



### 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](mailto:andrewgallagher@rcdow.org.uk)

#### Assistant Priest:

Fr Dom Matokovic  
[domagojmatokovic@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:domagojmatokovic@rcdow.org.uk)

#### Parish Administrator:

Kerry Van Rensburg  
[rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk)

Francis Holly (Discipleship)

[fgholly@hotmail.com](mailto:fgholly@hotmail.com)

Jo Rodrigues (Faith in Action)

[jorodrigues425@gmail.com](mailto:jorodrigues425@gmail.com)

Lizzie Quinn (Families & Youth)

[elizabeth\\_quinn@icloud.com](mailto:elizabeth_quinn@icloud.com)

Richard Booth (Evangelisation)

[boothrm1925@gmail.com](mailto:boothrm1925@gmail.com)

Address for all correspondence:

5 Park Road, Rickmansworth  
WD3 1HU

Telephone: 01923 773387

 @ChessValleyRC

 ChessValleyParishes

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#### Livestreaming:

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

### SAFEGUARDING REPS.

#### Rickmansworth Parish

Carol Bartlett 01923 773841

[rickmansworthsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworthsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

#### Mill End Parish

TBA

#### Chorleywood Parish

Peter Mackie 07802 229337

[chorleywoods@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:chorleywoods@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

#### Diocesan Safeguarding

Coordinator 0207 798 9356

### YOUTH MINISTRY

Margaret Simon - Youth Ministry

Leadership Team:

[rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk)

Youth Choir Director:

[rickyouthchoir@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickyouthchoir@rcdow.org.uk)

### SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR A) 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2026

### LOVE IN ACTION

In March the first Catholic Social Teaching Principle we will be reflecting on together as part of our Love in Action journey is:

### THE PREFERENTIAL OPTION FOR THE POOR

*"When the Church talks of the preferential option for the poor, it means that we need always to keep in mind how any decision we make might impact the poor."*  
Pope Francis, On Fraternity and Social Friendship

John had never really had to worry about things like food. He could usually take his family on at least one holiday a year, and they always put something in the collection plate on a Sunday. Then the recession happened. His job wasn't affected at first. But then more and more people were made redundant. It's not that he hasn't been looking for work, but there's so little out there for his experience. At first, they made do. Friends and family have been so generous. Then all of a sudden, with such a long wait to receive benefits, they realised that there just wasn't enough money to buy food for the family to live healthily on.

There was a notice in the parish newsletter. They'd started a food bank for people in the local community. At first it was just a few cans of food people brought on a Sunday. Overwhelmed by the generous response, they knew they needed to get more organised. A group came together to work out what sorts of food were needed, and appeals put in the newsletter. They sorted it into boxes ready for families like John's.

John's not found it easy to accept the food package, he's grateful for it. It's made life that much easier when times have been particularly tough.

Who are the poor within our own community, whether visible or invisible?

How do we work alongside one another, learning and growing through the encounter with each person we meet?

How could we support our local parish foodbank better to ensure families like John's do not go without the food they need?

*The Parish Workshop on this theme of Catholic Social Teaching will take place on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March @Our Lady's Parish Hall 6.30pm- 7.30pm*

## FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

|                                  |                                       |   |   |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>SUN 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH</b>  | 9.30am<br>11.30am<br>6.00pm<br>7.15pm | Coffee Morning - Hall<br>Tea & Coffee - Hall<br>Youth Choir sing at Mass<br>The History of Salvation Talks - Hall | Our Lady Help of Christians<br>St John the Evangelist<br>Our Lady Help of Christians<br>Our Lady Help of Christians |
| <b>TUES 3<sup>RD</sup> MARCH</b> | 3.30pm                                | Youth Choir rehearsal   | St John the Evangelist  |
| <b>WED 4<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>  | 7.00pm                                | RCIA - Hall   | Our Lady Help of Christians   |
| <b>THU 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>  | 2.00pm<br>8.00pm                      | SVP Warm Winter Space - Hall<br>Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall  | St John the Evangelist<br>Our Lady Help of Christians   |
| <b>FRI 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>  | 2.00pm<br>7.00pm<br>7.00pm            | World Day of Prayer<br>Stations of the Cross<br>The Chosen - Hall   | St John the Evangelist<br>Our Lady Help of Christians<br>Our Lady Help of Christians                                |
| <b>SUN 8<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>  | 11.30am<br>7.15pm                     | Tea & Coffee - Hall<br>The History of Salvation Talks - Hall  | St John the Evangelist<br>Our Lady Help of Christians   |

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

|  | Our Lady Help of Christians  | St John the Evangelist                     | St John Fisher                                   |
|--|--|--|--|
| <b>SATURDAY</b><br>28 <sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY                           | <b>9.30am</b> Vitor Hugo Alejarra RIP  | <b>6pm</b> For the People of the Parishes  |  |
| <b>SUNDAY</b><br>1 <sup>ST</sup> MARCH<br><i>SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT</i> | <b>8.30am</b> Joe & Jacqueline Grove RIP (Anniv.)<br><b>11am</b> Martin Rowley RIP<br><b>6pm</b> Bridget Ginty RIP | <b>10.30am</b> Mary Viner RIP (Anniv.)     | <b>9am</b> Kitty Finucane RIP (Anniv.)           |
| <b>MONDAY</b><br>2 <sup>ND</sup> MARCH                                 | <b>9.30am</b> Holy Souls (B.B.)  |  |  |
| <b>TUESDAY</b><br>3 <sup>RD</sup> MARCH                                | <b>No Mass Today</b>   |  | <b>9.30am</b> Archbishop Richard Moth (Ints.)    |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b><br>4 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH                              | <b>9.30am</b> David Lawson RIP (5 <sup>th</sup> Anniv.)  | <b>9.30am</b> Holy Souls                   |  |
| <b>THURSDAY</b><br>5 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH                               | <b>9.30am</b> Magi Casellas  |  |  |
| <b>FRIDAY</b><br>6 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH                                 | <b>9.30am</b> Clare Clarke (Ints.)   |  |  |
| <b>SATURDAY</b><br>7 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH                               | <b>9.30am</b> Anne McNamara RIP  | <b>6pm</b> For the People of the Parishes  |  |
| <b>SUNDAY</b><br>8 <sup>TH</sup> MARCH<br><i>THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT</i>  | <b>8.30am</b> Sheila Sharp RIP<br><b>11am</b> Josie & Tony Westhrop RIP (Anniv.)<br><b>6pm</b> Joe McGroarty RIP   | <b>10.30am</b> Patrick Conway RIP (Anniv.) | <b>9am</b> Bridget Cassidy RIP (Anniv.)          |
| <b>EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AND CONFESSION</b>              | <b>Sundays 5pm - 5.40pm</b>  | <b>Saturdays 5pm - 5.40pm</b>              | <b>Confessions on request and by appointment</b> |
| <b>SANCTUARY LAMPS</b>   |  |  |  |

### 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, Alec Ray and Sean.

**St John the Evangelist:** Paul O'Connor, Louise Borg, Sandie Tew 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 Sue Treanor.

## NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

### CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Evie Gardner and Ivy Muirhead who were baptised at Our Lady's on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February.

### PARISH CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED MERGER OF OUR PARISHES

Leaflets giving further details regarding this proposal are available in each of the parishes. Please do take one and read them carefully before giving your feedback via the QR code, our website or the paper feedback forms which can be left in the boxes provided. The Consultation ends on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The praying of Lenten Stations of the Cross will once again circulate around the parishes on a Friday at 7pm as follows.

Our Lady's Rickmansworth: 6<sup>th</sup> March

St John the Evangelist, Mill End: 20<sup>th</sup> March

St John Fisher, Chorleywood: 27<sup>th</sup> March

The devotions will be led by parishioners. We hope that many parishioners from across the three parishes will come and join us for this important aspect of our Lenten spirituality

### DIOCESAN LENTEN APPEAL: "Because we are formed in faith, we are sent in love."

Our annual Lenten Appeal across the Diocese supports one shared mission: helping people encounter Christ and live that faith in love and service. Through Education, Youth & Evangelisation, and Marriage & Family Life, the diocese forms hearts, nurtures faith, and strengthens families within our parishes. Through Social Action, that formed faith reaches outward, ensuring that no one in our communities faces life's hardest moments alone. Your generous support this Lent will enable the Church to continue walking with people at every stage of life and be a visible sign of Christ's love, both within our parishes and among our neighbours. To donate today please visit [www.rcdow.org.uk/LentenAppeal](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/LentenAppeal). Envelopes are available in church. Thank you for your support and for helping our diocesan family to continue this vital work.

### DEANERY MASS OF WELCOME FOR ARCHBISHOP RICHARD MOTH

Archbishop Moth will be touring the diocese celebrating Mass and meeting everyone over the next couple of months. His Mass in the St Albans and Watford Deaneries takes place on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March at 6.30pm at Our Lady and St Michael's Church, Garston. All are welcome to join him for the celebration. If you would like to watch the Installation Mass of Archbishop Moth you can do so via Westminster Cathedral's YouTube channel.

### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER – 6 MARCH 2026 – A WOMEN LED, GLOBAL, ECUMENICAL MOVEMENT

The WDP service has been prepared by the Christian women of Nigeria, with the theme, 'I will give you rest, come'. The service will take place at 2pm on Friday 6 March at St John the Evangelist, Mill End, and will be followed by refreshments. This is not only for women - all are most welcome. This is an opportunity to show solidarity with the Christians of Nigeria where so many face persecution, and also to meet with our local Christian communities in a spirit of prayerful and convivial fellowship. If anyone needs a lift, please contact Geraldine (07725 748490) or Cristina (07470 266284).

### YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

The next meeting of the Young Adults Group, for anyone aged 18 to roughly 35 in our parishes, will be on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March at 7.00pm in the parish hall at Our Lady's. For further details contact Ben at +44 7704 049263.

### QUARANT'ORE (FORTY HOURS)

From 6pm on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March to 12pm on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March we will have perpetual (constant) Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament across our three parishes, giving us an opportunity to pray at all hours of the day before Jesus Christ for the mission of our parishes. The timetable for this will be: **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March** 6pm Mass of Exposition in Mill End; **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March** 12pm Benediction before transfer to Chorleywood; 12.30pm Mass of Exposition in Chorleywood; 5pm Vespers & Benediction before transfer to Rickmansworth; 6pm Mass of Exposition in Rickmansworth; **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March** 12pm Blessed Sacrament Procession & Benediction led by our GIFT Families in Rickmansworth. Please do sign-up and pledge to be present during this time via the sign-up sheets in the Church porches.

### COMBINED FIRE AWARENESS AND HEALTH & SAFETY TRAINING on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April 10am - 12.30pm

Training will take place at Our Lady Help of Christians Parish Hall, Rickmansworth for all volunteers across our parishes. If you are able to attend please let the parish office know via [rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk)

## DIOCESAN NOTICES

### ST JOAN OF ARC CATHOLIC SCHOOL, RICKMANSWORTH

St Joan of Arc is seeking to appoint a new Headteacher. Further details and application information can be found here: <https://www.eteach.com/job/headteacher-1532216>

### ST JOAN OF ARC SCHOOL: LENTEN APPEAL FOR UDAYAN

This Lent, St Joan of Arc School is raising funds for Udayan, a home in India providing care and education for children of families affected by leprosy. The school's goal is to raise £3,000 to provide new bunk beds for the children. We invite parishioners to join the students in this mission of compassion and service. If you would like to make a donation toward a bunk bed, please visit our community page: <https://donate.cityofjoyaiduk.org/campaign/lent2026/team/14/>. Thank you for your generosity and prayers.

### COME & SEE VOCATIONS MORNINGS 2026

A morning for men who may be considering a call to the diaconate or priesthood will take place on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March, 12 noon - 3.30pm - St Bonaventure's Church Hall - 81 Parkway, Welwyn Garden City AL8 6JF. To find out more and to register your attendance please contact: Canon Roger Taylor - Vocations Promoter [rogertaylor@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rogertaylor@rcdow.org.uk) or Deacon Tito Pereira - Assistant Director Permanent Diaconate or [titopereira@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:titopereira@rcdow.org.uk).

### SEEDS OF HOPE - EVANGELISATION DAY

11.00am - 4.00pm Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2026, Our Lady and St Vincent's Parish Hall, Potters Bar. Do you ever feel a desire to share your faith but aren't quite sure how? *Seeds of Hope* is a welcoming day of prayer, inspiration and practical encouragement, helping you grow in confidence to share the hope of Christ with the people God has placed in your life.

## NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

### CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY

This Lent, live out the Gospel call to love your neighbour. By fasting and giving what you save, you join in Christ's compassion and help another family put food on the table. Your donation can help families around the world grow food in difficult conditions – such as on flood-resistant floating gardens or using solar-powered water pumps in times of drought. Collect a CAFOD envelope to bless others with your support, donate online at [cafod.org.uk/envelope](http://cafod.org.uk/envelope) or call 0303 303 3030. Text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10.

### 6<sup>TH</sup> RICKMANSWORTH SEA SCOUT GROUP –

*Spring Jumble Sale & Nearly New* will be held on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March at 10.30am. Our *Book Sale* will be held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March from 7 to 9 pm. Any donations of items can be brought to the Scout HQ behind Our Lady's Church on Thursday/Friday Evenings or collection can be arranged by telephoning – 246169 / 776035. Current and Past Supporters are reminded that help is needed to run these events.

### FAITH & FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Faith and Friendship group will meet at 2.15pm in the small hall on the following Wednesdays: 11<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> March. All welcome to join us and share thoughts with other parishioners over a cup of tea.

### CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY (CAP) COURSES

The new 8 week CAP Life Skills Course starts on 11<sup>th</sup> March at Mill End Baptist Church. For more information and to book your free place please contact: Elaine Hawkings on 07786 608303 or email [elainehawkings@caplifeskills.org](mailto:elainehawkings@caplifeskills.org)

The 2-3 weeks CAP Money Coaching Course starts on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 7.30pm at Mill End Baptist Church. For more information and to book your free place please contact Geoff Hawkings on 07785356678

### 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 is led by Fr Dom on Sundays at 7.15pm in Our Lady's Parish Hall.

### THE CHOSEN SEASON 3

We invite you to join us for Season 3 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 Help of Christians Church Hall to watch an episode followed by discussion.

### WARM WINTER SPACE

Chess Valley SVP will 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](mailto:chessvalleysvp@gmail.com)

## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

### COFFEE MORNING

There will be a Coffee Morning after Mass on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March. Please join us in the hall for a catch up and make new parish friends. Thank you for your generous donations - we've raised £165 for 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. Thank you, Sheila H

## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

### CHILDRENS LITURGY

Children's liturgy will take place on the following dates: 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> March (Palm Sunday).

### PARISH SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS

If you have any Safeguarding concerns in the parish whilst we await the appointment of our new Parish Safeguarding Representative, please contact either Fr Andrew or the diocesan safeguarding team via [safeguarding@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcdow.org.uk)

## ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

### MISSIO, APF, RED BOX

Missio, APF, Red Box Collections for our Missionaries who look after the poorest people in the world. Please could you let me have your donations by the middle of March. New donors very welcome. Many thanks and blessings, Mary 07795 276728 xx

## UPCOMING EVENTS

6<sup>th</sup> March 2pm World Day of Prayer Service at St John the Evangelist.  
12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> March Quarant-Ore Forty Hours Devotion  
28<sup>th</sup> March 2pm CAFOD Lenten Walk (10km) - St John the Evangelist  
17<sup>th</sup> May after 11am Mass Rickmansworth Marian Procession  
7<sup>th</sup> June after 10.30am Mass Mill End Corpus Christi Procession  
21<sup>st</sup> June after 9am Mass Chorleywood St John Fisher Procession  
12<sup>th</sup> July 12.30pm - 3pm Brass on the Grass Social Event