

Mass times and intentions: 04th – 12th January 2025

Saturday	04	THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	05	11.30 – Maria and Joachim
Monday	06	No Mass
Tuesday	07	Weekday of Christmas time 10.00 – Federica Sophia Van den Berg RIP
Wednesday	08	Weekday of Christmas time 10.00 – Salvador Fernandes RIP
Thursday	09	Weekday of Christmas time 10.00 – Deidre – good health
Friday	10	Weekday of Christmas time 10.00 – Adoamnei's babies – in loving memory
Saturday	11	Weekday of Christmas time 10.00 – Peter Tighe RIP
		THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD 18.00 – Teresa Hudson RIP
Sunday	12	11.30 – The People of the Parish

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: 221

Offertory Collection last weekend: £707.20

Renovation fund: £93.00

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.

CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF BRENTWOOD

PARISH PRIEST: FR TARCIZU ERDEŞ
020 8500 3953

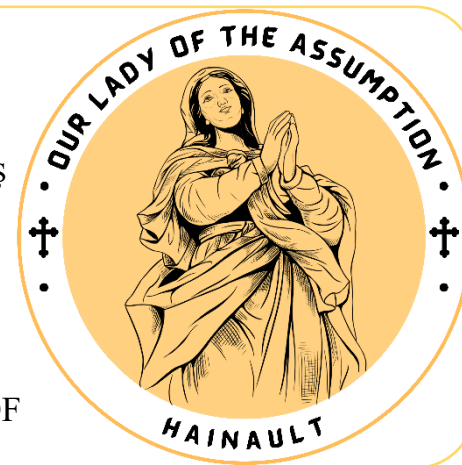
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THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD – 05th January 2025

Parish Mass Book – Sunday Readings – pgs. 115-118

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass

55 – As with gladness men of old (v. 1, 2, 3, 5)

Responsorial Psalm:

All the nations on earth shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

383 – Lord, Jesus Christ

788 – We three Kings of Orient are

305 – In the bleak midwinter (v. 1, 2, 5)

692 – The first Nowell the angel did say (v. 1, 2, 3, 5)

Dear brothers and sisters,

I love magic and magicians. I never cease to be amazed by the speed at which the magician seems to do something that looks impossible. There is a very serious rule among magicians all over the world; under no circumstance let anyone know or tell them how the trick was done; it must be kept a secret. How the trick was done must never be revealed – ever.

Today, we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord, a feast that is celebrated in many cultures and often more prominently than Christmas itself! In the gospel of Luke, it is the shepherds who are the first to visit the new born child and parents. Later, as an adult, Jesus will say *I am the Good Shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep*. In the

gospel today, written by Matthew, it is the strange and colourful visitors from the east who are now coming to see the child Jesus and his parents, and they come bearing gifts. The Wise Men, the Magi are not from the Jewish People; they represent the whole world. Jesus is not just for the Jewish Nation; Jesus has come as the Saviour of the entire world and the whole universe!

The word 'Epiphany' actually means to show, to reveal or to make known. So unlike magicians who keep everything hidden and secret, today's feast is about God fully, openly and clearly revealing Jesus Christ to the whole world, the entire universe, all nations and all peoples for all time. God doesn't keep secrets from us!! As St. Paul writes in his letter to the Hebrews and to us today; 'At many times in the past and in many ways, God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets; but in our time, God speaks to us in the person of Jesus Christ.'


These visitors are often called 'wise' – why? Tradition has it that they were astronomers who travelled from far-distant countries over a long period of time to find Jesus. Were they well-read and clever? Probably, but this is not where their 'wisdom' came from. We call them 'wise' because they set out on their pilgrimage in faith. They did not just rely on their own strength and efforts. They felt called by God to set out and find the Messiah. They followed the star that led them to Jesus. We are told that the sight of the star filled them with joy and delight. Does this suggest that for part of their sacred journey, they could not see the star, yet faithfully kept travelling forward?

As we enter in to these early days of this New Year, to whom are we listening and who are we following? Can we be like these 'wise' visitors who put their faith, hope, and trust in God and follow where we are called and led? If we stay close to God, we will not go astray or get lost; we too will be led to meet and experience the love of God in the voice, face and actions of Jesus Christ.

As we enter into these early days of the New Year, may we let ourselves be led by God. May we too trust that God is indeed leading and guiding us in all that we say and do.

Amen!

Church Renovation Fund

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

Please Note

We kindly remind everyone that the celebration of the Holy Mass is a sacred time for prayer and thanksgiving. Out of respect for the Eucharist, the celebrant, and your fellow parishioners, we encourage you to refrain from engaging in conversation during Mass and to remain until the final blessing and the conclusion of the closing hymn. Leaving early not only disrupts the prayerful atmosphere but also means missing the grace imparted in the final moments of the Mass. Let us honour this sacred time together with reverence and gratitude. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Medjugorje Pilgrimages 13-20 May and 9-16 September 2025

The total cost for the May pilgrimage is £750 and the September pilgrimage is £760. A £30 discount will be given to those who book and pay a £150 deposit before the end of January 2025. The package includes flights, luggage, transfers, half board at the hotel, plus our own guide for the week. To book and for further information please phone Gail on 07989 879148 or email gail.hewett@hotmail.com. Thank you.

Confirmation Programme for 2024/25

Application forms for Confirmation Programme for 2024/25 are now available at the back of the church. You need to have the following to be eligible for the programme:

- live within the parish of Our Lady of the Assumption, Hainault
- your child needs to be at least in Year 9 at school (14 years old and above)
- practising Catholic family in this parish (baptised Catholic, goes to church regularly and receive the sacrament of Communion and Reconciliation); or reference from previous parish priest if you're new to our church community.

Session will be every Saturday at 10.00am, starting on the **11th January 2025**. Please hand in your completed application form to Fr. Tarciziu no later than 5th of January 2025.