Mass Intentions: 2nd September – 10th September

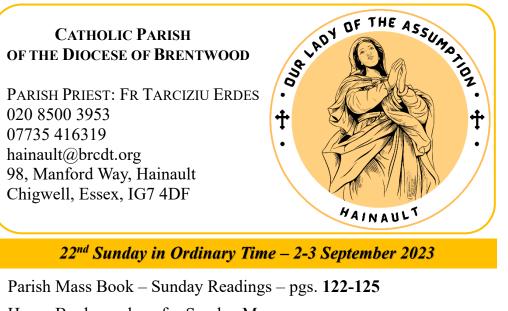
Saturday	2	22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	3	11.30 - In Honour of the Infant Jesus of Prague
Monday	4	No Mass
Tuesday	5	Weekday in Ordinary Time 10.00 – Lela Anastacio
Wednesday	6	Weekday in Ordinary Time 10.00 – Irene Josephine RIP
Thursday	7	Weekday in Ordinary Time 10.00 – John Murray RIP
Friday	8	The Nativity of The Blessed Virgin Mary 10.00 – Pamella & Dennis Renollf Wedding Anniversay
Saturday	9	Saturday of Our Lady 10.00 – Catherine Darling
		23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	10	11.30 – Claude Isaacs RIP
Tuesday to Saturday, after the Holy Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Holy Rosary		

Mass Intentions / Offerings: Special envelops 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: 194 persons

Offertory Collection last weekend: 504.51 £

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.



Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass
684 – Tell out, my Soul, the greatness of the Lord!
478 – Make me a channel of your peace
517 – O bread of heaven, beneath this veil
248 – He who would valiant be 'gainst all disaster

Dear brothers and sisters,

Suffering is a part of life. Each of us in our unique way experience pain and difficulties as we go about our daily living. It might be long-term unemployment, our own sickness or the ill health of someone we love. It might be a long-standing broken relationship with a friend or family member. There are countless ways in which each of us suffers. How are we to understand and make sense of this? What has the Gospel this Sunday to say to us about suffering and being a follower of Jesus today?

From the start of his public ministry, Jesus called and invited people to follow him with the condition that they must take up their own cross and follow him. It is an invitation. Jesus does not and never will force his way into our lives. The choice has to be ours whether or not we accept this invitation. When Jesus spoke to the rich young man in Mark's Gospel, he said to him, if you want to follow me, go and sell what you have and own; then come and follow me. For whatever reason the man couldn't do this; we can only assume that he was too attached to his belongings to give them away. We are told that he went away sad, because he was rich. It is worth mentioning that Jesus did not go after him and beg him to become one his followers. Jesus let him go. He does the same with each of us today. He wants to have a personal relationship with us and wants us to respond freely to his invitation. Nowhere in the Gospels does Jesus say, come and follow me and you will have an easy or pain free life. In fact, in the Gospel this Sunday, he says the very opposite; we are to take up our cross and follow him. The cost of being a follower of Jesus is very high. But we do not walk this path of discipleship alone. Jesus walks by our side to help, support and encourage us.

Following Jesus is not magic nor does it exempt us from suffering, pain or difficulties. Jesus saves us through our suffering not from our suffering. There is no virtue in suffering for its own sake. The invitation from Jesus is that we take up our cross also means that he walks with us and that we walk with him. When Jesus starts talking about his own suffering, Peter wants Jesus to avoid the suffering he will endure. Peter wants to avoid pain and suffering for himself and Jesus. In that sense, we are perhaps a little like Peter; we too often want to ignore or avoid pain and suffering. Jesus however is very clear and honest and is not afraid to speak openly about the suffering that awaits him.

This week, may we have the courage and humility to ask Jesus to support and encourage us as we take up our cross and follow him each day.

Amen!

First Holy Communion and Confirmation Programmes 2023-2024

Information about our First Holy Communion and Confirmation Programmes to follow in upcoming Church Newsletters.

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. God bless you all!

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.

Parish Council meeting

Fr. Tarciziu would like to meet with the Parish Council to discuss plans for the future of our Church. It is proposed the meeting will take place on *Tuesday 26th September* at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall.

New Parishioners

Welcome! Please introduce yourself to Fr. Tarciziu. Also please complete a registration form found at the back of the Church and return it to the Parish Office.

Altar Servers

Dear Parents or Guardians, if your children (boys & girls) have made their First Holy Communion and would like to be altar servers, please contact the Parish Office by email. Full training will be offered.

Parish Repository

We stock a wide range of gifts, cards and devotional items. Please put your payment in the box by the gift tables. Fr. Tarciziu will be happy to sign Mass Cards and Bless devotional items.

Newsletter copy deadline

If you would like to place a notice in our newsletter, please send your request via the Parish Office email address by the Thursday before the relevant weekend.

Vacancies

www.disceseofbrentwood.net/departments/education/vacancies/school -vacancies/ for staff vacancies in our parish schools across the Diocese.

Donations

If you would like to make a donation to the Parish, please send an email to <u>hainault@brcdt.org</u> and we will be happy to supply you with the relevant account details.