

Mass times and intentions: 06th – 14th April 2024

Saturday	06	DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	07	11.30 – In honour of The Infant Jesus of Prague
Monday	08	No Mass
Tuesday	09	THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD – Solemnity (Transferred from 25 th March) 10.00 – In honour of The Blessed Trinity
Wednesday	10	Wednesday after the Second Sunday of Easter 10.00 – Kevin RIP
Thursday	11	St Stanislaus 10.00 – Mary Evelyn Piotrowski RIP
Friday	12	Friday after the Second Sunday of Easter 10.00 – Henry Horan RIP
Saturday	13	Saturday after the Second Sunday of Easter 10.00 – Kevin Guinane RIP
		THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	14	11.30 – Brigit Philip RIP

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: 435

Offertory Collection last weekend: £ 1864.75

Renovation fund: £ 216

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

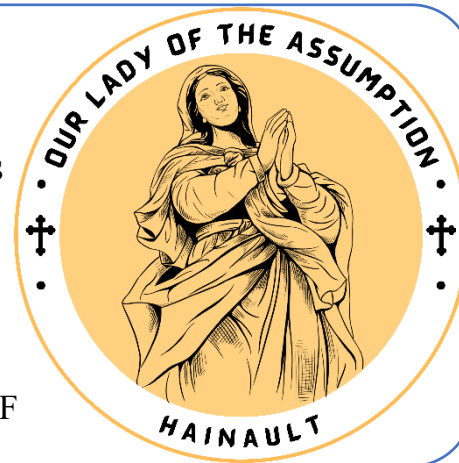
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DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY – 07th April 2024

Parish Mass Book – Sunday Readings – pgs. 255-258

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass

606 – Praise to the Holiest in the height

730 – This is my body, broken for you

42 – An upper room did our Lord prepare

37 – Alleluia, sing to Jesus

388 – Shine, Jesus, shine

Dear brothers and sisters,

I wonder, would it be right to suggest that after Judas who betrayed Jesus, Thomas is perhaps the least liked apostle and follower of Jesus? After all he had been with Jesus for three years during his public ministry. He heard Jesus speak and teach. He had seen and experienced some of Jesus' most powerful miracles. He had prayed and eaten with Jesus on numerous occasions. And yet, Thomas still doubted that Jesus had risen from the dead. I do feel sorry for him. He is forever known as the one who would not or could not believe. He wanted and needed concrete evidence that Jesus had indeed risen and was alive.

After his resurrection, Jesus continues to appear to his friends and followers. Through appearing to the men and women who were his friends and followers, he encourages and strengthens them; he calms their fears. When he appears to them, he says, *Peace be with you, do not be afraid*. Thomas is not with them when Jesus appears. The others tell

him that Jesus had appeared to them and spoke to them. But he does not believe and he is not convinced and so ‘Doubting Thomas’ is born.’ I think we have to be careful about over criticising Thomas for his apparent lack of faith. Perhaps we should admire and applaud him for his honesty and conviction. He is honest with himself and others. He desperately wants to meet and experience the risen Jesus for himself.

He is not the only one who doubted that Jesus had risen. When Mary Magdalene told the others that she had met the Risen Lord, none of them believed her. In fact, most if not all the followers of Jesus doubted.

When Jesus does appear again, he asks Thomas to touch and put his finger into his wounds. Then he can have the proof he needs to believe. But the gospel doesn’t say that Thomas did this. Instead, it tells us that he cried out loudly, ‘*My Lord and my God.*’ This is the prayer of someone who believes, not someone who doubts.

None of us go through life without struggles and doubts. There are times when we are at our weakest, whether physically, emotionally or spiritually. Difficult as it can be, we have to believe and trust that Jesus is with us just as he was with Thomas. Jesus is always with us, especially when we feel we are most alone and doubting. When we are struggling to believe, it can help to realise that we are not in control and neither are we on our own. It can be a time of growth for us as we reach out and ask God to help us with our doubts and whatever we are struggling with.

When have these doubts, may we have the faith and courage of Thomas. Like him, may we say with courage and conviction, *My Lord and my God.* **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 every Saturday during Adoration and Holy Rosary and on request on weekdays during Adoration and Holy Rosary after the morning Mass.

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 note gift aid boxes for the new financial year 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 finance-hainault@brcdt.org

Brentwood Vocations

The next “Enquirers’ Evening” for those considering or interested in a vocation to the priesthood is on Tuesday 9th April at Brentwood Cathedral. The speaker will be Fr Joseph Rodrigues. For further information please contact Fr Mark Swires: vocprom@brcdt.org.

Please also see at the back of the Church, cards and leaflets for you to take, with a prayer for more vocations, especially in our Diocese.

Divine Mercy Sunday

Jesus' message to Sr. Faustina was: “I want the Image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it. My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy.”

After the 11.30 am Mass this Sunday, the Divine Mercy Icon will be blessed and venerated. There are Divine Mercy leaflets available for you at the back of the Church - please take home with you.

Community Coffee Morning

Hosted by staff and medical students from The Willows Medical Centre. Come and have a drink and snack whilst having basic medical checks done. 1-2-1 with a Doctor, BMI check, blood oxygen check.

In our Parish Hall from 11.00 am on 16th April 2024. See posters and flyers in the lobby at the back of the Church.