

Mass times and intentions: 10th – 18th May 2025

Saturday	10	FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	11	11.30 – Caetano and Maria Aninha Pereira RIP
Monday	12	No Mass
Tuesday	13	St Erconwald 10.00 – Mary Brigid French RIP
Wednesday	14	ST MATTHIAS 10.00 – Joan Hackett – good recovery
Thursday	15	Thursday after the Fourth Sunday of Easter 10.00 – Irene – special intention
Friday	16	Friday after the Fourth Sunday of Easter 10.00 – Tony and Martina Griffin – intentions
Saturday	17	Saturday after the Fourth Sunday of Easter 10.00 – Cassiana Nogueira Fernandes RIP
		FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	18	11.30 – Ayomide Ishmael and Emmanuel Ayanru 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: 245

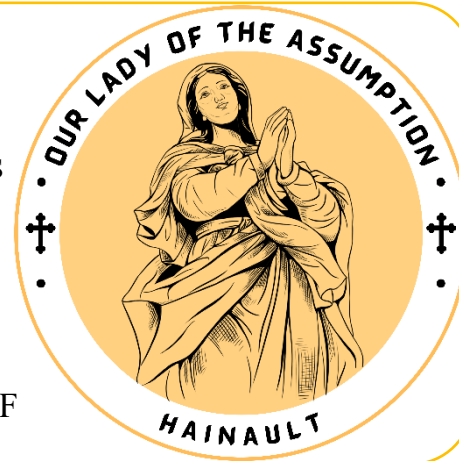
Offertory Collection last weekend: £ 662.32

Renovation fund: £ 262

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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FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – 11th May 2025

Parish Mass Book – Sunday Readings – pgs. 268-271

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass
490 – Morning has broken like the first morning

Responsorial Psalm:

We are his people, the sheep of his flock.

678 – Take our bread, we ask you
77 – Because the Lord is my shepherd
90 – Blest are you, Lord, God of all creation
175 – Follow me, follow me

Dear brothers and sisters,

For those of us who live in cities and housing estates of one kind or another, we more than likely don't see a lot of shepherds or indeed sheep! So how are we to make sense of the language and images in the gospel this Sunday?

Jesus was a master story-teller who knew his audience so well. He spoke a language and used words, images and symbols that they understood and appreciated. He spoke about fishing, farming, baking bread, vineyards and off course, sheep and shepherds.

To us today, all sheep look and sound the same. But to a shepherd at the time of Jesus and even today, it is a very different thing altogether. In fact, all sheep are very different from each other; they are not the same and the shepherd knows this all too well. The shepherd knows each sheep personally and intimately. The shepherd knows the sheep and the sheep know and trust the shepherd. The shepherd will care for and look after the sheep no matter what's happening and regardless of the weather. Shepherds put the wellbeing and welfare of the sheep before their own needs and wants.

You and I are clearly not sheep! But the rich and ancient symbolism of the shepherd and the sheep has a lot to say and offer us. There are many images that Jesus uses to describe his relationship with us; the Bread of life, the Light of the world and the Vine and the Branches, to name a few. So, what is the image of the Shepherd saying to us today?

Jesus knows each of us personally and intimately we are not all the same to him. He calls each of us personally by our name and says to us; 'if you want to be follower, take up your cross and follow me.' This is what the voice of the shepherd says to each of us today. This is the generous and free invitation Jesus offers us; it is up to us whether or not we accept this invitation and follow Jesus the Shepherd.

We all experience setbacks, difficulties and challenges in our daily lives. When we do, then we can turn to Jesus for comfort and support: *He is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering them in his arms, holding them close to his heart.*

On this Good Shepherd Sunday, may we open our hearts and lives to the voice and call of Jesus who continually says to us; *I call you by your name, you are precious in my eyes and I love you.*

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.

Diocesan Second Collection – Promotion of Vocations

There will be a second collection today after both Masses for the Promotion of Vocations. Thank you for your contributions.

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	

Our Parish Pilgrimage to Walsingham - 24 May 2025

A few more places are available! Please join us. To reserve your seat or for further information, please contact Joyce Barroba on 07738 333632.

Sunday Missals

The Repository now has a small stock of the new Sunday Missal at £20 each. If you would like to purchase one, please see either Sheila or Peter Mackay.

Repository

With the forthcoming First Holy Communions and Confirmations in our Parish – you may like to visit our Repository at the back of the Church where you will find a good selection of cards and gifts for these and other occasions.

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