# Mass times and intentions: $23^{th} - 31^{st}$ March 2024

Saturday	23	<b>PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD</b> <b>18.00</b> – Sophia Irene Inocencio RIP
Sunday	24	11.30 – The People of the Parish
Monday	25	No Mass
Tuesday	26	<b>Tuesday of Holy Week</b> 10.00 – Peter Brian & Betty Hetherington RIP
Wednesday	27	Wednesday of Holy Week 19.00 – Clifford Joseph David RIP
Thursday	28	<b>MAUNDY THURSDAY - The Lord's Supper</b> <b>19.00</b> – Papa Gualbert RIP
Friday	29	<b>GOOD FRIDAY - The Passion of the Lord</b> <b>15.00</b> – The Souls in Purgatory
Saturday	30	<b>HOLY SATURDAY - The Easter Vigil</b> <b>19.00</b> – The People of the Parish
Sunday	31	<b>EASTER SUNDAY - The Resurrection of the Lord</b> <b>11.30</b> – The People of the Parish

• Stations of the Cross – Tuesday, after the Holy Mass

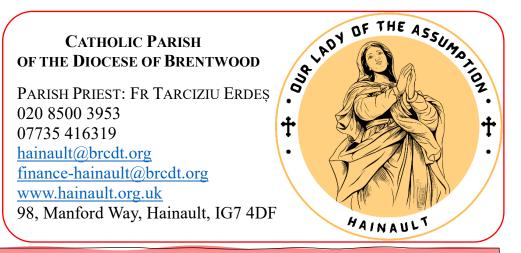
• Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – Maundy Thursday, after The Lord's Supper celebration till 22.00

**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: 276 Offertory Collection last weekend: £ 762.47

Renovation fund: £ 209.00

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.



# PALM SUNDAY – 24<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Parish Mass Book - Sunday Readings - pgs. 176-190

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass

17 – All glory, laud and honour (v. 1, 3, 4, 5)

730 - This is my body, broken for you

503 – My song is love unknown

623 – Ride on! Ride on in majesty!

### Dear brothers and sisters,

The dramatic events of Holy Weeks begin...

A lot is going to happen this coming week. Jesus is going to do and say things that will annoy and anger the Jewish and Roman leaders. He is going to do and say a lot of things that will confuse and challenge his closest friends, followers and even his family.

By the end of the week, he will share a meal with his family and friends. He will offer himself to them through bread and wine. He will take the place of a slave and do the unthinkable; he will wash the feet of those who are at table with him. After this meal his closest friends will turn their backs on him. Judas will betray him and Peter will deny that he even knows him. A few hours later Pilate will condemn him to death. The soldiers will beat him and make him carry his own cross. On the way to Calvary, Simon will be forced to help him carry this cross. Veronica will push her way through the crowd and wipe his face in a daring act of tender compassion.

I think the danger is that because we read and hear this story every year, we can become used to it and a bit overly familiar with it and what it means to us.

The invitation and question that Palm Sunday puts before us is *where am I as Jesus is going through all of this?* At the beginning of Lent Jesus said to each of us '*Take up your cross and follow me.*' Am I still walking with him or am I hiding safely at the back of the crowd keeping my distance? Where am I as Jesus carries his cross?

Mary, the mother of Jesus is the great disciple of Holy Week. She followed him and stayed with him every step of the way. She has the courage, strength and faith to stand with the other women as he died when all the others deserted him. As we begin our own Journey through the dramatic events of Holy Week can we stand with Mary? Can we be inspired by her and so draw courage and strength from her so we too can stay with Jesus?

The journey of Holy Week does not end nor stop at Calvary. But before we can stand at the empty tomb with Mary Magdalene we have to travel with Jesus as he carries his cross and stands on the Hill of Calvary. There is no resurrection without crucifixion. We are not asked to stay at the cross, but we are asked to experience the cross. Then and only then can we share in and experience, the joy and new life that God freely offers each us through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. *If we die with him, we shall live with him. If we hold firm, then we shall reign with him.* 

Perhaps Holy Week offers each of us the opportunity to hear that invitation that Jesus gave us at the beginning of Lent; '*Take up your cross and follow me*.' This is invitation that Jesus gives to each of us. However, each of have to make our own response? What is yours?

#### **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.

### Congratulations

We would like to extend our warm wishes and congratulations to all those who were Confirmed on Wednesday. May the Gifts and the Fruits of Confirmation received remain with you always and enrich you spiritually.

#### **Church Renovation Fund**

There will be a 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 /  $2^{nd}$  Collections.

Standing order details:	<b>Online via QR Code:</b>
Account Name:	
Catholic Church Hainault The Assumption	
<b>Sort Code</b> : 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 note gift aid boxes for the next financial year commencing 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> April are available for collection at the back of the Church. If your box is not there (and you have previously signed up to gift aid) please contact a member of the finance committee or email them on <u>finance-hainault@brcdt.org</u>

## Walk With Me – An Eastertide Journey of Prayer for 2024

The *Walk With Me* booklet for Eastertide is now available. The cost of the booklet is  $\pounds 1$ . Please put your money in the special box above the holy water at the back of the church. Thank you.

# Maundy Thursday Washing of the Feet

We are looking for 12 volunteers (male & female). If you would like to take part, please contact Gail on 07989 879148. Thank you.

### Walk of Witness

Our church has been invited to join with local Christians to take part in a Walk of Witness from All Saints Church in Chigwell Row to St Winifred's Church Limes Farm where hot cross buns and coffee will be served. Starting at 10.00 on Good Friday morning.

# HOLY WEEK AND EASTER PROGRAM

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