

## Mass times and intentions: 11<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Saturday	11	THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD 18.00 – Teresa Hudson RIP
Sunday	12	11.30 – The People of the Parish
Monday	13	No Mass
Tuesday	14	Feria 10.00 – Daniel Mekako
Wednesday	15	Feria 10.00 – Mary McDowell RIP
Thursday	16	Feria 10.00 – Gilda Pednekar RIP
Friday	17	St Antony 10.00 – Roland Selvini RIP
Saturday	18	Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary 10.00 – Joachim and Maria Vas
		SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18.00 – Margaret Brown
Sunday	19	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: 192**

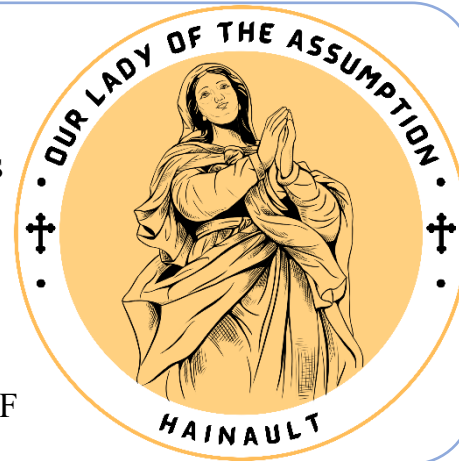
**Offertory Collection last weekend: £ 674.83**

**Renovation fund: £ 168.58**

**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

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## THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD – 12<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Parish Mass Book – Sunday Readings – pgs. 118-122

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass

**562** – Of the Father's love begotten (v. 1, 3, 5, 6)

**Responsorial Psalm:**

***Bless the Lord, O my soul! My God, how great you are!***

**72** – Be still, for the presence of the Lord

**98** – Breathe on me, Breath of God

**401** – Water of life

**227** – God's spirit is in my heart

***Dear brothers and sisters,***

Today, in union with the whole Church, we celebrate the great event that is the Baptism of the Lord. Today is also a great opportunity for us to remember our own Baptism.

In films, on television and in literature, there is no shortage of heroes. What exactly is a hero? Heroes are generally very ordinary people, who for one reason or another see a situation that needs changing; they rise to the occasion and do what needs to be done. The legendary Robin Hood is a very good example of a hero. Scripture too is filled with God's heroes; ordinary people who when filled with God's own life and Spirit, do amazing things.

When God's Spirit filled Mary with courage after she was asked to be the mother of Jesus, what was her response? She did something, she moved, she took action. She went to see Elizabeth. Joseph, when he was unsure what to do, was told not to be afraid and filled with the Holy Spirit, did what he was asked to do; he took Mary into his home as his wife. When Elizabeth welcomed Mary, what did she do? Filled with the Holy Spirit, she broke into song and praised God! Her own husband, Zechariah, when filled with God's Spirit, also broke out in loud praise of God. At Pentecost when the frail and frightened followers were filled with God's life-changing Spirit, what did they do? They gave up their fear and went out with courage to proclaim the Good News of the Gospel. All these are God's heroes; ordinary people who did amazing things because they were filled with God's life-giving Spirit. When Jesus was baptised, he too like his ancestors and those in own family was changed and called to action; he began his public ministry of proclaiming the Good News to the poor.

When we were Baptised, each of us was filled with the exact same Spirit. We too have God's life and Spirit within us; nothing can take that away from us. But because we have been baptised into the life and ministry of Jesus, we too are called to action. Pope Francis tells us, 'Because of their baptism, all members of the People of God have become missionary disciples.' We cannot remain idle or indifferent to the needs of those around us or to the needs of the wider world; we are called to do something for them; we are called to put our faith into real concrete action. The Holy Spirit we received at our baptism strengthens and encourages us when we need help. The Holy Spirit also challenges us to do something rather than nothing!

St. Oscar Romero reminds us of this when he writes: 'The Bible has a very meaningful expression; the Spirit makes all things new. We are the ones who grow old and we are the ones who want everything made to our aged pattern. The Spirit is never old; the Spirit is always young.'

Today, recall and celebrate your own sacred baptism. You are God's beloved; God's favour rests on you. Remember that you are filled with God's life-giving and life-changing Spirit!

*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.

## New Parishioners

Welcome! Please introduce yourself to Fr. Tarciziu. Also please complete a registration and GDPR form found at the back of the Church and return it to the Parish Office.

## 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.

Standing order details:	Online via QR Code:
<b>Account Name:</b> Catholic Church Hainault The Assumption <b>Sort Code:</b> 40-13-22 <b>Account Number:</b> 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](mailto:gail.hewett@hotmail.com). Thank you.