

Mass times and intentions: 11th – 19th November 2023

Saturday	11	32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 18.00 – Anna Harvey RIP
Sunday	12	11.30 – The People of the Parish
Monday	13	No Mass
Tuesday	14	Weekday in Ordinary Time 10.00 – Mary Evelyn Piotrowski RIP
Wednesday	15	St Albert the Great 10.00 – Theresa Olusanya
Thursday	16	St Edmund of Abingdon 10.00 – Theophilus Ademuyiwa RIP
Friday	17	St Elizabeth of Hungary 10.00 – Mike Mekako – Wedding Anniversary
Saturday	18	Saturday of Our Lady 10.00 – Ayomide Ishmael RIP 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	19	11.30 – Emmanuel Ayanru RIP

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: 304

Offertory Collection last weekend: £781.35

Renovation fund: £676.50

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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32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time – 12th November 2023

Parish Mass Book – Sunday Readings – pgs. **152-154**

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass

179 – For the healing of the nations

286 – I vow to thee, my country, all earthly things above

9 – Abide with me, fast falls the eventide

728 – Thine be the glory, risen conquering Son

Dear brothers and sisters,

Two aspects of these readings for today draw our attention immediately. First, am I really searching for wisdom in my life? Second, am I alert to the presence of God and wait on that presence?

True wisdom is a way of leading a good life that is centred on the divine. Wisdom cannot be confused with knowledge. There are lots of people in our world who have degrees and incredible amounts of intellectual information - but who don't know how to live at all! Wisdom is a gift of knowing how to live well and to live in the divine.

We can only have wisdom if we ask for wisdom and seek to live from wisdom every day. Most of us don't do that! We want wisdom when we are stuck in difficult situations but in general, we live from our own resources without paying attention to what God might want or to what really good people have advised. Part of the teaching of the Book of Wisdom is that we must learn how to listen – to others and to listen to what God is saying.

The Gospel tells us to be alert, waiting for God. As we come close to the end of Ordinary Time, the readings continue to focus our thoughts and feelings on the end of time. Most of us don't seriously think that we might die tonight or probably even in the immediate future - although some who read this may be facing death. Most of us act on the assumption that tomorrow we will still be alive.

Saint Benedict in his Rule for Monks wants monks to think every day about death: keep death daily before your eyes. This is part of a wisdom tradition. If we realise that this might be our last day, we generally will try to make good decisions about how we are living - not even necessarily from fear but because we want to die well.

The wise virgins and the foolish ones are only symbols of the way that we should want to live. We want to be like the wise virgins, ready at all times to respond to what is happening in the best possible way.

What do we do when we discover that we are much more like the foolish virgins? Then we must begin to ask God to change us! We must beg for the gift of wisdom. We must ask each day that we will be alert to the divine that surrounds us. We must ask Jesus Himself for this gift and know that He will give it to us if we are consistent in our asking. We must learn to stop for a moment and realise that we dwell in the divine and that the Holy Trinity dwells in us - so we only need ask for help and strive to do the best we can.

So often, like the foolish virgins, we think that we can always borrow from others. But spirituality is not like that. We must have our own and must live our spirituality with vigour. No one can live our lives for us!

So let us ask today for this gift of wisdom! Let us ask that God will answer our prayers! And let us do now that which will profit us for eternity.

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.

Old but good books for you

There are many free books and leaflets in the porch at the back of the Church. Please take what you would like.

November is the month for remembering

Mass will be offered daily during the month of November for all our departed loved ones. Sheets to write your loved one's names on are at the back of the Church along with envelopes. Please fill these in as soon as you can and put the envelope in the Remembrance Box in front of the Altar. Thank you.

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 14th November** at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall.

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.

Church renovation fund

There will be a 2nd collection after each Sunday Mass, to help with the renovation of our Church. Any donation would be most welcome.

You can also make a donation to the Parish by just scanning the QR code and entering the appropriate amount.



Account Name: **Catholic Church Hainault The Assumption**

Sort Code: **40-13-22**

Account Number: **31019244**

Healing Hearts Bereavement Support Group

This Bereavement Support group was started in 2000. It has been running successfully for 23 years and meets every 4-5 weeks. The aim of the group is to offer support to individuals to allow successful grieving to occur. The meetings are held in the *The Hainault Forest Community Club* - 100b Manford Way, Chigwell, IG7 4DF. Meetings start at 7pm.

If anyone is interested in attending these meetings or requires more information, please contact *Mary Casey* on 07710155360.

Christmas Hamper

We will raffle a Christmas hamper this year to help raise money for the decoration fund. There will be a box at the back of the Church if anyone would like to donate any non-perishable food items. Raffle tickets will go on sale in December and the winning ticket chosen after mass on Sunday **17th December 2023**.