

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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ChessValleyParishes

ChessValleyParishes

Livestreaming:
https://www.churchservices.tv/rickmansworth

SAFEGUARDING REPS.

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Mill End Parish
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Chorleywood Parish
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Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator 0207 798 9356

YOUTH MINISTRY

Margaret Simon - Youth Ministry Leadership Team:
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Roseanna Dunn - Youth Choir Director:
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29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YEAR A) 18TH OCTOBER 2026

One in Christ, united in mission (Part I)

For World Mission Day 2026, which marks the centenary of a celebration established by Pius XI that is very dear to the Church, I have chosen the theme "One in Christ, united in mission." Following the Jubilee Year, I wish to encourage the whole Church to continue its missionary journey with joy and zeal in the Holy Spirit. This requires hearts united in Christ, reconciled communities and, in everyone, a willingness to cooperate with generosity and trust.

As we reflect on being *one in Christ* and *united in mission*, let us allow ourselves to be guided and inspired by divine grace, "to renew in ourselves the fire of our missionary vocation" and advance together in the commitment to evangelization, in this "new missionary age" in the history of the Church.

1. One in Christ – Missionary disciples united in him and with our brothers and sisters

The mystery of union with Christ lies at the heart of mission. Before his Passion, Jesus prayed to the Father, "that they may all be one. As you, Father, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us" (*Jn* 17:21). These words reveal Jesus' deepest desire, as well as the identity of the Church as a community of his disciples. That is, a communion that flows from the Trinity, and continues to be sustained by the Trinity. A communion at the service of fraternity among all human beings and harmony with all creation.

Being a Christian is not primarily about practices or ideas; it is a life in union with Christ, in which we share in his filial relationship with the Father in the Holy Spirit. It means abiding in Christ, like branches on the vine (cf. *Jn* 15:4), immersed in the life of the Trinity. This union gives rise to mutual communion among believers and is the source of all missionary fruitfulness. Indeed, just as Saint John Paul II taught, "communion represents both the source and the fruit of mission" (Apostolic Exhortation *Christifideles Laici*, 32).

In this context, the Church's primary missionary responsibility is to renew and sustain spiritual and fraternal unity among its members. In many situations, we encounter conflicts, polarization, misunderstandings and a lack of mutual trust. When this occurs even within our communities, it undermines our witness. The evangelizing mission that Christ entrusted to his disciples requires, above all, hearts that are reconciled and eager for communion. Consequently, it is important to intensify ecumenical efforts with all Christian Churches, building upon the opportunities arising from the joint celebration of the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea.

Last but not least, being "one in Christ" calls us to keep our gaze fixed on the Lord, so that he may truly be at the centre of our lives and communities, the centre of every word, action and interpersonal relationship, leading us to say with amazement: "It is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me" (*Gal* 2:20). By constantly listening to his word and through the grace of the Sacraments, it will be possible for us to become living stones in the Church. Today, the Church is called to take up the fundamental themes of the Second Vatican Council and the subsequent Papal Magisterium, in particular that of Pope Francis. In fact, as Saint Paul says, "we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord" (*2 Cor* 4:5). For this reason, I reiterate the words of Saint Paul VI: "There is no true evangelization if the name, the teaching, the life, the promises, the kingdom and the mystery of Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of God are not proclaimed" (Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, 22). This process of genuine evangelization begins in the heart of every Christian in order to reach all of humanity. Therefore, the more united we are in Christ, the better able we will be to carry out together the mission that he entrusts to us.

Extract from Message of His Holiness Pope Leo XIV for the 100th World Mission Day, 18th October 2026.

From the Parish Diaries

Sun 18th October	11.30am 12.30pm	Tea & Coffee after Mass - Hall SVP Community Lunch - Hall	St John the Evangelist St John the Evangelist
Tue 20th October	3.30pm 7.00pm	Youth Choir Young Adults Social - Hall	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
Thu 22nd October	2.00pm 7.15pm 8.00pm	Warm Spaces - Hall Christian Meditation - Hall Life in the Spirit Prayer Group - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians Our Lady Help of Christians St John the Evangelist
Fri 23rd October	7.00pm	The Chosen - Hall	Our Lady Help of Christians
Sat 24th October	11.15am 6.45pm	Baptism - Laura Sheeran Quiz Night	St John the Evangelist Our Lady Help of Christians
Sun 25th October	9.30am 11.30am	SVP Coffee Morning - Hall Tea & Coffee after Mass - 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
Sat 17th October ***St Ignatius of Antioch***	**9.30am** Mary & Evandro Girolami RIP	**6pm** Caroline & Robert Mathie (40th Wedding Anniv.)	
Sunday 18th October ***29th Sunday in Ordinary Time***	**8.30am** W H (Bill) Osgood RIP (Anniv.) **11am** Cecilia Netto RIP **6pm** Glynn Johnson RIP	**10.30am** Seamus Gallagher RIP (Anniv.)	**9am** For the People of the Parishes
Monday 19th October	**9.30am** Susan Rollins RIP (4th Anniv.)		
Tuesday 20th October	**9.30am** Conway Families (Ints.)		**9.30am** For the Sick and Housebound of the Parishes
Wednesday 21st October	**9.30am** Ken Quinn RIP	**9.30am** Philip O'Driscoll (Ints.)	
Thursday 22nd October	**9.30am** Holy Souls (B.B.)		
Friday 23rd October	**9.30am** Special Intention		
Saturday 24th October	**9.30am** Patrick Conway (Ints.)	**6pm** Grace Haddad RIP	
Sunday 25th October ***30th Sunday in Ordinary Time***	**8.30am** Special Intention **11am** Frazer Bradshaw RIP **6pm** Glynn Johnson RIP	**10.30am** For the People of the Parishes	**9am** Niko Fischer RIP
Sanctuary Lamps	This week our Sanctuary Lamps burn for Siobhan Kavanagh (Ints.) (Blessed Sacrament) & Kelsey Smith RIP (Our Lady's)		
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 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 and Edith Moid.

NOTICES FOR ALL THREE PARISHES

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Victoria and Matthew Sperling who were married in Our Lady's Church on Friday 16th October and to Alisha & Dawid Gorski who were married in Our Lady's Church on Saturday 17th October. 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.

GRACE HADDAD RIP

The funeral of Grace Haddad will take place at St Anthony's in Edgware at 12.30pm on Wednesday 21st October. We commend her to the love and mercy of the Lord and pray for her family at this sad and difficult time.

YOUTH CHOIR - WELCOMING NEW SINGERS

As we enter into a new academic year, the Youth Choir is welcoming new members aged 7+. The choir rehearses from 3.30-4.45pm on a Tuesday afternoon at St John the Evangelist, Mill End and sings one Mass a month at either St John's Parish or Our Lady's Parish. The choir provides an excellent opportunity for young singers to develop their voice and faith in tandem. If your child is interested in joining the choir, please email Roseanna (rickyyouthchoir@rcdow.org.uk) for further details. We would be delighted to see many new singers this term!

ALTAR SERVERS ALBS

We are very blessed that we now have 35 young Altar Servers across our parishes assisting our priests at Mass. However, with this increase we are in need of some new Albs for them to wear. One Alb costs at least £40. If anyone would like to make a donation to go towards the costs of these vestments we would be most grateful. Donations can be made via a BACs payment with a reference of 'servers albs' via the details on our parish website.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY - 18th October

This Sunday, the Holy Father invites all Catholics to support Missio – his 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, use the Missio envelopes, call 020 7821 9755 (office hours) or visit missio.org.uk to give a gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation if possible.

YOUNG ADULTS SOCIAL

The next meeting of the Young Adults Group, for anyone aged 18 to roughly 35 in our parishes, will be on Tuesday 20th October at 7pm in the parish hall at Our Lady's. For further details contact Ben at +44 7704 049263.

ST JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL OPEN DAYS

Tuesday 20th October 9.30am - 10.30am. Wednesday 18th November 1.30pm - 2.30pm; Thursday 10th December 9.30am - 10.30am, Tuesday 12th January 9.30am - 10.30am. Book your place by visiting stjohns705.eventbrite.co.uk

GIFT YOUTH

GIFT Youth meet once a month on Sundays from 4pm-5.45pm for all those in Year 7 and above. The next session will be on 1st November at Our Lady's Parish Hall. You can register your child for this via the QR Code. Please do encourage your children to come to **GIFT Youth** so they can be part of a community which will support them over the coming years in discovering God's plan for them.

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

MASS FOR DECEASED PARISHIONERS

On Saturday 7th 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 14th November 2.00pm at Woodcock Hill Cemetery; Sunday 15th November 2.00pm Chorleywood Road Cemetery and Saturday 21st November at 2.00pm at Chorleywood Lawn Cemetery.

HOUSEBOUND PARISHIONERS

If you are housebound and living locally to the parish and would like a visit or for someone to bring you Holy Communion, please do contact the parish office and let us know on: 01923 773387 or rickmansworth@rcdow.org.uk

DIOCESAN NOTICES

GRACEMEET

GraceMeet is a new Catholic matchmaking service built by a young Catholic in London for single adults seriously seeking marriage. There is no swiping. Each week an AI suggests a small number of carefully chosen matches based on faith, values and life stage, every profile is identity verified, and the service is free while in its early stages. Find out more at gracemeetapp.com.

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 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.

6TH RICKMANSWORTH 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

FAITH & FRIENDSHIP GROUP
Faith and Friendship group will meet at 2.15pm in the small hall on the following Wednesdays: 28th October, 11th & 25th November and 9th December. All welcome to join us and share thoughts with other parishioners over a cup of tea.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUP
Will meet on Thursday 22nd October (not Monday) evening from 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start in the small hall for about an hour. We meditate together for 20 minutes and then reflect on a reading about Christian meditation. For further information please contact Anne Jaxa-Chamiec annej_c@icloud.com or on 07810805900.

WARM WINTER SPACE
Chess Valley SVP provide 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 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: Jam, Pasta Sauce, Long life milk/squash, tinned fruit, biscuits and cereal. **Please ensure that food items donated are not out of date.** Non food items: shampoo, shower gel, washing up liquid, hand soap, toothpaste. **We have lots of pasta & baked beans so not these items please**. 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 26th October.

COFFEE MORNINGS
Please join us in the hall after the 8.30am Mass on Sunday 25th October for our SVP Coffee Morning. There will be a Coffee Morning after Mass on Sunday 1st November. Please join us in the hall for a catch up and make new parish friends. Donations go to Our Lady's Building Fund.

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST - NOTICES

ROOF WORKS
Work is due to be completed by 19th October. The expected costs of the work will be around £200,000. We are grateful to all parishioners who have so far donated what they can to assist the parish. If anyone else is able to make a donation to assist us we would be very grateful, and this can be done via the parish website donation page, or through the parish office.

ST JOHN FISHER - NOTICES

CARDINAL HUME CENTRE FOR THE HOMELESS
Our Autumn Raffle, Silent Auction and Coffee and Cake morning will be on Sunday 22nd November. Please search out your spare bottles, toiletries, unloved gifts, items for the Silent Auction, broken (and whole) Jewellery, gold and silver items, old coins! Also, of course, your very generous donations are so much appreciated. The raffle table has started. Love Mary 07795 276728 xx

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday 24th October 7.30pm – Quiz Night, Our Lady's Parish Hall (doors open at 6.45pm)
Saturday 7th November 11am – Mass for Deceased Parishioners
Saturday 14th November 2.00pm – Blessing of Graves at Woodcock Hill Cemetery
Sunday 15th November 2.00pm – Blessing of Graves at Chorleywood Road Cemetery
Saturday 21st November 2.00pm – Blessing of Graves at Chorleywood Lawn Cemetery.
Sunday 6th December 11.30am to 1pm - Christmas Fair, St John the Evangelist, Mill End
Sunday 13th December 3pm Joint Parishes Christmas Carol Service