

Mass times and intentions: 08th – 16th March 2025

Saturday	08	FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	09	11.30 – Valeria and departed members of the family
Monday	10	No Mass
Tuesday	11	Tuesday of the First Week of Lent 10.00 – Peter and Emmanuel Busari
Wednesday	12	Wednesday of the First Week of Lent 10.00 – Frank O'Donnell RIP
Thursday	13	Thursday of the First Week of Lent 10.00 – Osmund McMahon RIP
Friday	14	Friday of the First Week of Lent 10.00 – In Honour of The Blessed Trinity
Saturday	15	Saturday of the First Week of Lent 10.00 – Sanjeewa Fernando intentions

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
18.00 – Liam McGoldrick RIP

Sunday 16 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: 265

Offertory Collection last weekend: £ 777.05

Renovation fund: £ 210.64

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

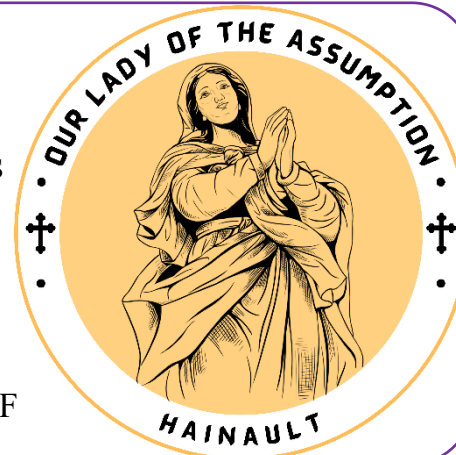
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FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT – 09th March 2025

Parish Mass Book – Sunday Readings – pgs. 153-156

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass

185 – Forty days and forty nights (v. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6)

Responsorial Psalm:

Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

496 – My God, and is thy table spread

570 – Oh, the love of my Lord is the essence

499 – My God loves me

351 – Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us

Dear brothers and sisters,

It's that time of the year again – Lent! We begin our Lenten Journey as we always do with Jesus in the desert.

For many of us who live in cities, the desert may seem like a strange and unfamiliar place. It can be a place of heat, danger and little or no water! But for the Jewish People, at the time of Jesus and today, the desert is a very important part of their history, tradition and religion.

In the Old Testament, the Jewish People spent forty years in the desert. They came through and were formed in the desert. It was in the desert that God spoke to them. They were tried, tested and tempted in the desert.

Eventually on their desert journey, they felt that God had abandoned them and they in turn abandoned God. They gave up and gave in. They famously created the calf made of gold and worshiped it instead of remaining faithful to God.

So, like his ancestors before him, Jesus now finds himself in the desert having being led there by the Holy Spirit. He is about to begin his public ministry and mission but before he does, he too is going to be tempted and tested. Will he remain faithful to God or give in as his ancestors did? How will Jesus respond when he is tempted to turn away from God and his own mission? What will he do when he is offered, fame, power and wealth?

As a human Jesus was tempted, but he did not rely on his own strength or will power. He turned to God for guidance, help, support and encouragement. Jesus knew where his own inner identity and strength came from. He had the humility and wisdom to turn to God when he was tested and tempted. He knew that he was not on his own.

What about each us as we begin our own Lenten Journey? Lent offers us the opportunity to look at our own lives, not harshly with negativity or judgement, but with humility and compassion.

We know that in our own daily lives we too are tempted in so many different ways. Ours may not be as dramatic as those of Jesus; in contrast ours seem more 'normal' or even more subtle.

This however, can be far more damaging and dangerous; we can dismiss these temptations as just part of daily life. When we are tempted (and we are!) we have choices to make: we can give into these temptations and satisfy ourselves; we can struggle on our own to face them or we can follow the example of Jesus.

We can turn to God and simply ask for help when we are struggling with our own personal temptations. This can be difficult because it asks us to be honest with our ourselves and humble as we approach God.

The temptation of Jesus in the desert reminds us that we are not alone when we face our own personal struggles during Lent. Can we invite God into our lives when we are being tempted, so that like Jesus, filled with the Holy Spirit we too will be strengthened to follow the path of discipleship and holiness?

Jesus is tempted and so are we!

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.


Our Lady of the Assumption Pilgrimage to Walsingham – 24th May 2025

You are invited to join our Parish Pilgrimage to Walsingham – where we will all become part of the Diocesan Pilgrimage. It will be a day of blessings and prayer to represent our Parish in Hainault. A coach will leave from outside our Church on the 24th May at 7am and will return at approx. 5pm. The cost will be £25.50 per person.

If you would like to join us and reserve your seat, please contact Joyce Barroba on 07738 333632. Thank you.

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.

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

Parish Mass Books

At our recent Parish Committee Meeting, it was decided that since our Parish Mass Books are no longer up to date with the new Lectionaries, we will continue using them only until Easter. Order of Mass Cards (an easy-to-follow helpful guide for all participants in the Mass) will be available. If you would like to follow the new Lectionary readings, you may do so by downloading the relevant app on your mobile phone or by purchasing a new Sunday Missal from CTS (Catholic Truth Society) or one of the other providers. Thank you.

Walk with Me Booklets - £1

'Walk With Me – A Journey of Prayer for Lent 2025' booklets are now available at the back of the Church. Please put your payment in the metal boxes available or use the card machines. Thank you.