

Mass times and intentions: 16th – 24th August 2025

Saturday	16	TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18.00 – John Flannery RIP
Sunday	17	11.30 – The People of the Parish
Monday	18	No Mass
Tuesday	19	Feria 10.00 – Ayomide Ishamel and Emmanuel Ayanru RIP
Wednesday	20	St Bernard 10.00 – Krysia, Ozzie, Julia and Family
Thursday	21	St Pius X 10.00 – Christiana Edeko – thanksgiving
Friday	22	The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary 10.00 – In honour of Our Lady
Saturday	23	Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary 10.00 – David and Lorna Lee
		TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18.00 – Barry Tighe RIP
Sunday	24	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: 238

Offertory Collection last weekend: £ 752.02

**I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a joyous week
and I look forward, very much, to work with you
for the good of our Parish.**

**CATHOLIC PARISH
OF THE DIOCESE OF BRENTWOOD**

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TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 17th August 2025

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass

6 – A sign is seen in heaven

Responsorial Psalm:

Lord, make haste to help me!

517 – O bread of heaven, beneath this veil

496 – My God, and is thy table spread

S2 – As I kneel before you

544 – O Mother blest, whom God bestows

Dear brothers and sisters,

Today is a day of great joy for our community: it is the feast day of our parish, the day when we remember the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is the day we honour our Mother in Heaven and remember that we are never alone on our journey of faith.

Today's Gospel shows us that Jesus came to bring fire to the earth – the fire of God's love, which brings light and warmth to our hearts, but also purifies all that is not good. The reading from Jeremiah shows us a prophet who suffers for speaking the truth, and the Letter to the Hebrews invites us to run with perseverance along the path of faith.

The prophet Jeremiah was thrown into a muddy cistern because he told people what they didn't want to hear. Sometimes being faithful means going against the current. We too might be criticised or laughed at for going to church, for rejecting lies, or for refusing to compromise.

Mary did the same: she stayed faithful to God even when she was misunderstood and when she suffered greatly, especially at the cross of her Son.

Saint Paul tells us to run "with our eyes fixed on Jesus," not letting ourselves be worn down. It's like a race: if you keep looking at others or at the obstacles, you lose your pace. But if you keep your eyes on the goal, you move forward.

Mary kept her gaze on God all her life. She is like a mother who takes us by the hand and says: "Come on, don't stop, don't give up, Jesus is waiting for you at the end of the road."

The fire Jesus speaks of is the fire of love. When it enters our hearts, it will not let us remain indifferent. Mary's heart was burning with this fire. That's why wherever she went, she drew people closer to God: at Cana she said, "Do whatever He tells you," and at Pentecost she prayed with the apostles, waiting for the coming of the Holy Spirit.

The fire of God's love is like a lit candle. If you keep it for yourself, it lights only a small space. But if you light other candles from it, the light grows and the whole room is filled with warmth. This is how our faith should be in the community.

The feast day of our parish is not only a beautiful celebration. It is the day we remember that we are a family of faith, under the mantle of Our Lady. She protects us, teaches us to love, and gives us courage when we face trials. If each of us lets the fire of Jesus burn in our heart, our community will be full of light and warmth.

The Assumption of Mary is not a day of death, but a day of life: she has arrived home, in the arms of God, where she waits for us as well.

Today, let us say from the heart: "Mother of God, help us to keep the fire of faith alive, to remain united, and never to grow weary on the road to your Son."

Amen.

Our Parish Feast Day

Today, when we remember the beautiful feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the patronal celebration of our community, I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for your presence here and for all your support throughout the year.

Together, we have given our church a renewed brightness, but even more importantly, we have strengthened the bond among us, making this community a true family under the protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

I warmly invite you, after Holy Mass, to remain with us in front of the church, so that we can continue our celebration with joy, fellowship, and gratitude for all the blessings we have received from God.

Happy Feast Day! May Our Lady watch over us and always lead us closer to her Son, Jesus Christ!

A Reminder Please

As you will have seen, we are now using ushers for Communion during Mass every Sunday. Please could we remind you to please remain seated until asked to join the Communion queue?

Thank you for our kind co-operation.

Sunday Missals

Some Sunday Missals are now available at a cost of £20 each. Please ring Sheila on 020 8500 0073 if you would like one. Thank you.

First Holy Communion Programme 2025-2026

The Application and Consent forms for the First Holy Communion (FHC) Programme for 2025/26 are now available at the back of the church. You need to have the following criteria to be eligible for the programme:

- live within the parish of our Lady of Assumption, Hainault
- your child needs to be at least in Year 3 at school (7 years old and above)
- practising Catholic family (goes to church regularly for at least one year) in this parish; or a reference from your previous parish priest if new to our church community.

If you have any questions then please reach out to FHC catechists Anne D'Cruz, Marie Pinto and Gizelle Da-Cunha or email them on

fhc-hainault@brcdt.org

Please hand in your completed application and consent forms to Fr. Tarciziu no later than Sunday 21st September 2025.

The Programme will commence on Tuesday 23rd September 2025.