



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

TBA

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:

rickyyouthchoir@rcdow.org.uk

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (YEAR A) 29TH MARCH 2026

LOVE IN ACTION

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

DIGNITY AND EQUALITY OF EACH HUMAN PERSON

"Grant that we Christians may live the Gospel, discovering Christ in each human being"
Pope Francis, On Fraternity and Social Friendship

Sarah has long been retired and has been a parishioner at St Philomena's Church for most of her life. Her children moved away many years ago. Many of her friends have died, and those who still live close by struggle, like her, to get out of the house on a day-to-day basis. Every day she prays for those she knows, and looks forward to Mary coming once a week to give her Communion. It makes her feel like she's still part of the parish.

Six months ago, an older people's group started to meet on the first Sunday of the month at a different person's house for afternoon tea. Martin calls around to pick Sarah up, along with Nadine and Bill. Martin's always got a story to tell, walks Sarah to the car and back again. When they all get together they can't help but share stories of times gone by, have a good laugh, and share some of the struggles they're experiencing. Sarah feels valued and knows that she has love and support.

In God's family, where all are sons and daughters of the same Father, and, because they are grafted to Christ, sons and daughters in the Son, there are no "disposable lives". All men and women enjoy an equal and inviolable dignity. All are loved by God. All have been redeemed by the blood of Christ, who died on the Cross and rose for all. This is the reason why no one can remain indifferent before the lot of our brothers and sisters."

Pope Francis, Message for the World Day of Prayer for Peace 2014

Who are the people in our own community who are neglected?

How might we put love into action and value their inner dignity?

The Parish Workshop on this theme of Catholic Social Teaching will take place on Thursday 23rd April @Our Lady's Parish Hall 6.30pm- 7.30pm

Our Parish Prayer

God our Father, we thank You for calling our parish communities together as one family who share the gift of our Catholic faith.

Jesus, may we grow in our relationship with You as we encounter You in prayer, listen to You in the Scriptures, and adore You in the Eucharist.

Holy Spirit, transform us into true missionary disciples who fan Your flame as we serve our neighbours with faith, hope and love.

God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit –
unite us and inspire us to share the Good News of Your saving love in our homes, schools, places of work and local communities.

We ask this in Your name. **Amen.**

FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

SUN 29TH MARCH	11.30am	Tea & Coffee - Hall	St John the Evangelist
MON 30TH MARCH	10.00am 7.00pm	Holy Hour and Confessions Holy Hour and Confessions	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians
TUES 31ST MARCH	12 noon	Chrism Mass https://westminstercathedral.org.uk/spiritual-life/watch-a-mass/	Westminster Cathedral
THU 2ND APRIL	2.00pm	SVP Warm Winter Space - Hall	St John the Evangelist
FRI 3RD APRIL	9.30am 11.00am 7.00pm	Good Friday Workshop – Hall Walk of Witness Stations of the Cross	St John the Evangelist Chorleywood Village Crossroads Our Lady Help of Christians

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

	Our Lady Help of Christians	St John the Evangelist	St John Fisher
SATURDAY 28 TH MARCH	9.30am Kathleen Jardine RIP	6pm For the People of the Parishes	
SUNDAY 29 TH MARCH <i>PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD</i>	8.30am Special Intention 11am For the People of the Parishes <i>(beginning with blessing of Palms at Calvary Cross Garden)</i> 6pm Jim O'Brien RIP	10.30am For the People of the Parishes <i>(beginning with blessing of Palms from top of Field Way)</i>	9am Malcolm Stacey RIP
MONDAY 30 TH MARCH	9.30am Mike Eaton RIP		
TUESDAY 31 ST MARCH	NO MASS TODAY		NO MASS TODAY
WEDNESDAY 1 ST APRIL	9.30am Holy Souls	9.30am For Peace in the World	
THURSDAY 2ND APRIL <i>THURSDAY OF THE LORD'S SUPPER (MAUNDY THURSDAY)</i>	NO MORNING MASS 8pm For the People of the Parishes		8pm For the People of the Parishes
FRIDAY 3RD APRIL <i>FRIDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (GOOD FRIDAY)</i>	3pm Celebration of the Passion of the Lord	11.00am Good Friday Family Service	3pm Celebration of the Passion of the Lord
SATURDAY 4TH APRIL <i>HOLY SATURDAY</i>	NO MORNING MASS 8.30pm For the People of the Parishes	NO MASS TODAY	
SUNDAY 5 TH APRIL <i>EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD</i>	8.30am John Reid RIP (Anniv.) 11am Teresa Hukowski RIP & Sean Prunty RIP NO EVENING MASS	10.30am For the People of the Parishes	9am For the People of the Parishes
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, 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 and Sandie Tew.

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 Ben and Sabrina Sadler who were married in Our Lady's Church on Friday 27th March. May they be blessed with many years of happiness and be a witness and reminder to us of God's faithful love, made present in the sacrament of their marriage.

THE VEILING OF CROSSES AND STATUES

From the Fifth Sunday of Lent until the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday the crosses and statues of our churches are veiled in purple cloths. The veiling of crosses and images is a sort of "fasting" from sacred depictions which represent the paschal glory of our salvation. Just as the Lenten fast concludes with the Paschal feast, so too, our fasting from the cross culminates in an adoration of the holy wood on which the sacrifice of Calvary was offered for our sins. Likewise, a fasting from the glorious images of the mysteries of faith and the saints in glory culminates on the Easter night with a renewed appreciation of the glorious victory won by Christ, risen from the tomb to win for us eternal life.

EASTER OFFERING

The offering at the Easter Masses is your personal gift to your priests. The Easter and Christmas offerings, together with the stole fees and Mass stipends form the personal income paid by the parishes to Fr Andrew and Fr Dom. If you wish to make an Easter offering, you can do so via BACS, or through the parish websites using the Donate tab. Please reference this as 'Easter Offering'. If you use Planned Giving Envelopes please use the one marked Easter Offering. Thank you.

GOOD FRIDAY

Good Friday is a day of abstinence and fasting. At the Good Friday Service, at all three parishes, there will be a retiring collection for the support of the holy places of our faith in the Holy Land.

GOOD FRIDAY WORKSHOP: 3rd April 9.30am at St John's Church, Mill End

A morning of crafts and activities for primary aged children based around the events of Good Friday. This will be followed by our 11am Family Service which the children will help us to lead. All are welcome. To register your children please email rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk stating your child's name, age and your contact phone number. This will allow us to ensure we have enough resources for the morning.

HOLY HOUR FOR THE DIGNITY OF HUMAN LIFE

We will have a Holy Hour from 4.30pm on Sunday 19 April at Our Lady, Rickmansworth uniting our prayers with the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales who will also be praying for this important issue whilst in Rome together. Please make every effort to join us.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Planned Giving envelopes are available for collection from the sacristy this weekend.

NEW MEN'S GROUP - SAVE THE DATE

We are proposing to start a new men's group for the three parishes to encourage social interaction, exchange of ideas, prayer and mutual support. Francis Holly (St John Fisher and SLT) is launching this with a meeting on Tuesday 14th April at 8pm at the Old Shepherd in Chorleywood. Please email Francis to register your interest: fgholly@hotmail.com

COMBINED FIRE AWARENESS AND HEALTH & SAFETY TRAINING on Saturday 18th 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

PRAYER AND LIFE WORKSHOPS

A new season of Prayer and Life Workshops will take place weekly from Wednesday 22nd April at 7pm at St John the Evangelist's Parish Hall. 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. Further details can be found on our website: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/rickmansworth/parish-groups/prayer-and-life-workshops/> Do consider this life-changing and spiritually enriching workshop to help you grow in faith. Please bring a bible, pen & notebook. All are welcome.

PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND LED BY FR ANDREW GALLAGHER, 28TH SEPTEMBER – 2ND OCTOBER 2026

Visiting Krakow, The Salt Mine in Wieliczka, Wadowice – the birthplace of Pope St John Paul II, The Divine Mercy Basilica in Lagiewniki, and the Marian Shrine in Czestochowa. The pilgrimage also includes a visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau remembering those who died during the Holocaust including St Maximilian Kolbe. Price: £799 plus flights. For full details please contact the parish office.

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.

DIOCESAN NOTICES

ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY at Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 23rd May 2026 at 2.30pm.

Archbishop Richard is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2026. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give the parish office the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and contact email (or telephone number, if no email).

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

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

CWL members will be collecting items to assemble into PACT Packs - practical bundles of essential items for people being released from prison with very few possessions. These packs are intended to offer a seed of comfort and provide basic necessities until further support can be arranged through their probation officer. The packs will be distributed via PACT (Prison Advice and Care Trust). Crates will be placed at the back of the churches over the next few weeks. We are collecting: toothbrushes, toothpaste, combs, face flannels, liquid soap, shampoo, deodorant, men's underpants (M, L, XL), women's underpants (sizes 14 or 18), notebooks, pens, socks, scarves. We are able to purchase thermal woolly hats at low cost, so financial donations are also very welcome. Thank you for your generosity and support.

FAITH & FRIENDSHIP GROUP

Faith and Friendship group will meet at 2.15pm in the small hall on the following Wednesdays: 8th & 22nd April, 13th & 27th May and 10th & 24th June. All welcome to join us and share thoughts with other parishioners over a cup of tea.

WARM WINTER SPACE

The last session for a Warm Winter Space provided by Chess Valley SVP will take place next Thursday 2nd April in the church hall at St John the Evangelist, Mill End. We hope to resume providing a warm space for all those who wish to come along for a hot drink and friendly company in October.

MILL END FOOD BANK

There is a current shortage of the following items: Tinned vegetables in greatest need, long life milk, juice/squash, rice pudding and cereal. **Please ensure that food items donated are not out of date.** Non food items: shampoo, shower gel, laundry products, deodorant, toothpaste. Items can be placed in the boxes provided at the back of each church.

SVP COMMUNITY LUNCH

Chess Valley SVP will host their Community lunch every 3rd Sunday of the month at 12.30pm in the hall of St John the Evangelist. 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.

THINKING ABOUT GETTING MARRIED?

Please be aware that if you are planning to get married it takes at least 6 months to prepare for this to take place in the Catholic Church. Please contact the parish office if you would like more information.

OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

11AM CHOIR

Would you like to sing in the 11am choir? We practise from 10am most Sundays, and are now working towards Easter. It's a lovely way to contribute to the Mass - no experience needed, and you don't need to read music. See Cormac before or after Mass any Sunday, or just turn up!

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 29th 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

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

MISSIO/APF/RED BOX HOLDERS

Huge thanks to our small band of donors for our Missionaries around the world. This March quarter we have raised the sum of £232.30. I think this is the highest ever amount for an individual March quarter for us!! New donors very welcome, call Mary Latimer 07795 276728 xx

UPCOMING EVENTS

17th May after 11am Mass Rickmansworth Marian Procession
7th June after 10.30am Mass Mill End Corpus Christi Procession
21st June after 9am Mass Chorleywood St John Fisher Procession
12th July 12.30pm - 3pm Brass on the Grass Social Event