

Mass times and intentions: 30th August – 07th September 2025

Saturday	30	TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18.00 – Christiana Edeko – intentions
Sunday	31	11.30 – The People of the Parish
Monday	01	No Mass
Tuesday	02	Feria 08.30 – Liam Hays RIP
Wednesday	03	St Gregory the Great 08.30 – Sylwia Vengris – intentions
Thursday	04	Feria 08.30 – Kevin Hayes RIP
Friday	05	Votive Mass of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus 08.30 – In honour of The Sacred Heart of Jesus
Saturday	06	Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary 08.30 – Barry Tighe RIP
		TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18.00 – Esther and Peter
Sunday	07	11.30 – The People of the Parish

Please note that **this week** there will be **no Adoration or Holy Rosary** after morning Mass. Thank you for your understanding!

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: 237

Offertory Collection last weekend: £ 673.17

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

**CATHOLIC PARISH
OF THE DIOCESE OF BRENTWOOD**

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TWENTY- SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 31st August 2025

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass
248 – He who would valiant be 'gainst all disaster

Responsorial Psalm:

In your goodness, O God, you provided a home for the poor.

S3 – Gifts of bread and wine, gifts we've offered

88 – Blest are the pure in heart

312 – Into one we all are gathered through the love of Christ

684 – Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!

Dear brothers and sisters,

Today's Word of God speaks to us about humility and about the true greatness that God seeks in us.

The Book of Sirach tells us: "My son, perform your tasks in meekness; then you will be loved by those whom God accepts." We see that it is not wealth, pride, or self-praise that make us truly great in God's eyes, but a humble heart.

There is a story about a wise man who was asked why he was always at peace and loved by everyone. He answered: "Because wherever I go, I try to be the smallest. And in this way, everyone makes space for me to sit beside them."

Humility does not mean thinking you are worthless. It means recognising the truth: everything we have and everything we are is a gift from God.

The Letter to the Hebrews shows us the contrast between Mount Sinai - where God revealed Himself in fire and fear - and the heavenly Mount Zion, where Christ welcomes us with gentleness and with His blood that brings forgiveness. The message is simple: God does not want to frighten us, but to draw us close to Him. He is great, and precisely because He is great, He comes near with mercy.

A little child, frightened by thunder, said to his mother: "I want to sleep in your room because I'm scared." The mother comforted him: "Don't be afraid, God is with you." And the child replied: "Yes, I know... but I want a God who also has hands to hold me." This is what Jesus does: the great God comes near to us with human arms, so we can feel loved.

In the Gospel, we see a very concrete scene: at a meal, Jesus notices how people rush to take the places of honour. And He says: "For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." This is not just a rule of table etiquette, but a rule for life. God raises up the lowly, and those who exalt themselves are brought down.

It is said that Saint Francis of Assisi, even though crowds followed him and considered him a saint, would always say: "I am the greatest sinner, and whatever good is in me comes only from the Lord." It was precisely this humility that made him great in God's eyes and beloved by people.

Brothers and sisters, our world teaches us to stand out, to show our worth, to prove ourselves. Jesus teaches us the opposite: to choose the lower place, not to seek praise, to do good without expecting a reward. When you help someone who cannot give you anything in return, you resemble God. When you choose silence instead of boasting, God Himself praises you in secret. When you make yourself small, God makes you great.

Let us pray that Jesus may give us humble and grateful hearts. Let us not run after the places of honour at the tables of men, but after the place God prepares for us in His kingdom. And there, the lowest place is in fact the highest place - because it is next to Jesus, who is gentle and humble of heart.

Amen.

Important notice

I would like to share with you, with joy, that in the coming days (1st – 12th September) I will travel to Romania to take part in my sister's wedding. This is a moment of great joy for my family and also, for me, an opportunity to spend some time with my loved ones. As you know, a priest too, just like each one of you, sometimes needs a moment of rest and of returning to his family roots.

During my absence, another priest will be with you and will celebrate the Holy Masses. Please note that for the first week (**2nd – 6th September**) the schedule of the Mass will change slightly: **instead of 10:00 am, it will be celebrated at 8:30 am.**

Thank you for your understanding and for your prayers. I carry you all in my heart and in my prayer. Thank you!

Missio Boxes or 'The Red Boxes'

It is that time of the year again. Would the Parishioners who have the red collection boxes at home please bring them into Church. I will collect them and bank the contents for the Missions. Please leave the boxes in the Sacristy with your name clearly on the box. Once counted, I will leave a box at the rear of the church for you to collect, with your name attached.

If anyone reading this is wondering what these boxes are for, please collect a leaflet at the back of the church labelled 'Missio' or speak with Jim or me to arrange a box.

Wendy Moroney - Missio Secretary

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. Tarcziu no later than Sunday 21st September 2025.

The Programme will commence on Tuesday 23rd September 2025.