

Mass times and intentions: 16th – 24th March 2024

Saturday	16	FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	17	11.30 – Emmanuel Ayanru RIP
Monday	18	No Mass
Tuesday	19	ST JOSEPH, Spouse of The Blessed Virgin Mary 10.00 – Barbara James
Wednesday	20	Wednesday of the Fifth Week of Lent 19.00 – Confirmation Mass
Thursday	21	Thursday of the Fifth Week of Lent 10.00 – Francesco RIP
Friday	22	Friday of the Fifth Week of Lent 10.00 – Sheelagh Sheahan – get well
Saturday	23	Saturday of the Fifth Week of Lent 10.00 – Steve Perkins RIP
		PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD 18.00 – Sophia Irene Inocencio RIP
Sunday	24	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: 264

Offertory Collection last weekend: £ 742.81

Renovation fund: £ 133.30

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

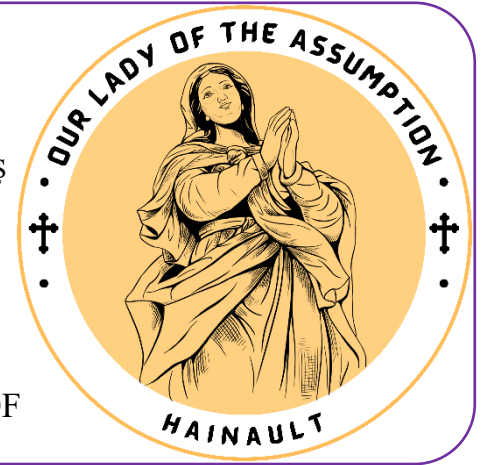
07735 416319

hainault@brcdt.org

finance-hainault@brcdt.org

www.hainault.org.uk

98, Manford Way, Hainault, IG7 4DF



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – 17th March 2024

Parish Mass Book – Sunday Readings – pgs. 169-172

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass

88 – Blest are the pure in heart

517 – O bread of heaven

662 – Sons of God, hear his holy Word!

175 – Follow me, follow me

Dear brothers and sisters,

Hopefully, at this stage of the year and at this part of our Lenten journey, we have a deeper awareness that the long cold darkness of winter is behind us. By now we will have noticed more light in the mornings and at evening time. The hibernation of creation and nature is coming to an end and new life is beginning to be seen and felt all around us.

You may have, like other people, sown seeds and bulbs in the ground or even in small pots during winter. When we sow seeds or bulbs, we care for them and nourish what we have sown. We water and nurture the ground and then we patiently wait for nature to take its course. As spring approaches what was sown is now beginning to grow and flourish. As if by a miracle beyond our control, new life begins to come forth from the dark earth. The small seed sown months ago has changed and transformed into something beautiful that is beyond our dreams and imagination.

There are many different images and symbols used in scripture to talk about and describe Jesus. He talks about himself as Light, Water, Bread, the Vine and being like a Shepherd. In the gospel this Sunday, he talks about himself in terms

of a seed being sown in the ground. There is nothing romantic in or about nature. The circle and cycle of life can be harsh and even violent. The seasons themselves do not last forever. They each come and go in their own way and in their own time. The fruitfulness of spring and summer give way to the harvest of autumn. The fruits of summer are collected and consumed in autumn and winter. There is always a dying and letting go. Nature does not hold on to things.

Jesus tells us that if a seed does not fall to the ground and die, it is still only one single small seed. However, it falls to the ground and dies, something miraculous happens. Over time the seed ceases to be a seed. In the dark earth it becomes something altogether different. As it gives up its life, something powerful and previously unseen comes to light and to birth.

Through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, this is what happens for us. Jesus goes into the earth. There through the power of God he is changed and transformed, He emerges from the earth with new and everlasting life. This is the mystery of the cross and fruit of the resurrection. Jesus freely gives himself to us. He offers himself to each of us as the seed that falls to the ground and dies only to be resurrected.

Jesus does not hang on to or cling to his earthly life. Like all things in nature, he lets go when the time and conditions are right. We are almost coming to end of our Lenten Journey. Next Sunday is Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week. Jesus knows his time of suffering is approaching. As we began our Lenten journey with him, Jesus now asks to remain with him.

Can we stay with Jesus as he falls to the ground and dies? Can we stay with him, experience the cross with him so that we can experience the new life and fruitfulness of his Resurrection?

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.

Methods of Giving

Donations can be made via standing orders, online by scanning the QR Code and entering the appropriate amount and via the offertory / 2nd Collections.

Standing order details:	Online via QR Code:
Account Name: Catholic Church Hainault The Assumption Sort Code: 40-13-22 Account Number: 31019244	

Gift Aid

If you are a UK taxpayer, please consider completing a Gift Aid Declaration form. As Gift Aid is linked to basic rate tax this allows our Church to reclaim from the taxman 25 pence for each pound donated. Please speak to any member of the finance committee or email finance-hainault@brcdt.org

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

Bishop Alan's Pastoral Visit – 20th March 2024

We have now been given, by the Bishop's office, the programme for his Pastoral Visit.

- **6pm** - The Bishop will arrive and spend time with Fr. Tarciziu to learn about what has been happening in the Parish since his last visit.
- **7pm** - The Bishop will celebrate Holy Mass during which he will Confirm our Confirmation Candidates.
All are invited and welcome to attend this Mass.
- **After Mass** - The Bishop would like to meet you all in the Parish Hall - to congratulate the newly confirmed and to listen and talk to you.

As this is a Pastoral Visit from the Bishop, he is not coming just for the Confirmation but also hopes to meet as many of you as possible. Please try and come to this celebration and visit.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER PROGRAM

Palm Sunday, 24th March	11.30	Procession and Solemn Mass
Maundy Thursday, 28th March	19.00	Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
Good Friday, 29th March	15.00	The Passion of the Lord
Holy Saturday, 30th March	19.00	The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night
Easter Sunday, 31st March	11.30	The Solemn Mass of Easter