



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)

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5 Park Road, Rickmansworth  
WD3 1HU  
Telephone: 01923 773387

 @ChessValleyRC

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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**  
Anjali Kemwal-Button  
[millendsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:millendsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

**Chorleywood Parish**  
Peter Mackie 07802 229337  
[chorleywoodsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:chorleywoodsg@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)

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (YEAR A) 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2026

### The Gospel of Peace

The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales met at the English College's Convento Palazzola just outside Rome from 18-23 April for a one-day plenary assembly and week-long ongoing formation as Pope Leo XIV followed his Apostolic Journey through Africa to its conclusion. They issued this statement as a sign of solidarity with the Holy Father, asking for Catholics to pray with them for an enduring peace with justice in the world's conflict zones:

“We stand in solidarity with the Holy Father in his sustained witness and unshakeable commitment to the Gospel of Peace.

“We embrace our responsibility to act as bridge-builders and peacemakers and call upon the faithful, whom we serve in the dioceses of England and Wales, to join us in redoubling our prayers and advocacy for peace and justice.

“We pray that the leaders of all peoples at war open their minds and hearts to the dialogue and encounter necessary to attain a peace which disarms and endures.

“Hope is central to our Christian faith. In Eastertide, we are reminded that we are called to build a future sustained by the Risen Christ. As Pope Leo said in Equatorial Guinea:

‘There is hunger for a future imbued with hope that is capable of engendering a new sense of justice and producing fruits of peace and fraternity. This is not an unknown future that we must passively await, but rather one that we ourselves are called to build with God’s grace.’” ([Homily of His Holiness Pope Leo XIV](#), 22 April 2026.)

### Prayer for Peace of Pope Saint John XXIII

Lord Jesus Christ,  
who are called the Prince of Peace,  
who are yourself our peace and reconciliation,  
who so often said,  
“Peace to you,”  
grant us peace.

Make all men and women witnesses of truth,  
justice, and brotherly love.

Banish from their hearts whatever might endanger peace.

Enlighten our rulers that they may guarantee  
and defend the great gift of peace.

May all peoples of the earth become as brothers and sisters.

May longed-for peace blossom forth  
and reign always over us all.

Amen

## FROM THE PARISH DIARIES

|                                |                            |   |  |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---|--|
| <b>SUN 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b> | 11.00am<br>11.30am         | First Holy Communion - Lucy Noble & William Deardon<br>Tea & Coffee - Hall      | Our Lady Help of Christians<br>St John the Evangelist                                |
| <b>WED 12<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b> | 8.00pm                     | Men's Group   | Our Lady Help of Christians  |
| <b>WED 13<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b> | 2.15pm<br>7.00pm<br>7.00pm | Faith & Friendship Group - Hall<br>Prayer & Life Workshop - Hall<br>RCIA - Hall | Our Lady Help of Christians<br>St John the Evangelist<br>Our Lady Help of Christians |
| <b>THU 14<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b> | 12 noon<br>8.00pm          | Wedding - Amy Houlihan & Jack Prunty<br>Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall  | Our Lady Help of Christians<br>Our Lady Help of Christians                           |
| <b>SUN 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY</b> | 12 noon<br>12.30pm         | Marian Procession and Picnic<br>SVP Community Lunch - Hall                      | Our Lady Help of Christians<br>St John the Evangelist                                |

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

|  | <b>Our Lady Help of Christians</b>  | <b>St John the Evangelist</b>                    | <b>St John Fisher</b>                                |
|--|---|--|--|
| <b>SATURDAY</b><br>9 <sup>TH</sup> MAY                                       | <b>11.00am</b> Pauline Harrison RIP   | <b>6pm</b> Mavis Livingston RIP<br>(Anniv.)      |  |
| <b>SUNDAY</b><br>10 <sup>TH</sup> MAY<br><i>SIXTH SUNDAY OF<br/>EASTER</i>   | <b>8.30am</b> Screeche Powell Family<br>(Ints.)<br><b>11am</b> Alec Ray RIP<br><b>6pm</b> Ann Cassidy RIP                   | <b>10.30am</b> For the People of the<br>Parishes | <b>9am</b> Rosanna Hanson RIP                        |
| <b>MONDAY</b><br>11 <sup>TH</sup> MAY  | <b>9.30am</b> Holy Souls (B.B.)   |  |  |
| <b>TUESDAY</b><br>12 <sup>TH</sup> MAY                                       | <b>9.30am</b> Holy Souls (B.B.)   |  | <b>9.30am</b> Andrew Young (Ints.)                   |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b><br>13 <sup>TH</sup> MAY                                     | <b>9.30am</b> For Vocations to the<br>Priesthood  | <b>9.30am</b> John-Paul & Annie<br>(Ints.)       | <b>7pm</b> Joan Ryan RIP                             |
| <b>THURSDAY</b> 14 <sup>TH</sup> MAY<br><i>THE ASCENSION OF<br/>THE LORD</i> | <b>9.30am</b> Andrew Dumughn RIP<br>(Anniv.)<br><b>7pm</b> For the People of the<br>Parishes                                | <b>11am</b> For the People of the<br>Parishes    |  |
| <b>FRIDAY</b><br>15 <sup>TH</sup> MAY  | <b>9.30am</b> Eric Walsh RIP & Iris<br>Walsh RIP  |  |  |
| <b>SATURDAY</b><br>16 <sup>TH</sup> MAY                                      | <b>9.30am</b> For our GIFT Families   | <b>6pm</b> For the People of the<br>Parishes     |  |
| <b>SUNDAY</b><br>17 <sup>TH</sup> MAY<br><i>SEVENTH SUNDAY OF<br/>EASTER</i> | <b>8.30am</b> Screeche Powell Family<br>(Ints.)<br><b>11am</b> Alec Ray RIP<br><b>6pm</b> Ann Cassidy RIP                   | <b>10.30am</b> For the People of the<br>Parishes | <b>9am</b> For the People of the<br>Parishes         |
| <b>SANCTUARY LAMPS</b>   | This week both our Sanctuary<br>Lamps (Blessed Sacrament & Our<br>Lady's) burn for Teresa Hukowski<br>RIP & Sean Prunty RIP |  |  |
| <b>EXPOSITION OF THE<br/>BLESSED SACRAMENT<br/>AND CONFESSION</b>            | <b>Sundays 5pm - 5.40pm</b>   | <b>Saturdays 5pm - 5.40pm</b>                    | <b>Confessions on request and by<br/>appointment</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, Pauline Williams, Gloria Warmington, Veronica Finnegan Mark & Janet Kirwan, Ann Aldridge, 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

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Congratulations to Lucy Noble and William Dardon who made their First Holy Communion this Sunday at the 11.00am Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians. Please keep Lucy and William and their families in your prayers.

### ASCENSION DAY

The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord is on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Masses will be taking place on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm in Chorleywood (Vigil), and on Thursday at 9.30am and 7.00pm in Rickmansworth and 11.00am in Mill End.

### UPDATE ON THE PROPOSED MERGER OF OUR PARISHES

Thank you to all those who contributed to our consultation regarding the canonical merger of our three parishes earlier in the year. From the feedback we have received, there is a clear agreement to move forward with the merger. The next stage of the journey is for Fr Andrew to present the proposal to the Council of Priests before it is then put to the Archbishop of Westminster to confirm. We are currently waiting to hear when the next Council of Priests will be meeting for this presentation to be made, but we will update the parishes when this takes place.

### PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS

Archbishop Richard has launched a month-long campaign of Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood. This week the Archbishop asks us in particular to pray for **seminarians in their formation**. Do make use of the times of exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in our parishes and pray the rosary in particular for this intention over the coming week.

### PRAYER AND LIFE WORKSHOPS

Prayer and Life Workshops takes place weekly on a Wednesday 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.

### MEN'S GROUP

On Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May the parishes' men's group will meet at 8pm in Our Lady's Church for prayer and a short talk on 'Manhood in the Church' given by Fr Dom, followed by an informal drink in a pub. The invitation is extended to all adult men across our parishes, with no age limit. For further details, please contact Francis on [fgholly@hotmail.com](mailto:fgholly@hotmail.com)

### FAITH & FRIENDSHIP GROUP

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

### YOUTH GROUP

The next youth group meeting will be on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 6.30pm - 8pm at Our Lady's. All those on secondary school are welcome. Please let us know who is going by messaging 07788 721222

### PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND LED BY FR ANDREW GALLAGHER, 28<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER – 2<sup>ND</sup> 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.

### GIFT AID

Thank you to everyone who has Gift-Aided their offering. Gift Aid adds 25p to the value of every £1 given, at no extra cost to you. If you are a UK tax payer and would like to Gift Aid your offering please contact Kerry. Please let us know if your tax circumstances have changed (2025/26 tax year) so that we do not ask for a tax refund if you haven't paid the associated tax. We will also need to know if you have changed your address recently.

### 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.** 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

### MARRIAGE SUPPORT

From relationships that are 'Just in a Rut', needing some refreshment or more serious issues - if you are open to try again – Retrouvaille could be the solution. To find out more: [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk) +44 797 338 0443.

### DETONATE 2026

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July at the Russell School. We are excited to invite you to the 25<sup>th</sup> Detonate. You can pre-register your child, one form per child. Booking goes live on Sunday May 9<sup>th</sup> at 10am, when you submit the form with payment. Please ask if you require help with a bursary. Booking forms and other information can be found on the web site [detonate.org.uk](http://detonate.org.uk) If any teenagers or adults feel able to volunteer you would be very welcome and can apply in the Team section on the web site.

### WESTMINSTER DIOCESE JOB VACANCIES

Please visit our website at <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/> where you can view the latest vacancies.

## NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

### **SAFEGUARDING**

Being alert to matters of Safeguarding (ensuring the care and welfare of children and vulnerable adults) is something to which we are all invited to attend. There are information posters at the back of church - including warning signs to look out for, contact numbers and websites for information and support.

### **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](mailto: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.

### **SVP COMMUNITY LUNCH**

Chess Valley SVP will host their Community lunch every 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

### **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 GIFT AID ENVELOPES**

Should you wish to donate to your local SVP Conference and would like this to be gift aided then please use the Gift Aid envelopes you will find in the entrance porch of the three Parishes. This can then be handed to Fr Andrew or Fr Dom or popped through the letterbox at Our Lady's. Cheques should be made payable to Chess Valley SVP. Thank you for your support.

## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS - NOTICES

### **BANK HOLIDAY BIG HELP OUT**

Thank you to all those who took part in our Bank Holiday Big Help Out on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May - a great deal of effort was put into this and the grounds look much better.

### **MARIAN PROCESSION**

Our annual Marian Procession and parish picnic will take place once again after the 11am Mass on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May. Tea and coffee will be provided by our Faith and Friendship Group. All members of our parishes are welcome to come and join the community for this great tradition.

### **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: 10<sup>th</sup> May, 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> June, 5<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> July.

## ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

### **RAFFLE AND SILENT AUCTION IN AID OF THE CARDINAL HUME CENTRE FOR THE HOMELESS**

There are three Sundays to buy raffle tickets, bid in the Silent Auction, and bring your donations etc. Draws and winners announced at the coffee and cake morning in the lounge on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May after Mass. Thank you very much for all your support, Mary 07795 276728 xx

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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  
9<sup>th</sup> September - Annual Parishes Meeting