

**Mass Intentions for week beginning 26th December 2015**

Sat 26	THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH	6.00pm	Mass Sheila Eales RIP ( <i>anniv.</i> ) The People of the Parish
Sun 27		10.00am 12noon	
Mon 28	WITHIN THE OCTAVE	10.00am	Valentine Tay RIP ( <i>anniv.</i> )
Tue 29	ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY, BP & M.	10.00am	Intentions of Roland & Madeleine Selvini ( <i>70th Wedding Anniversary</i> )
Wed 30	WITHIN THE OCTAVE	10.00am	Phillip Howard Nguyen Lieu RIP
Thur 31	WITHIN THE OCTAVE	10.00am	Connie Liddard RIP ( <i>1st ann.</i> ) / Bill Wakefield RIP ( <i>ann.</i> )
Fri 1/1	SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD	10.00am	Geoffrey Hatfield RIP ( <i>ann.</i> ) / Andrew Jeffreys RIP ( <i>ann.</i> )
Sat 2	SS. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen	<i>No Rosary / no morning Mass</i>	
Sat 2	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD	6.00pm	Mass The People of the Parish Aldo & Zelinda Poli RIP
Sun 3		10.00am 12noon	

**Confessions this Saturday 5.30 – 5.45pm**

***Your prayers are asked for the sick and housebound, especially:***

Roland & Madeleine Selvini, John Liddard, Jones Bediako-Antwi-Benneh, Leslie Cook, Trevor Barnham, Ann Dunseath, Christopher Johnstone, Josie D'alters, Christina Whiting, Anne Purcell, Ken Stanton, Kathleen Simpson, Pamela Allen, Grace Lobendhan, Marcus Prospert, Eoin Oliver, Bob Edgar, Peggy Gajewski, Victor Francis, Sid Parker, Agnes Warren, Mary Evelyn Piotrowski, Derek Pyner, Gerald Rowe, Mary Brock, Ann Divine, Ann O'Donovan, Anthony Fonseca, Margaret McQueen, Paul Westrop, Christine Hall, Maria McLoughlin, John Phillips, Mick Martin, Adriano Agatiello, Kay Fahy, Tony Baldwin, Paul Doyle, Susan Coker, Daniel Sutton, Tony Morton, Bernadette Thomas, Jane Anne Harvey, the Kitteridge Family, Maximilian Peluso, Patricia Theobalds, Jean Salter, Terry Eales, Norah Kelly, the residents of Sherrell House, Belmont Lodge and Pinewood.

**Mass Attendance last weekend: 393**

**(Christmas: 648)**

**Offertory Collection last weekend: £813.12**

**THE ASSUMPTION, Hainault, is twinned with the Parish of Our Lady of Sorrows, Maria Ratschitz, in the diocese of Dundee, South Africa.**

# CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION

## HAINAULT

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Registered Charity No. 234092



**26th/27th December 2015      FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS,  
MARY & JOSEPH (HOLY YEAR OF MERCY 2015-2016)**

### *Mary, Mother of God, Mother of Mercy*

My thoughts now turn to the Mother of Mercy. May the sweetness of her countenance watch over us in this Holy Year, so that all of us may rediscover the joy of God's tenderness. No one has penetrated the profound mystery of the incarnation like Mary. Her entire life was patterned after the presence of mercy made flesh. The Mother of the Crucified and Risen One has entered the sanctuary of divine mercy because she participated intimately in the mystery of His love



Chosen to be the Mother of the Son of God, Mary, from the outset, was prepared by the love of God to be the *Ark of the Covenant* between God and man. She treasured divine mercy in her heart in perfect harmony with her Son Jesus. Her hymn of praise, sung at the threshold of the home of Elizabeth, was dedicated to the mercy of God which extends from "generation to generation" (*Luke 1:50*). We too were included in those prophetic words of the Virgin Mary. This will be a source of comfort and strength to us as we cross the threshold of the Holy Year to experience the fruits of divine mercy.

At the foot of the Cross, Mary, together with John, the disciple of love, witnessed the words of forgiveness spoken by Jesus. This supreme expression of mercy towards those who crucified him show us the point to which the mercy of God can reach. Mary attests that the mercy of the Son of God knows no bounds and extends to everyone, without exception. Let us address her in the words of the *Salve Regina*, a prayer ever ancient and ever new, so that she may never tire of turning her merciful eyes upon us, and make us worthy to contemplate the face of mercy, her Son Jesus. *(Misericordiae Vultus 24)*

## THE ANGELUS

As is now our custom, the Angelus is said at the beginning of the 6.00pm Mass on Saturdays and the 12noon Mass on Sundays. The text of the prayer can be found in the Parish Mass Books on page 2 (opposite the Table of Contents).



**TEA & COFFEE** are served in the Parish Hall after the 10.00am Mass every Sunday. Please come along, even if only for a few minutes, to meet and chat with your neighbour.

- ❑ **THANK YOU VERY MUCH** for all your greetings, your generosity and many kindnesses at Christmas – all very much appreciated. I wish you and your families, and all our visitors, a very happy and blessed New Year!
- ❑ **THANK YOU ALSO** to all those who cleaned, decorated the church and erected the Crib in time for Christmas, and to the choir and servers who helped in the liturgical celebration of this great festival of our Faith.
- ❑ **THANK YOU ALSO** to **Fr Daniel Kulangara** for agreeing to say Mass during my many absences in Paris visiting my parents in the course of the past year.

*Fr Jean-Claude Selvini*

**THIS SATURDAY: NO Rosary / NO morning Mass**

**HAINAULT CATHOLIC CLUB LTD: membership renewals are now due. Full membership £8. Concessions £2.**

**ADVANCE NOTICE:** the annual **White Flower Appeal** organised by the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children will be held at the end of all Masses over the weekend of **9th-10th January 2016.**

### CRIB COLLECTION:

during the Christmas Season, offerings at the Crib will be given to the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society.



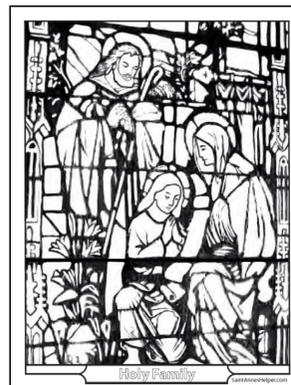
**CONGRATULATIONS** to **Fr Selvini's Parents, Roland & Madeleine Selvini**, who on Tuesday celebrate their **70th wedding Anniversary – ad multos annos!**

**THE JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP COLLECTION** in aid of the work of Crisis this coming Christmas has amounted to **£596**. Due to the generosity of parishioners this will cover the expenses for 26 guests to be accommodated over the Christmas period. For four days Crisis will provide warm shelter, food, clean and new clothing, counselling and medical services. They are expecting to welcome around 4,000 guests over the holiday.

Thank you for your generous support throughout 2015 and best wishes for your Christmas and 2016 from the Justice and Peace Group.

**MASS INTENTIONS/OFFERINGS:** special envelopes are available at the back of church. If you would like a Mass offered on a *particular anniversary*, please let the Parish Priest know well in advance – the sooner the better! Thank you for your co-operation.

**SICK AT HOME OR IN HOSPITAL:** if anyone is seriously ill at home or is in hospital, it is most important that a priest be informed so that the sick person may receive the spiritual help of the sacraments. Relatives or friends should inform their parish priest and/or the Catholic chaplain of the hospital (*at King George Hospital, 8590 9026; at Queen's Hospital, 01708 447761; at Whipps Cross Hospital, 8520 5877*).



## The Holy Family

*Dear Brothers and Sisters!*

In an atmosphere of Christmas joy, today we are celebrating *the Feast of the Holy Family*. We turn our gaze from the crib to the humble dwelling of Nazareth. Having become our brother, Jesus wanted to experience family life. Thus he became part of the first, fundamental cell of society, in this way giving perennially valid recognition to the most common of human institutions.

For us believers, *the family, a reflection of Trinitarian communion*, finds its model in the family of Nazareth, where the human history of the Redeemer and his parents unfolded. We think of the difficulties Mary and Joseph had to face at Jesus' birth and then during their exile in Egypt to escape Herod's persecution. Nazareth has also become the symbol of that "normality" of daily life which marks every family's existence.

Looking today at that Holy House, our thoughts turn to *the many families* of our time who are in difficult situations. Some of them suffer from extreme poverty; others are forced to seek in foreign countries what they unfortunately lack in their homeland; still others find within their own families serious problems caused by the rapid cultural and social changes which at times overwhelm them. And what can be said of *the many attacks on the family institution itself?* All this shows how urgent it is to rediscover the value of the family and to help it in every way to be, as God wanted it, the vital environment where every child who comes into the world is welcomed with tenderness and gratitude from the moment of his conception; a place marked by a serene atmosphere that encourages the harmonious human and spiritual development of all its members.

May the Holy Family, whom we venerate today, obtain this gift for every family and help them to be a little "domestic church", a school of human and religious virtues.

*St John Paul II (Angelus 2000)*