

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

Saturday	08	THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	09	11.30 – Late Adoamnei’s Family reposed
Monday	10	No Mass
Tuesday	11	St Martin of Tours 10.00 – Michael Mekako
Wednesday	12	St Josphat 10.00 – Joan Costello RIP
Thursday	13	Feria 10.00 – Anca – intentions
Friday	14	Feria 10.00 – O’Connor Family RIP
Saturday	15	Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary 10.00 – Laura and Family
		THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	16	11.30 – John Aleyamma RIP

Tuesday to Saturday, after the Holy Mass,
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Holy Rosary

Mass Intentions / Offerings: Special envelops 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: 259

Offertory Collection last weekend: £ 717.76

Church Roof Renovation Fund

There will be a 2nd collection after each Sunday Mass to help with the cleaning and repair works on our church roof. 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	

**CATHOLIC PARISH
OF THE DIOCESE OF BRENTWOOD**

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THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA – 09th November 2025

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass
74 – Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart (v. 1, 2, 3)

Responsorial Psalm:

*The waters of a river give joy to God’s city,
the holy place, the abode of the Most High.*

- 157** – Father and life-giver, grace of Christ impart
- 678** – Take our bread, we ask you
- 544** – O Mother blest, whom God bestows
- 765** – Walk with me, oh my Lord

Dear brothers and sisters,

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Dedication of the Basilica of Saint John Lateran - the Pope’s cathedral, and the mother of all churches in the world. But this feast is not really about a building. It’s about something much deeper: God’s living temple the people of faith, each one of us.

In the first reading, the prophet Ezekiel sees a vision of water flowing from the temple - a small stream that becomes a great river, bringing life wherever it goes. That water is the grace of God, His love that flows endlessly, healing, refreshing, renewing everything it touches. When we let that grace flow through us, our lives become fertile again - full of peace and hope. But when we block it with pride, anger, or indifference, our hearts grow dry.

There's an old story about a village well that went dry during a drought. The people said, "The spring has disappeared." But one old man began to dig. He cleared away stones and mud - and soon the water began to flow again. "The spring never disappeared," he said. "We had just covered it."

So it is with God's grace. It never stops. We only bury it beneath the weight of our sins or worries.

Saint Paul reminds us: "You are God's temple, and the Spirit of God dwells in you." What a powerful truth! God doesn't live only in buildings of stone, but in hearts that welcome Him. Each of us is a living church - and together we form the one body of Christ.

In the Gospel, Jesus enters the temple and drives out the merchants. It seems harsh, but it is an act of love. He doesn't want His Father's house filled with noise and greed. And He doesn't want our hearts - His true temple - to be filled with noise either. Sometimes our souls become crowded with pride, resentment, or selfish desires. Jesus comes to overturn those tables. He cleanses us, not to destroy, but to heal. He wants a pure and peaceful heart where the Father can dwell with joy.

Jesus said, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." He was speaking of His Body - of His death and resurrection. He is the new temple, the true dwelling of God among us. And through Him, our lives too can be raised, renewed, and made holy.

This message is especially moving in November - the month when we remember our departed brothers and sisters. Their earthly temples - their bodies - have fallen, but their souls live forever in God. When we light candles for them, that little flame says, "Lord, this temple lives in You. Welcome it into Your house of light."

Dear friends, if we are truly God's temples, then every act of kindness is a brick in His kingdom. Every prayer is a window that lets in His light. Every forgiveness opens a door for Him to enter.

So today, let us ask the Lord to cleanse the temple of our hearts, to let His grace flow again, and to make our families and communities true homes of His presence. And when our earthly life is over, may we be ready to say, "Lord, the temple of my life is ready. Come, and dwell in it forever."

Amen.

• **Receiving Holy Communion**

As Catholics we believe that the Holy Eucharist is the true Body and Blood of Jesus Christ. Receiving Holy Communion is both an expression of this faith and of our communion with the Catholic Church. Practicing Roman Catholics may receive Holy Communion if they are free from grave sin and have also fasted from food and drink for one hour prior.

Holy Communion can be received either on the tongue or the hand, but it has to be received with reverence and needs to be consumed in front of the Minister. (If you receive Holy Communion on the hand, please extend your hands on top of each other and flat, as a throne for Our Eucharistic Lord). If you belong to another Christian community, other faith or none, you cannot receive Holy Communion. You are very welcome however to join the queue and ask for a blessing instead. Please indicate this by crossing your arms over your chest.

• **Together for Our Church Roof**

I thank you from my heart for the love, patience, and generosity with which you continually support the life of our parish community. Our church - the place where we gather to pray, to rejoice, and to praise God - now needs our concrete care. As you know, we hope to complete the cleaning and repair of the church roof, so that this holy place may remain dignified and welcoming, a true sign of the Lord's presence in our midst.

I do not say this as a demand or a burden, but as a call to communion: that each of us, according to our means, may do something for the house of the Lord - not for my church, but for our church. So far, thanks to your generosity, we have gathered **£633** out of the total **£9,996.60** needed. Every contribution, no matter how small, is a testimony of faith and love. And God, who sees in secret, knows how to reward generous hearts in abundance.

• **Christmas Hampers**

Raffle tickets will be on sale before and after Mass for our annual Christmas Hampers. Any donations of food/gifts for these hampers will be gratefully received. There will be a box for these contributions at the back of the Church. The proceeds of this raffle will be for the repair of the Church roof and the raffle will be drawn after Mass on Sunday 7th December 2025.

• **Medjugorje Pilgrimages 11-18 May and 8-15 September 2026**

Please join us on pilgrimage to Medjugorje. The total cost for the May pilgrimage is £770 and the September pilgrimage is £789. A £30 discount will be given to those who book and pay a £150 deposit before the end of January 2026.

The package includes flights, luggage, transfers, half board at the Quercus 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. Thank you.

