

Mass times and intentions: 02nd – 10th March 2024

Saturday	02	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT 18.00 – William Sparkes – Anniversary
Sunday	03	11.30 – The People of the Parish
Monday	04	No Mass
Tuesday	05	Tuesday of the Third Week of Lent 10.00 – Maureen Casey RIP
Wednesday	06	Wednesday of the Third Week of Lent 10.00 – Padraig O'Donoghue RIP
Thursday	07	Thursday of the Third Week of Lent 10.00 – Adam Colgan RIP
Friday	08	Friday of the Third Week of Lent 10.00 – Ellen Heneghan RIP
Saturday	09	Saturday of the Third Week of Lent 10.00 – Liam McGoldrick RIP
		FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	10	11.30 – Osmund McMahon – Anniversary

- **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: 245

Offertory Collection last weekend: £ 748.13

Renovation fund: £ 213.01

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 ERDEŞ
020 8500 3953

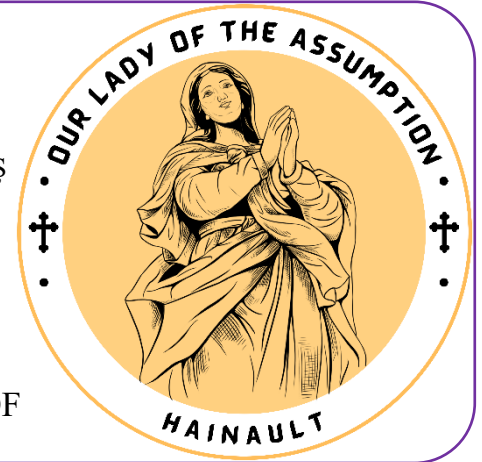
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THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT – 03rd March 2024

Parish Mass Book – Sunday Readings – pgs. **154-157**

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass

185 – Forty days and forty nights

S3 – Gifts of bread and wine, gifts we've offered (back of book)

383 – Lord Jesus Christ

S12 – Walk in the light (back of book)

Dear brothers and sisters,

Often, we hear or perhaps even say that *money is the root of all evil*. However, this is not actually what scripture tells us. What it tells us is that the *love* of money is the root of all evil. There is absolutely nothing wrong with money, having money or spending money. When we work, we have the right to be paid a just and decent wage or salary. With the money we have rightly and deservedly earned, we can buy the basic necessities we and our families need to survive. What the first reading from the Book of Exodus and the gospel where Jesus drives the traders and money changers from the temple warns us about is the danger of putting our trust in money and wealth instead of trusting God.

We remember from the Old Testament that the Jewish People turned their back on God and began to worship a calf that they had made from gold. In the first reading God says to them, '*You shall have no other gods except me.*' When the people were wandering in the desert, they lost faith in God and replaced it with faith in a statue made of gold. In the gospel,

the traders and money-lenders turn the sacred temple in Jerusalem into a cheap market place. The temple had its own money, so people had to change their money for temple currency. They were often cheated and robbed by these money lenders. Then people needed animals for prayer and sacrifice; again, they were robbed and cheated. Jesus was justifiably angry and took the right action by throwing them out the temple; a sacred place of prayer and worship.

Today, we may not be worshipping a golden calf. But we can become so attached and precious about what we have and own, that they can possess us rather than the other way around. They can often have an unhealthy hold over us.

In a famous book called '*The Little Prince*', we are told that '*It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye.*' The gospel of St. Matthew tells that '*wherever our treasure is, there also will be our heart.*' Perhaps this gospel is asking us to consider what is precious to us and where our heart is at this stage of our Lenten journey.

As we continue on our way through Lent, we are being asked to consider what is essential to us in our daily lives with each other. What do we treasure most in our lives? We are also being asked to consider our relationship with God. The Ten Commandments are not simply a list of *do's and don'ts*. They are offered to us as a set of guidelines. If we accept and follow them, they will help us to live well with each other and with God. They offer us a quality of life, not a life-style!

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!

Gardening Help Needed

The field at the back of the Church was totally overgrown but was cut back completely and cleared last Autumn. With Spring rapidly approaching and new growth already starting, it would be helpful to have a group of volunteers to come in, when they can, and share the task of mowing the lawn. Perhaps you also may have some ideas or advice on how this wonderful space may be developed for Parish use? If you can help in any way, please, in the first instance, talk to Fr. Tarciziu. Thank you.

Bishop Alan Williams will visit our parish on 20th March 2024

Bishop Alan Williams will make his Pastoral Visit to our Parish on the above date. We look forward to welcoming him. He is keen to see us all and listen to what we have to say. On this visit he will Confirm our confirmation candidates during an evening Mass. He has also asked to meet the Parish Council and hear news and updates about how we are developing as a Parish. May his visit be fruitful and rewarding for us all.