



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

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Livestreaming:

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

SAFEGUARDING REPS.

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YOUTH MINISTRY

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Leadership Team:

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Youth Choir Director:

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THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR C) 16TH NOVEMBER 2025

WALKING TOGETHER IN HOPE

Sixty years ago, a seed of hope for interreligious dialogue was planted. Today, your presence bears witness that this seed has grown into a mighty tree, its branches reaching far and wide, offering shelter and bearing the rich fruits of understanding, friendship, cooperation and peace.

If the Nostra Aetate Declaration has nourished the ties between us, I am convinced that its message remains highly relevant today. Let us, then, take a moment to reflect on some of its most significant teachings.

First, Nostra Aetate reminds us that humanity is drawing closer together, and that it is the task of the Church to promote unity and love among men and women, and among nations.

Second, it points to what we all share in common. We belong to one human family — one in origin and one also in our final goal. Moreover, every person seeks answers to the great riddles of the human condition.

Third, religions everywhere try to respond to the restlessness of the human heart. Each, in its own way, offers teachings, ways of life and sacred rites that help guide their followers toward peace and meaning.

Fourth, the Catholic Church rejects nothing that is true and holy in these religions, which “reflect a ray of that truth which enlightens all people”. She regards them with sincere reverence and invites her sons and daughters, through dialogue and collaboration, to recognize, preserve and promote what is spiritually, morally and culturally good in all peoples.

Initially, Pope John XXIII commissioned a treatise to describe a new relationship between the Catholic Church and Judaism, so the fourth chapter, dedicated to Judaism, is the heart and generative core of the entire Declaration. For the first time, we have a doctrinal text with an explicitly theological basis that illustrates the Jewish roots of Christianity. At the same time, Nostra Aetate takes a firm stand against all forms of antisemitism teaching that we cannot truly call on God, the Father of all, if we refuse to treat in a brotherly or sisterly way anyone created in the image of God. Indeed, the Church rejects all forms of discrimination or harassment because of race, colour, condition of life or religion.

This historic document opened our eyes to a simple yet profound principle: dialogue is not a tactic or a tool, but a way of life — a journey of the heart that transforms everyone involved. What is more, we walk this journey not by abandoning our own faith, but by standing firmly within it. For authentic dialogue begins not in compromise, but in conviction — in the deep roots of our own belief that give us the strength to reach out to others in love.

Today the message of Nostra Aetate remains as urgent as ever. We find ourselves in a world where its vision is often obscured. We see walls rising again — between nations, between religions, even between neighbours. The noise of conflict, the wounds of poverty and the cry of the earth remind us how fragile our human family remains. Many have grown weary of promises; many have forgotten how to hope.

As religious leaders, guided by the wisdom of our respective traditions, we share a sacred responsibility: to help our people to break free from the chains of prejudice, anger and hatred; to help them rise above egoism and self-centeredness; to help them overcome the greed that destroys both the human spirit and the earth. In this way, we can lead our people to become prophets of our time — voices that denounce violence and injustice, heal division, and proclaim peace for all our brothers and sisters.

This year, the Catholic Church celebrates the Jubilee Year of Hope. This is the journey that Nostra Aetate invites us to continue — to walk together in hope. Our great responsibility, as religious leaders, is to bring hope to a humanity that is often tempted by despair. Let us remember that prayer has the power to transform our hearts, our words, our actions and our world. It renews us from within, rekindling the spirit of hope and love.

Extract of Address of Pope Leo XIV celebrating the 60th Anniversary of Nostra Aetate 28th October 2025.

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SUN 16TH NOVEMBER	10.00am 11.30am 12.30pm 2.00pm	Coffee Morning Tea & Coffee - Hall SVP Community Lunch Blessing of Graves	St John Fisher St John the Evangelist St John the Evangelist Woodcock Hill Cemetery
MON 17TH NOVEMBER	7.30pm 7.30pm - 8.30pm	Alpha - Hall Alpha Holy Hour - Church	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
TUE 18TH NOVEMBER	3.30pm - 4.45pm 6.30pm	Youth Choir Youth Group	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
WED 19TH NOVEMBER	2.15pm	Faith & Friendship Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
THU 20TH 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 21ST NOVEMBER	7.00pm	The Chosen - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
SAT 22ND NOVEMBER	11.15am 2.00pm	Baptism - George Etherington Blessing of Graves	Our Lady Help of Christians Chorleywood Road Cemetery
SUN 23RD NOVEMBER	9.30am 11.30am	SVP Coffee Morning - Hall Tea & Coffee - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

	Our Lady Help of Christians	St John the Evangelist	St John Fisher
SATURDAY 15 TH NOVEMBER	9.30am For Our GIFT Families	6pm Josie Livingston RIP (Anniv.)	
SUNDAY 16 TH NOVEMBER <i>THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>	8.30am Kathy Carter (Ints.) 11am Ann Mulholland RIP (Anniv.) 6pm For the People of the Parishes	10.30am In Thanksgiving	9am John & Mary Harris RIP (Anniv.)
MONDAY 17 TH NOVEMBER <i>ST ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY</i>	9.30am Mary Balance RIP		
TUESDAY 18 TH NOVEMBER	9.30am Mary Robinson RIP (12 th Anniv.)		9.30am Michael Penn RIP
WEDNESDAY 19 TH NOVEMBER	9.30am Ester Canda RIP (1 st Anniv.)	9.30am Noel Bourke RIP	
THURSDAY 20 TH NOVEMBER	9.30am James Harbird RIP (35 th Anniv.)		
FRIDAY 21 ST NOVEMBER	9.30am Holy Souls		
SATURDAY 22 ND NOVEMBER	9.30am Margaret Jones RIP	6pm Tommy Livingston RIP (Anniv.)	
SUNDAY 23 RD NOVEMBER <i>OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE</i>	8.30am Christopher, Margaret, Dora & Michael Conway RIP (Anniv.) 11am John Culkin RIP 6pm Jessie Pione RIP	10.30am For the People of the Parishes	9am Tony & Pat Finucane RIP (Anniv.)
SANCTUARY LAMPS	This week our Sanctuary Lamps burn for John & Claire Dalton RIP (Blessed Sacrament) and In Thanksgiving (Our Lady's)		This week our Sanctuary Lamp (Blessed Sacrament) burns for Janet Edwards RIP
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AND CONFESSION	Sundays 5pm - 5.40pm	Saturdays 5pm - 5.40pm	Confessions on request and by appointment

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

JUSTIN QUINN RIP

Justin's funeral will be held on Thursday 20th November at 11.45am at the Church of the Sacred Heart of Jesus & St Peter the Apostle, 356 London Road, Waterloooville PO7 7SR. His body will be received into the church the afternoon before at 4.30pm. The video link for live-streaming is on the front page of their parish website: <https://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/parish/sacred-heart-of-jesus-and-st-peter-the-apostle-waterlooville/> Matt, Lizzie and Peter warmly invite anyone who knew him to come to his final send-off.

THE SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND COLLECTION IS NEXT WEEK

Our second collection today will be in support of the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund. Most priests offer their resignation as a parish priest at the age of 75, but many continue to serve their communities, working in our parishes, schools, hospitals and chaplaincies. We must ensure no priest is worried about meeting essential costs during their senior years and, as such, Cardinal Nichols and the Diocese of Westminster are committed to ensuring that no retired or sick priest is left without support. Last year, the Diocese provided care to 73 retired priests, at a cost of £1,270,000. By giving a gift to the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund today, you can help us to ensure all of our sick and retired priests are cared for at their time of need. The fund is used to meet essential costs, like making a flat accessible to a disabled priest, or that a priest has regular visits from a carer after undergoing surgery. If you took a donation envelope last weekend, please place it in the collection bag today. The envelopes and posters feature a 'QR Code' that you can scan with a phone camera to give online. If you are able, please consider filling out section 4 on the envelope form, meaning you become a Patron and make a regular gift to support our sick and retired priests. By becoming a Patron, and assuring income to the fund, the Diocese can plan its continued care for our retired and sick priests.

YOUTH CHOIR DIRECTOR

Are you passionate about music and working with young people? Do you have the vision and energy to lead and develop our choir of boys and girls aged 7 and above. This is a unique opportunity to inspire the next generation through music and worship. The parishes are currently advertising for a new Director of our Youth Choir, to take up the position in the new year. For further information please go to <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/>

NEXT YOUTH GROUP MEETS TUESDAY 18TH NOVEMBER AT 6.30PM IN OUR LADYS HALL

Looking forward to seeing some new members - open to anyone in year 7 and above. Parents/guardians please let us know who is coming by messaging 07788 721222.

FAITH & FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Faith and Friendship group will meet at 2.15pm in the small hall on the following Wednesdays: 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.

BLESSING OF GRAVES

On Saturday 22nd November at 2.00pm Fr Dom will be blessing graves at Chorleywood Road Cemetery.

PILGRIM MASS IN WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL AT 2.00PM ON SATURDAY 22ND NOVEMBER

This Mass is open to all, with its theme of pilgrimage appealing to those who have walked the Westminster Way during the year, but also completed other pilgrimages (walking and otherwise), and those who would have liked to have gone on a pilgrimage but have not been able to do so. Westminster Cathedral is itself one of our Jubilee Churches, so the journey there on 22 November could be considered a pilgrimage in itself.

THE CHOSEN CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

We invite you to join us for a Christmas Special on 6th December 5-7pm, where we will be watching two Christmas related videos from The Chosen series and have a discussion afterwards. Please let us know if you would like to join by emailing santoshialles@yahoo.com or feel free to turn up on the day.

THE HISTORY OF SALVATION - TALKS

Sometimes life poses challenges which we don't know how to tackle. You may feel crushed or oppressed, and alone in it. But God sees the sufferings of his people, and comes to save them by his powerful Word. Come to a journey through the Bible, and find that it speaks about your life, too! The course will be led by Fr Dom, and it will take place over 11 weeks on Sundays at 7pm, beginning on January 11th, in Our Lady's Parish Hall.

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.



NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

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.

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

FROM CHESS VALLEY SVP - Helping Sudanese refugees

Because of security and corruption issues the SVP cannot donate directly to Sudan to help deal with their appalling refugee crisis. However the UNHCR is one of the few agencies which can operate there to help with shelter, clean water and food. Please consider donating via this link: <https://donate.unrefugees.org.uk/general/~my-donation>

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.

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

COFFEE MORNINGS

Please join us in the hall after the 8.30am Mass next Sunday 23rd November, for our SVP Coffee Morning.

There will be a Coffee Morning after Mass on Sunday 7th December. Please join us in the hall for a catch up and make new parish friends. Donations go to Our Lady's Building Fund

STAMPS FOR THE MISSIONS

Thank you for saving your stamps for the Missions, the box is in the church porch. Please remember to save your Christmas card and parcel stamps too! Thank you, *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: 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

Our Appeal for the Cardinal Hume Centre for the Homeless peaks this weekend. After Mass today, during our Coffee Morning, thank you Juliet and Rosemary, we will finish off the raffle and Silent Auction, take in further donations and announce all the Winners. Very many thanks and blessings to one and all. Interim results next week. Mary 07795 276728 xx

UPCOMING EVENTS

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 Parish Hall

Sunday 30th November 6pm - Youth Mass at Our Lady's Church

Saturday 6th December 5pm - Chosen Christmas Special at Our Lady's Parish Hall.

Sunday 14th December 3pm - Joint Parishes Christmas Carol Service at St John the Evangelist Church