

**Mass times and intentions: 23<sup>rd</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> May 2026**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>PENTECOST SUNDAY</b> 18.00 – James Hurley, John and Hetty Crawley RIP
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>24</b>	11.30 – The People of the Parish
<b>Monday</b>	<b>25</b>	NO MASS
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>St Philip Neri</b> 10.00 – Luca Dias – birthday
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>St Augustine of Canterbury</b> 10.00 – John Omada RIP
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>Our Lord Jesus Christ the Eternal High Priest</b> 10.00 – Oliver McDowell – good health
<b>Friday</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>Friday of Week Eight in Ordinary Time</b> 10.00 – Bruce Hausenloy – good health
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> 10.00 – Lorna Lee RIP
		<b>THE MOST HOLY TRINITY</b> 18.00 – The People of the Parish
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>31</b>	11.30 – Silveen Bakose Pritchard 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: 256**

**Offertory Collection last weekend: £ 691.83**

<b>Please consider SUPPORTING our Parish with a donation</b>		
Donate by bank transfer or standing order:	Scan to donate:	Donate via the Parish website:
<b>Account Name:</b> Catholic Church Hainault The Assumption <b>Sort Code:</b> 40-13-22 <b>Account Number:</b> 31019244		<a href="https://hainault.org.uk/donations/">https://hainault.org.uk/donations/</a>
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 ERDEŞ  
020 8500 3953; 07735 416319

[hainault@brcdt.org](mailto:hainault@brcdt.org)

[finance-hainault@brcdt.org](mailto:finance-hainault@brcdt.org)

[safeguarding-hainault@brcdt.org](mailto:safeguarding-hainault@brcdt.org)

[www.hainault.org.uk](http://www.hainault.org.uk)

98, Manford Way, Hainault, IG7 4DF



**PENTECOST SUNDAY – 24<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass

126 – Come, Holy Ghost, Creator, come (v. 1, 2, 6, 7)

**Responsorial Psalm:**

*Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.*

664 – Spirit of God in the clear running water (v. 1, 2, 4)

261 – Holy Spirit, Lord of light (v. 1, 3, 5)

596 – Peace is the gift of heaven to earth

227 – God’s spirit is in my heart

**Dear brothers and sisters,**

Today the Church is clothed in the light and joy of Pentecost. Today we celebrate the day when the Holy Spirit descended upon the apostles like fire from heaven and transformed fearful hearts into hearts filled with courage, hope, and love. Pentecost is not only the memory of something that happened long ago. It is the living reminder that God still breathes His Spirit into His people even today.

The Gospel tells us that the disciples were gathered together behind locked doors because they were afraid. How human they were. They had walked with Jesus, listened to His voice, witnessed His miracles, and yet fear still found its way into their hearts. After the sorrow of the Passion and the uncertainty of the days that followed, they no longer knew what the future would look like.

And perhaps we understand them more than we think.

How many people today live behind locked doors of the soul? Some lock their hearts because they have been wounded. Others because they are disappointed, tired, anxious, or discouraged. Some carry silent griefs that nobody sees. Others smile on the outside while carrying storms within. And yet today's Gospel brings us immense comfort: Jesus comes even through locked doors.

Nothing can keep Him away from the heart that needs Him. No fear is too deep. No wound is too painful. No darkness is too heavy. Christ enters the midst of His disciples, and the very first words He speaks are: "Peace be with you." What tenderness there is in these words. Jesus does not begin with reproaches. He does not remind them that they abandoned Him. He does not humiliate them for their fear. He comes bringing peace.

Because God knows how fragile the human heart can be.

The world often gives us noise instead of peace, pressure instead of rest, fear instead of hope. People are exhausted today. Many are carrying burdens silently. Many are searching for meaning, for healing, for a little light in the darkness. And into this reality Jesus still speaks the same words: "Peace be with you." Not the peace that comes from having a perfect life. Not the peace that comes from having no struggles. But the peace that comes from knowing that God is near.

Then the Gospel tells us something deeply beautiful: Jesus breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit." This image is so gentle and full of life. God comes like a breath. Quietly. Tenderly. Just as God breathed life into humanity at creation, Christ now breathes new life into His disciples. The Holy Spirit is the breath of God within the weary human soul. Without the Holy Spirit, faith can become cold routine. Without the Holy Spirit, the heart becomes tired and heavy. But when the Spirit of God enters a life, something begins to awaken. Fear slowly turns into courage. Despair begins to open toward hope. Closed hearts begin to love again.

There is a beautiful moment in the life of Pope John Paul II that speaks powerfully about this transformation. After the assassination attempt that nearly took his life, many expected him to live with anger or bitterness. But instead, he chose forgiveness. He visited the man who had shot him in prison. He spoke to him gently, almost like a brother.

Humanly speaking, revenge would have been easier. But the Holy Spirit can do what human strength alone cannot do. The Spirit of God can transform pain into mercy, wounds into compassion, and fear into love. This is the miracle of Pentecost. The apostles who once hid behind locked doors became witnesses who carried the Gospel to the ends of the earth. Not because they suddenly

became extraordinary people, but because the Holy Spirit made ordinary hearts burn with divine love.

And the same Spirit is alive today. The Holy Spirit still gives strength to the mother who is exhausted but continues loving her family with tenderness. The Holy Spirit still gives courage to the person fighting illness or loneliness. The Holy Spirit still helps people forgive when forgiveness feels impossible. The Holy Spirit still lifts those who feel broken and reminds them that they are never abandoned.

Dear brothers and sisters, today let us open the locked doors of our hearts. Let us allow the Holy Spirit to enter our fears, our wounds, our homes, our families, and even those hidden places we rarely speak about. Let us ask the Holy Spirit to rekindle faith where it has grown weak, to bring hope where discouragement has settled, and to teach us once again how to love. Because the world does not need more cold hearts, more anger, or more division. The world desperately needs people filled with the Spirit of God - people who bring peace, kindness, forgiveness, and light wherever they go.

And when we leave this church today, may we leave remembering this beautiful truth: we are not alone. The Spirit of God still moves among His people. He still heals. He still strengthens. He still renews hearts.

For wherever the Holy Spirit enters, life begins again.

**Amen.**

### • **Pentecost – A Grace-Filled Step Forward in Faith**

With the celebration of Pentecost, the Easter season comes to an end and we return to Ordinary Time.

Over these past weeks, we have journeyed with the Risen Lord through the joy and hope of Easter. At Pentecost, we are reminded that the Holy Spirit continues to live and work in the Church and in our hearts.

As we return to Ordinary Time, we are invited to live each day with renewed faith and trust, carrying the light of Christ into our homes, families, and daily lives. Even in ordinary moments, God remains close to us, guiding and strengthening us through His Spirit.

Next Sunday, the Church will celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity, inviting us to reflect on the mystery of God's love - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - and on our call to live in communion with Him and with one another.

May we continue this journey together with open hearts, living each day in the peace, hope, and joy of the Lord.