

Mass times and intentions: 03rd – 11th February 2024

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| Saturday | 03 | FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18.00 – Denis O’Shea RIP |
| Sunday | 04 | 11.30 – The People of the Parish |
| Monday | 05 | No Mass |
| Tuesday | 06 | St Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs 10.00 – Vasilie RIP |
| Wednesday | 07 | Feria 10.00 – Terence Clarke RIP |
| Thursday | 08 | Feria 10.00 – Mary McDowell |
| Friday | 09 | Feria 10.00 – Deidre Guinane – intentions |
| Saturday | 10 | St Scholastica, Virgin 10.00 – Mary Evelyn Piotrowski RIP |
| | | SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18.00 – Telma Bolivar & Dolor Gastiada RIP |
| Sunday | 11 | 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 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: 245

Offertory Collection last weekend: £ 783.44

Renovation fund: £ 138

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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FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 04th February 2024

Parish Mass Book – Sunday Readings – pgs. 134-137

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass

179 – For the healing of the nations

90 – Blest are you, Lord, God of all creation

40 – Amazing grace!

190 – Give me joy in my heart, keep me praising

Dear brothers and sisters,

We know from reading and hearing the gospels that Jesus was much in demand and generally very busy! Once he began his public ministry, he went from place-to-place preaching and teaching. He spoke to and taught the people who came to hear him in the Temple, the local synagogue, by the lake shore and even in the streets. Anywhere that the people gathered, Jesus found the time to speak to them. As well as teaching people, Jesus also went out of his way to heal and cure them. He often sought out the sick; those who needed healing came to him. On one occasion a man who could not walk was lowered down through a roof so that Jesus could touch and heal him! Other times, he stopped and cured people he met as he walked along the road.

We read in this Sunday’s gospel that ‘*on leaving the synagogue with James and John he went to the house of Simon and Andrew*’. He went there because the mother of Simon and Andrew was sick. We read that he took her by the hand and cured her. There is no doubt that Jesus was an extraordinary and

remarkable man! In the gospel last Sunday, we read that he taught the people with authority and that when the people heard him, they said, *'here is a teaching that is new'*. How was Jesus able to give and offer so much of himself to people? He took time off to be alone so that he could rest and pray. He made sure he set time and space aside so he could pray and regain his energy and strength as he proclaimed the Kingdom of God. He took time to be alone when he could be still and silent. When he prayed, he did two things: he talked to God and he listened to God. This helped him to remember and realise where his mission and ministry came from. He never relied on his own strength; he drew strength from God.

Today in our own modern society we all lead very busy and active lives. There are a lot of demands and pressures on all of us, especially for parents and families. The media and society tell us that now is better than later, more is better than less and fast is better than slow. Is this really true? Or is this fake news? It seems that we are living in a world that places very little value or meaning on silence or moments of personal prayer. We cannot simply ignore or deny the fact that we are living in a fast moving and changing world. It is all around us. We all have smart phones which are rarely turned off. This means we are always connected to the ever-expanding social media world. On our televisions, we have so many channels offering us twenty-four-hour news and constant entertainment. Sadly, we are surrounded by constant noise, distractions and interruptions. This cannot be good for our physical, spiritual or mental health.

Can we look to the example of Jesus and learn from him? He insisted on taking time to be by himself and sit in silence. *'Early in the morning, long before dawn, he got up, left the house and went to a lonely place where he prayed'*. He spent time on his own with God, so he could spend time with others as he spoke to them and healed them.

This coming week can I turn off my phone and my television even for a few minutes so I can spend some time in prayer on my own in silence as I speak and listen to God?

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 Repository

We stock a wide range of gifts, cards and devotional items. Please put your payment in the box by the gift tables. Fr. Tarcziu 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!

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.

Lost Property

Have you left any items in the Church? Please check and see the Lost Property Box in the lobby at the back of the Church.