

Mass times and intentions: 16th – 24th May 2026

Saturday	16	SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 18.00 – Larrisa Silvei – get well
Sunday	17	11.30 – The People of the Parish
Monday	18	NO MASS
Tuesday	19	Tuesday of the Seventh Week of Easter 10.00 – Ayomide Ishmael and Emmanuel Ayanru RIP
Wednesday	20	St Bernardine of Siena 10.00 – Jame Erhabor RIP
Thursday	21	Thursday of the Seventh Week of Easter 10.00 – Jude Ike Orajekwe RIP
Friday	22	Friday of the Seventh Week of Easter 10.00 – Silveen Pritchard RIP
Saturday	23	Saturday of the Sixth Week of Easter 10.00 – Lorna Lee RIP
		PENTECOST SUNDAY 18.00 – James Hurley, John and Hetty Crawley 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: 384

Offertory Collection last weekend: £ 856.56

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**

PARISH PRIEST: FR TARCIZU ERDES
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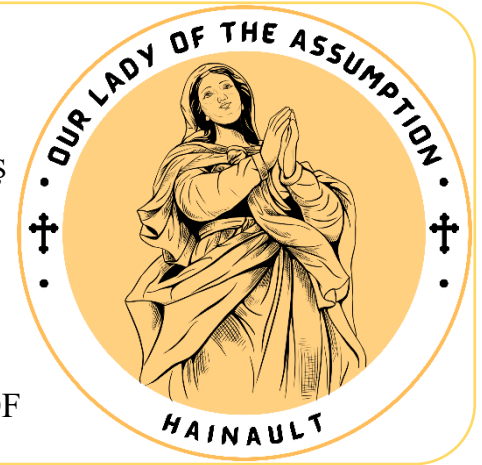
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SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – 17th May 2026

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass

125 – Come down, O love divine (v. 1, 2, 4)

Responsorial Psalm:

I believe I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.

730 – This is my body, broken for you

98 – Breath on me, Breath of God

118 – Colours of day dawn into the mind

388 – Shine, Jesus, shine

Dear brothers and sisters,

Today's Gospel, gently opens for us a window into the heart of Jesus Christ. We see Jesus at prayer. He is not teaching the crowds, nor speaking in parables, but turning to the Father. And in this prayer, we discover how deeply we are loved.

Jesus lifts His eyes to heaven and says, "Father, the hour has come." It is a moment filled with light and surrender. He knows that His path leads through the cross, yet He does not withdraw or grow afraid. Instead, He entrusts Himself completely into the hands of the Father. And in a beautiful way, even in this moment, He is not thinking only of Himself, but of us.

He carries us in His heart and says that He has made the Father's name known to us. What does this mean? It means that He has revealed who God truly is: not a distant or cold master, but a loving Father who comes close, who seeks every human heart.

Jesus says about His disciples: "They are yours... and I am glorified in them." How comforting it is to know that God sees something good and precious in each of us. Even when we feel weak or uncertain, He sees in us the possibility of love, His own image alive within us.

And then comes that tender prayer: "Keep them in your name." Jesus prays for us. Not only then, in that moment, but also today. He prays for each one of us - for our lives, our struggles, our hopes. We are never alone. We are held in His prayer.

Dear brothers and sisters, how much peace could enter our hearts if we truly believed this... that Jesus is praying for us, that He entrusts us to the Father, that He loves us without ceasing.

Eternal life, Jesus says, is this: to know the Father and the One whom He has sent. It is not only something for the life to come. Eternal life begins already now, when our hearts enter into relationship with God, when we allow Him to love us and we try, in turn, to love.

Perhaps at times our faith feels tired. Perhaps we pray little, or with difficulty. But today's Gospel reminds us of something very simple and very beautiful: before our prayer, there is Jesus' prayer for us. Before we seek God, He is already holding us in His heart.

Let us not be afraid to entrust ourselves to Him. Let us not be afraid to be simple before God, just as we are. He does not ask for perfection, but for an open heart.

Today, in this day of celebration for our community, we are invited to find ourselves within this prayer of Jesus. To feel that we belong to God, that we are loved, protected, and accompanied.

And perhaps the most beautiful response we can give to this love is this: to remain united, to carry one another with patience, gentleness, and kindness. For where there is love, there God is present.

Let us leave this place with more peace in our hearts, with deeper trust, and with the desire to live as people who know they are loved.

Amen.

• **Diocesan Second Collection**

There will be a second collection after Masses this weekend for World Communication Day. Thank you for your generosity.

• **Strengthened by the Holy Spirit**

A Joyful Celebration of Confirmation

I would like to inform you that next Sunday, May 24, during the Holy Mass at 11:30, 12 young members of our community will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

This beautiful celebration takes place on the great feast of Pentecost, when we remember the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles. On that day, they were filled with courage, joy, and strength, and were sent to proclaim the Gospel to the world. It is the birthday of the Church, a moment of new life and mission.

In the same spirit, these young people will receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit, who will strengthen them and guide them to live their faith with courage, maturity, and joy. Their Confirmation on this special feast makes the celebration even more meaningful, as they too are sent forth as witnesses of Christ in today's world.

At the same time, this celebration is not only about them, but about all of us. It is a moment of grace for the entire community, a reminder of our own calling to renew our faith and to remain open to the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

I warmly invite all of you to join us in prayer and presence, to support these young people as they take this beautiful and meaningful step in their spiritual journey.

• **Pentecost – A Grace-Filled Transition in Our Liturgical Journey**

With the celebration of Pentecost, we bring to a close the Easter season and return to Ordinary Time.

The Easter season has been a time filled with light, joy, and hope, in which we have walked alongside the Risen Lord and rediscovered the beauty of new life in Christ. Pentecost crowns this journey, reminding us that the gift of the Holy Spirit remains alive and active in the Church and in each of our hearts.

As we return to Ordinary Time, we are invited to live what we have celebrated. These liturgical seasons are not simply moments that pass, but steps that help us grow in faith, guiding us gently through the mystery of Christ's life and calling us to make it present in our daily lives.

Let us go forward with renewed courage and trust, carrying the light of the Resurrection into our everyday lives. The Holy Spirit walks with us, strengthens us, and gently leads us, even in the ordinary moments. No step of our journey is without meaning when it is lived with God.

May our hearts remain open, our faith alive, and our hope strong, as we continue together on this beautiful path with the Lord.