

Mass times and intentions: 24th February – 03rd March 2024

Saturday	24	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	25	11.30 – Elizabeth – God's blessings
Monday	26	No Mass
Tuesday	27	Tuesday of the Second Week of Lent 10.00 – Padraig O'Donoghue RIP
Wednesday	28	Wednesday of the Second Week of Lent 10.00 – Beatrice Oghojafor - Birthday
Thursday	29	Thursday of the Second Week of Lent 10.00 – Bridget – special intention
Friday	01	St David, Bishop 10.00 – Margaret Waller RIP
Saturday	02	Saturday of the Second Week of Lent 10.00 – Jo O'Neils – good health
		THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT 18.00 – William Sparkes – Anniversary
Sunday	03	11.30 – The People of the Parish

- **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Holy Rosary** – Wednesday & Thursday, after the Holy Mass
- **Stations of the Cross** – Tuesday, Friday & Saturday, after the Holy Mass

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: 244

Offertory Collection last weekend: £ 807.72

Renovation fund: £ 164.65

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 TARCIZU ERDES
020 8500 3953

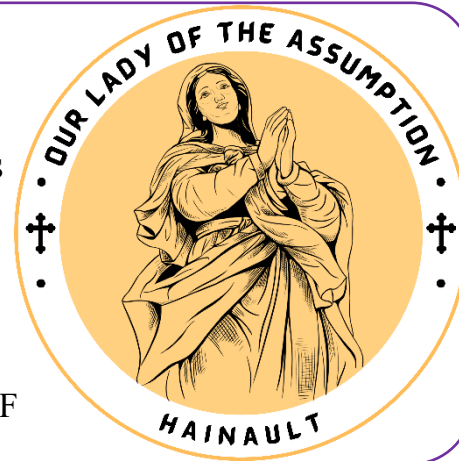
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SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT – 25th February 2024

Parish Mass Book – Sunday Readings – pgs. 151-153

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass

285 – Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?

678 – Take our bread, we ask you

125 – Come down, O love divine

388 – Shine, Jesus, shine

Dear brothers and sisters,

The drama in the gospel for this Sunday takes place on a mountain, as indeed does the very dramatic events in the first reading from the Book of Genesis.

The mountain in scripture is the place of revelation. Throughout the bible, it is often on the mountain that God's power and presence are revealed and experienced. It is on Mount Sinai that Moses experiences God and brings the people the Ten Commandments. Jesus proclaims the powerful Beatitudes from the Sermon on the Mount. In the gospels we are told that Jesus often went up the mountain by himself to pray so that he could hear God speaking to him. It is no surprise or coincidence that Jesus is crucified on the hill called Calvary.

In the gospel this Sunday Jesus takes some of his friends and followers away from the activity, noise and business of the market place. As he had done on his own before, he takes them to the mountain so that they can experience something wonderful and powerful. While they are there

something out of the ordinary does happen; before their very eyes, Jesus is transfigured. He is changed. And then they hear these words from God; *'This is my Son, the Beloved, listen to him.'*

What are we to make of this event? What does it mean for us today? The call, invitation and challenge of Lent is that we are to be transformed and changed. God calls to each of us and says, *'Come back to me with all your heart.'* During this sacred season we are called to look honestly and humbly at our daily lives; at how we treat others, how we speak to them and how we behave. We are invited to ask ourselves, *is there anything in my own daily life that needs to be changed and improved?* How are we meant to be transformed during Lent before we celebrate the new life of Easter?

While on the mountain, Peter exclaims, *'It is wonderful for us to be here.'* When we have the opportunity to gather with others to celebrate the Eucharist, could we make that our prayer and say, *indeed, it is wonderful for us to be here.* During the mass, we offer and present the ordinary bread and wine to God. God accepts, blesses, transforms and then offers them back to us as the Body and Blood of his Son.

However, not only during Lent, but also whenever we are at mass, we are meant to be changed and transformed into the people God wants us to be. With faith and courage can we also offer our own ordinary daily lives to God with the bread and wine? God will accept, bless and transform us too, if we are open to allowing God to act powerfully in our lives. Just as those with Jesus left the mountain changed by what they heard and saw, we too in our own way are meant to leave mass changed, and renewed by what we have experienced with each other. This week, let us pray that we too will be transfigured by God's love, compassion and forgiveness as we continue our journey through Lent with Jesus and each other.

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 on request every day during Adoration and Holy Rosary or after the Stations of the cross.

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 Church 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**

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!

Church Renovations

After a short break, phase II of the work commenced on Monday 19th February. This will include putting on the 2nd coat of paint, cleaning, varnishing and polishing the floors and benches.

In under 6 months as our Parish Priest, Fr. Tarciziu has shared his vision for our church with us and started the work to achieve his goals. They are also our goals and that is why we are continuing with the 2nd collection after weekend masses. Thank you to our team of collectors - without you, this essential fund-raising method would not be so successful. We are very grateful to and pray for Fr. Tarciziu and his amazing team of workers. He and the Parish Council are hugely grateful to each of you for your generous financial support.

We recently received £2.000 of YOUR tax back from HM Revenue and Customs! Thank you for Gift Aiding and if you pay tax and haven't as yet joined the scheme, it is never too late to start! *(Cáit Saunders)*

Happy 100th Birthday John Liddard!

Next Sunday (3rd March) marks the 100th Birthday of John Liddard, a much-loved parishioner of 65 years. John will be celebrating with family and friends who kindly ask all who know John to keep him in their prayers for this special occasion. Thank you! *(June, John's daughter)*