Mass times and intentions: 27th January - 04th February 2024

Saturday	27	FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18.00 – Betty Hetherington RIP
Sunday	28	11.30 – The People of the Parish
Monday	29	No Mass
Tuesday	30	Feria 10.00 – Deceased relatives of Harris family
Wednesday	31	St John Bosco 10.00 – Michael White
Thursday	01	Feria 10.00 – Emmanuel Ayanru RIP
Friday	02	THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD 10.00 – Mr & Mrs Mathias Okpala RIP 20.00 – The People of the Parish
Saturday	03	St Blaise 10.00 – Deidre – good health
		FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18.00 – Denis O'Shea RIP
Sunday	04	11.30 – The People of the Parish
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: 227

Offertory Collection last weekend: £615.91

Renovation fund: £109

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.

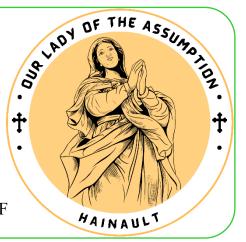
CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF BRENTWOOD

Parish Priest: Fr Tarciziu Erdeș 020 8500 3953 07735 416319

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98, Manford Way, Hainault, IG7 4DF



FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 28th January 2024

Parish Mass Book – Sunday Readings – pgs. 132-134

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass

398 – Love divine, all loves excelling

302 – In bread we bring you, Lord, our bodies' labour

606 – Praise to the Holiest in the height

567 – Oh Lord, all the world belongs to you

Dear brothers and sisters,

From reading the gospels, we know that Jesus was a great speaker and wonderful storyteller. So good at this was he, that Peter even once said, 'Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the message of eternal life.' Jesus always knew his audience and to whom he was speaking. He spoke about seeds being sowed, he talked about sheep and shepherds, wine and vineyards and he even spoke about a woman baking bread! Perhaps that is why in this Sunday's gospel we read that 'his teaching made a great impression on them, unlike the scribes, (because) he taught them with authority.' What Jesus offered the people then and us today is Good News, not fake news!

But it is not only what Jesus says that makes an impact on the people, it is also what he does. In the gospel this Sunday, Jesus heals a man who is sick. At the time of Jesus, to be sick was seen as punishment by God because the person was a sinner. When Jesus heals the man, the gathered people were even more amazed at what he did rather than just what he

said. If this Jesus can heal a man and forgive him his sins, then who is he? They have heard him speak with authority and they have seen him heal a man who was sick. Their response to experiencing Jesus is 'What is this? A new teaching – with authority!'

As we continue through these early days and weeks of this New Year, it seems appropriate that Jesus offers us something that is radically new. Even though we have just put all the shopping and buying of Christmas behind us, the shops are still trying to get us to spend money with their bargains, sales and reductions. However, as always Jesus, through the gospels offers us an alternative message; a message that is *new*. What is this 'new' message that Jesus offers us? At this time of the year, we might be making New Year resolutions. I will eat and drink less or I will exercise more! However, my New Year challenges might be more personal; I might try to be nicer to my friends and family. I might try to be more peaceful and forgiving to those in my family or I might try to do something concrete to help those who are poor in my community, parish or neighbourhood.

As I begin this New Year and try to change some of my less than positive habits, am I asking God to help me or am I trying to do this all by myself? There is the story that tells of a man praying at the start of the New Year. He is worried, afraid and anxious about the year ahead. He prays to God saying, 'Lord, give me a light so that I may walk into the New Year without being afraid.' There was silence. Then God spoke and said, 'No, I will not give you a light. Instead, you take my hand and we will walk into the New Year together.'

May we continue to walk into this New Year with God by our side.

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.

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 *Thursday 1st February 2024* 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

You can make a donation to the Parish, to help with the renovation of our Church, by scanning the QR Code and entering the appropriate amount. Any donation would be most welcome.



Account Name: Catholic Church Hainault The Assumption

Sort Code: 40-13-22 Account Number: 31019244

Standing Order / Gift Aid

Thank you so much for setting up a Standing Order and taking the opportunity to Gift Aid.

If you have not done so already, please collect your new gift aid boxes/envelopes from the table at the back of the Church. Thank you!

Death Notice

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Ellen Heneghan, a former parishioner, who died on 21st January. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, Rest in peace. Amen.

Foodbank - 3food4u

If you would like some help with your weekly shopping bill there is a Food Bank called '3food4u' where you can get good quality food free without needing an assessment or a referral. You just drop in. We have all the basic essentials for you and your family.

Open every Wednesday from 5 till 6.30 in the church hall at All Saints in Chigwell Row IG7 4QD.

Old Palms from Palm Sunday

There will be a basket at the back of the Church for you to leave your old palms to be burnt for Ash Wednesday.