

Mass times and intentions: 11th – 19th April 2026

Saturday	11	DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	12	11.30 – Anna-Leah – healing
Monday	13	NO MASS
Tuesday	14	Tuesday of the Second Week of Easter 10.00 – Brijit Philip RIP
Wednesday	15	Wednesday of the Second Week of Easter 10.00 – Joan Rodrigues
Thursday	16	Thursday of the Second Week of Easter 10.00 – Muriel French RIP
Friday	17	Friday of the Second Week of Easter 10.00 – Caetano and Maria Aninha Pereira RIP
Saturday	18	Saturday of the Second Week of Easter 10.00 – Betty and Osmund McMahon RIP
		THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	19	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: 554

Offertory Collection last weekend: £ 2192.57

Please consider SUPPORTING our Parish with a donation		
Donate by bank transfer or standing order:	Scan to donate:	Donate via the Parish website:
Account Name: Catholic Church Hainault The Assumption Sort Code: 40-13-22 Account Number: 31019244		https://hainault.org.uk/donations/
Please sign up to Gift Aid if you are a UK tax payer. Gift Aid allows the parish to receive an extra 25p for every £1 you donate - at no additional cost to you		

CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF BRENTWOOD

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DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY – 12th April 2026

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass
684 – Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!

Responsorial Psalm:

Give praise to the Lord, for he is good, his mercy endures for ever.

730 – This is my body, broken for you (v. 1, 2, 3, 5)

31 – All ye who seek a comfort sure

10 – Across the years there echoes still

209 – God forgave my sin in Jesus' name

Dear brothers and sisters,

Today's Gospel begins with closed doors. The disciples are locked inside, not only in a house, but in fear, disappointment, and guilt. They saw Jesus die. They ran away. They failed. And now they do not know what comes next. Everything seems lost.

And exactly there, in that closed place, Jesus comes.

He does not wait for them to change. He does not wait for them to become better. He does not wait for them to overcome their fears. He comes just as they are. And the first word he says is: "Peace be with you."

This is the first gift of the Resurrection: peace. Not a superficial peace, not the absence of problems, but a deep peace that comes from the fact that Jesus is alive. A peace that tells us: death has not won, sin has not won, fear has not won.

That is why Divine Mercy Sunday is not separate from Easter. It is the heart of Easter. It is as if God is saying to us: “The Resurrection is not only a beautiful story. The Resurrection is mercy for you.”

Jesus does not come back to judge. He comes back to forgive. He does not come with reproach, but with wounds. And these wounds are no longer signs of suffering - they are signs of love.

This is very important: the risen Jesus still has wounds. He shows them. He does not hide them. Because through them he says: “I love you to the end.” His wounds become the place where we can find ourselves, where we understand that no sin is greater than his love.

Then he does something extraordinary: he breathes on them and gives them the power to forgive sins. On the very day of the Resurrection, Jesus opens the doors of mercy. It is as if he says: “Now that I have conquered death, I want to conquer sin in your hearts.”

This is the joy of Easter: not only that Jesus has risen, but that forgiveness is possible. That we can begin again. That the past does not have the last word.

Then we meet Thomas. Thomas is not there the first time. He cannot believe. He says, “Unless I see, I will not believe.” He is honest. He is wounded. He is disappointed.

And Jesus comes again. For him. Just for him. After eight days. He does not rush him. He does not judge him. He comes close and says, “Put your hand here.”

Here we see something very beautiful: God’s mercy is patient. God is not in a hurry with us. He does not give up on us because we struggle to believe. He comes again. And again.

And then Thomas says the most beautiful words: “My Lord and my God.” This is the journey of faith: from fear to peace, from doubt to trust, from being closed to being open.

Dear brothers and sisters, Divine Mercy Sunday is a day of joy. Not a superficial joy, but a deep joy: the joy that we are loved, that we are forgiven, that we are not alone, that God never abandons us.

Maybe we also have closed doors in our lives. Maybe a guilt that gives us no peace. Maybe an old wound. Maybe a fear. Maybe a doubt. Today Jesus comes and says: “Peace be with you.”

And not only that. Today he tells us: “Do not be afraid to trust.” This is the heart of Divine Mercy: “Jesus, I trust in You.” Not because everything is easy, but because he is alive.

Maybe today Jesus is not asking big things from us. He asks only one thing: to trust. To say from the heart: “Jesus, I trust in You.”

And if we take this small step, then the joy of the Resurrection will begin to live in us. Because where mercy enters, fear disappears. Where mercy enters, new life begins.

Today is not a day of fear. It is a day of joy. Not a day of condemnation. It is a day of love. Not a day of the past. It is a day of a new beginning.

Jesus is alive. And the first gift he gives us is this: “Peace be with you.”

And our answer can be simple, but very deep: “Jesus, I trust in You.”

Amen.

• **Thank You!**

With a full and grateful heart, I would like to thank each one of you for your kindness, generosity, and love shown to me this Easter. Through your gifts, your offerings, your kind words, and your presence, I have felt not only your appreciation, but your closeness and your care. It means more than words can express.

Being your priest is not just a responsibility - it is a joy, a blessing, and a gift. And in moments like these, I am reminded that we are truly a family, walking together in faith, supporting one another, and growing together in God’s love.

Thank you for your generosity, but even more, thank you for your prayers, your trust, and your friendship. These are the greatest gifts. Please be assured of my prayers for each one of you and for your families. May the risen Lord bless you, fill your homes with peace, and reward your goodness with His grace. Thank you!

• **Your Generosity Makes a Difference**

Our Church of the Assumption collected **£893.18** through the Red Boxes and direct donations.

I would like to offer my sincere thanks to everyone who contributed, whether by collecting coins or through direct giving. Your generosity is truly appreciated.

The money collected is sent through MISSIO / Mill Hill Missionaries to support people in need around the world, including communities such as the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament, who offer both prayer and practical help.

To give some context, our Diocese raised over **£70,000**, and across England and Wales, more than **£2 million** was collected.

Thank you all for your support. Every penny truly makes a difference.