerning a vocation. Whereas, to migrants I say: know that you are always welcome! The seas and deserts that you have crossed, Scripture calls “places of salvation”, in which God makes himself present to save his people. I hope that you find this face of God in the missionaries that you encounter.

I entrust all of you to the intercession of Mary, the first of her Son’s missionaries, who went in haste to the hill country of Judea, carrying Jesus in her womb and putting herself at the service of Elizabeth. May Mary sustain us, so that each of us can become co-workers for the Kingdom of Christ, the Kingdom of love, justice and peace.

*2nd half of Homily of Pope Leo XIV
on Jubilee of the Missionary World
& Jubilee of Migrants
5 October 2025*

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| SUN 19TH OCTOBER | 10am 12.30pm | Tea & Coffee SVP Community Lunch | St John Fisher St John the Evangelist |
| MON 20TH OCTOBER | 7.30pm 7.30pm - 8.30pm | Alpha - Hall Alpha Holy Hour - Church | Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians |
| TUE 21ST OCTOBER | 3.30pm 6.30pm | Youth Choir Youth Group - Hall | St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians |
| WED 22ND OCTOBER | 2.15pm | Faith & Friendship Group - Hall | Our Lady Help of Christians |
| THU 23RD OCTOBER | 2.00pm 8.00pm | SVP Warm Winter Space Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall | St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians |
| FRI 24TH OCTOBER | 7.00pm | The Chosen - Hall | Our Lady Help of Christians |
| SAT 25TH OCTOBER | 6.45pm | Quiz Night - Hall | Our Lady Help of Christians |
| SUN 26TH 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 18TH OCTOBER <i>St LUKE, EVANGELIST</i> | 9.30am For our GIFT Families | 6pm Peter Wakeling RIP | |
| SUNDAY 19 TH OCTOBER <i>TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY</i> <i>IN ORDINARY TIME</i> | 8.30am Mary Fallon RIP 11am Cecilia Netto RIP 6pm W.H. (Bill) Osgood RIP (Anniv.) | 10.30am Frazer Bradshaw RIP | 9am For the People of the Parishes |
| MONDAY 20 TH OCTOBER | 9.30am Eileen Leahy RIP | | |
| TUESDAY 21 ST OCTOBER | 9.30am For Peace in the Middle East | | 9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parishes |
| WEDNESDAY 22 ND OCTOBER | 9.30am John O'Shea RIP | 9.30am For the Sick and Housebound of the Parishes | |
| THURSDAY 23 RD OCTOBER | 9.30am For Peace in the World | | |
| FRIDAY 24 TH OCTOBER | 9.30am Susan Rollins RIP (3 rd Anniv.) | | |
| SATURDAY 25 TH OCTOBER | 9.30am For Vocations to the Priesthood | 6pm For the People of the Parishes | |
| SUNDAY 26 TH OCTOBER <i>THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN</i> <i>ORDINARY TIME</i> | 8.30am Special Intention 11am For the People of the Parishes 6pm For the People of the Parishes | 10.30am For the People of the Parishes | 9am For the People of the Parishes |
| SANCTUARY LAMPS | | | |
| 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, Justin Quinn, and Sean.

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

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 and Edith Moid.

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Nico Alejarra-Dinnadge who was baptised at Our Lady's on Saturday 18th October. Please keep Nico and his family in your prayers

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

This Sunday, the Holy Father invites all Catholics to support Missio, the charity for world mission, through a special collection. This day of prayer, solidarity, and giving unites Catholics worldwide to share the Good News of God's love which has the power to transform lives and heal our world. To donate, please use the Missio envelopes or visit missio.org.uk to give a single gift, set up a Direct Debit, and Gift Aid your donation if possible.

YOUTH GROUP - Tuesday 21st October 6.30pm - 8.00pm

The Youth Group is for anyone in Secondary school, we look forward to seeing old and new members. Come with friends, meet friends or make new friends. Parents/guardians please let us know who is coming by messaging 07879 424383

QUIZ NIGHT - 25TH OCTOBER

Join us for an evening of quizzing and dinner in Our Lady's Church Hall. Doors open at 6.45pm for food, before the quiz starts at 7.30pm. Tickets are £15 and include a Fish and Chip supper and quiz entry. They're available on the church website: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/rickmansworth/event/quiz-night-25th-october/>. **You can book as an individual or as a team.** Please ensure bookings are made as a group to stay together (groups are limited to a maximum of 8 people). There is a limit on numbers so please ensure you book early to avoid disappointment. *Ticket sales will close on the 19th of October to confirm numbers for food.*

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.

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 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

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.

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.

YOUTH CHOIR

Rehearsals will be on Tuesdays at St John's Church, Mill End from 3.30-4.45pm and all those in Year 3 and above are welcome to join. Please email rickyyouthchoir@rcdow.org.uk or contact the parish office for more information.



NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

FAITH & FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Faith and Friendship group will meet at 2.15pm in the small hall on Wednesday 22nd October . All welcome to join us and share thoughts with other parishioners over a cup of tea.

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 2025

Alpha will take place every Monday 7.30-9.15pm until 1st December at Our Lady's Parish Hall. All enquiries and sign-ups can email chessvalleyalpha@rcdow.org.uk or complete an online form <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/rickmansworth/alpha-3/>

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

SVP COMMUNITY LUNCH

Chess Valley SVP will host their Community lunch every 3rd Sunday of the month at 12.30pm. This is now in the Church Hall at St John the Evangelist, Mill End. We look forward to welcoming our regular guests and parishioners from across the three parishes. If you know of someone who would benefit from this please let them know. We hope you can join us.

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

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%. If anyone is interested in joining (or cancelling) please contact the parish office for further details. The membership fee is due by 20th October.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

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

COFFEE AND TEA will be served in the lounge after Mass this Sunday.

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

Please remember to bring your gifts for the sale and raffle etc. phone Mary for all info 07795 276728

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 25th October 6.45pm - Quiz Night at Our Lady's
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 - Christmas 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