

*Mass Intentions: 30<sup>th</sup> September – 08<sup>th</sup> October*

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> 18.00 – Maria Gallagher RIP
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>01</b>	11.30 – The People of the Parish
<b>Monday</b>	<b>02</b>	No Mass
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>03</b>	<b>Weekday in Ordinary Time</b> 10.00 – The deceased members of the Neil & Brown families
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>04</b>	<b>St Francis of Assisi</b> 10.00 – Barbara Casey RIP
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>05</b>	<b>Weekday in Ordinary Time</b> 10.00 – Francis Fernandes RIP
<b>Friday</b>	<b>06</b>	<b>Weekday in Ordinary Time</b> 10.00 – In Honour of The Sacred Heart of Jesus
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>07</b>	<b>Our Lady of the Rosary</b> 10.00 – In Honour of The Immaculate Heart of Mary <b>27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> 18.00 – The People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>08</b>	11.30 – In Honour of Infant Jesus of Prague

Tuesday to Saturday, after the Holy Mass,  
**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Holy Rosary**

**Mass Intentions / Offerings:** Special envelopes are available at the back of Church. If you would like Mass offered on a particular date or anniversary, please let the Parish Priest know well in advance – the sooner the better. Thank you for your co-operation.

**Mass Attendance last weekend: 252**

**Offertory Collection last weekend: £542.19**

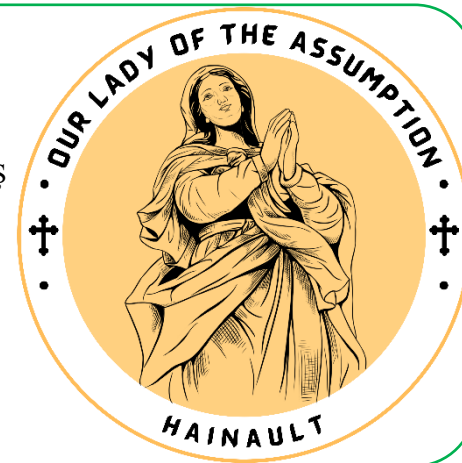
**I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a joyous week and I look forward, very much, to getting to know you all and working with you for the good of our Parish.**

**CATHOLIC PARISH  
OF THE DIOCESE OF BRENTWOOD**

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*26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – 01 October 2023*

Parish Mass Book – Sunday Readings – pgs. **134-136**

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass

**398** – Love divine, all loves excelling

**496** – My God, and is thy table spread

**383** – Lord, Jesus Christ

**S12** – Walk in the light

***Dear brothers and sisters, actions speak louder than words.***

For the second Sunday in a row, Jesus speaks to and teaches us through a parable. The point and truth of a parable is not based on whether it is true or really happened. The purpose of a parable is that we learn something about the reality of the Kingdom of God and our own personal response to Jesus' invitation to be his disciple today, here and now. Again, this Sunday Jesus uses the rich image of the vineyard. At the time of Jesus, a vineyard was a prized possession. It spoke of wealth, riches and prestige. It was a precious treasure to own and Jesus naturally used it to speak about the reality of God's Kingdom. It is a fairly short and simple, yet very challenging parable.

A man has two sons. He asks the first one to go to the vineyard to work. His immediate response is a very definite no! But for some reason, which we do not know, he later changes his mind and does in fact go to the vineyard. On being asked, the second son politely agrees to his father's request, but in fact does not do what he was asked; he does not go to the vineyard. As is often the case, Jesus is telling this parable to the chief priest and the elders

who had a habit of saying one thing and doing the very opposite! Jesus asks them: 'Which of the two did the fathers will?' Correctly they answer, 'The first.' Not content with their response, Jesus confronts them with these words of warning: '...tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the Kingdom of God before you.' Jesus often accused them of being hypocrites. This word is Greek in origin, meaning 'actor.' The people wore a mask which allowed them to become someone else. This also allowed them to say and do things for which they believed they were not responsible.

The danger for us is that we leave this parable in the past believing that it has nothing to say to us or teach us. Sometimes when we are listening to someone and doubt them, we say they are all talk! Sometimes, when we say we are following Jesus, we too are all talk and our actions do not match our words or intentions. Like the second son, we say one thing but then do the very opposite.

This short parable asks us to be like the first son. He not only changed his mind, he also had a change of heart. As we try our best in our ordinary daily lives to follow Jesus, we are called to make decisions and choices that will help us to follow him. Are we like the second son? Are we all talk, saying the rights words but doing the opposite? Or are we like the first son who on reflection had a change of heart and did the right thing? The choice every day in countless small ways is ours to make.

Just as it was with the Scribes and Pharisees, there is always the danger that today I will say one thing and then do the very opposite. It is true: my actions do speak louder than my words! As I try to follow Jesus today, what do my actions say about me?

**May what I believe in my heart and profess with my lips be seen in the work of my hands and in the quality of my daily life.**

*Amen!*

### **Refreshments after Sunday Mass**

I would like to invite you to join us for refreshments after the Sunday Mass in the Parish Hall. Please join us for a cup of tea or coffee, some biscuits and a chance to meet, socialise and get to know each other.

### **Legion of Mary**

The Legion of Mary praesidium (Queen of Angels) meet every Sunday after 11.30 Mass and invite all of you dear children of Mary to join us. Active members as well as auxiliaries are warmly welcome.

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Confession is available every Saturday during Adoration and Holy Rosary and on request on weekdays during Adoration and Holy Rosary after the morning Mass.

### **First Holy Communion Programme for 2023-2024**

Session will be *on Saturdays at 10.30am*, starting on the *07<sup>th</sup> of October* in the Church Hall.

### **Confirmation Programme for 2023-2024**

Session will be *every Sunday at 9.30am*, starting on the *15<sup>th</sup> of October* in the Church Hall.

### **Parish Council meeting update**

The Parish Council meeting was held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September. Thank you to all those that were able to attend (twenty in total) and for your valuable and active participation during the meeting. There were over twenty actions raised and parishioners will hear about some of these initiatives in the coming weeks. For example, a social committee and welcome committee has been setup, a drive for more altar servers (boys and girls), ways for our Church to benefit from gift aid and look at how the younger generation can be encouraged to engage in Church activities. The Parish Council need your prayers, your engagement and your support to help drive the various initiatives forward.

A member of the parish council will speak after mass next week about the ongoing Church Renovation and how we can all help support it.

### **Church renovation fund**

There will be a 2<sup>nd</sup> collection after each Sunday Mass, starting next weekend, to help with the renovation of our Church. Any donation would be most welcome.

If you would like to make a donation to the Parish, please send an email to [hainault@brcdt.org](mailto:hainault@brcdt.org) and we will be happy to supply you with the relevant account details.

### **MISSIO BOXES or *The Red Boxes***

It is that time of the year again. Would the Parishioners who have the red boxes at home please bring them into Church. I will collect them & bank the contents for the Missons. Please leave the boxes in the Sanctuary with your name clearly on the box. Once counted, I will leave a box at the rear of the Church for you to collect, with your name attached.

If anyone reading this is wondering what these boxes are for, please collect a leaflet at the back of the Church labelled "Missio" or speak with me to arrange a box. (*Wendy Moroney, Missio Secretary*)