

Mass times and intentions: 06th – 14th June 2026

Saturday	06	THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	07	11.30 – Johnny Hackett RIP
Monday	08	NO MASS
Tuesday	09	Feria of Tenth Week in Ordinary Time 10.00 – Julian RIP
Wednesday	10	Feria of Tenth Week in Ordinary Time 10.00 – Donogwue Family RIP
Thursday	11	St Barnabas 10.00 – Gabriela Vengris and her intentions
Friday	12	THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS 10.00 – Anna-Leah – good health
Saturday	13	The Immaculate Heart of Mary 10.00 – Lorna Lee RIP
		ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	14	11.30 – Johnny Hackett 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: 239

Offertory Collection last weekend: £ 652.57

Please consider SUPPORTING our Parish with a donation		
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**CATHOLIC PARISH
OF THE DIOCESE OF BRENTWOOD**

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THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST – 07th June 2026

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass

185 – Forty days and forty nights (v. 1, 2, 3, 6)

Responsorial Psalm: O Jerusalem, glorify the Lord!

302 – In bread we bring you, Lord, our bodies' labour

676 – Take my hands and make them as your own

662 – Sons of God, hear his holy Word! (v. 1, 3, 4, 6)

383 – Lord Jesus Christ

Dear brothers and sisters,

Today we celebrate one of the most beautiful and beloved feasts of the Church: Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. Today we turn our hearts with gratitude toward the extraordinary gift that Jesus left us before His Passion: the Holy Eucharist. It is such a great gift that we will never fully understand its depth and beauty.

In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks words that surprised and even troubled many of those who heard Him: "I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever." He does not say, "I will give you something." He does not say, "I will leave you a symbol." He says, "I am the bread." Jesus does not simply give us a gift. He gives us Himself.

And perhaps this is where the extraordinary beauty of today's feast lies. God did not want to remain distant. He did not want to be merely a memory from the past or an idea to be discussed. He wanted to remain close to us - so close that He could enter into our lives, our hearts, our struggles, and our weaknesses.

How often do we feel tired? How often do we carry burdens that nobody else can see? Sometimes the body grows weary, and sometimes it is the soul. There are people who come to church carrying silent pains, worries about their children, concerns for their families, their health, or their future. And it is precisely to these people that Jesus says today: “Come to Me. Be nourished by Me. Let Me give you the strength you need.” Because the Eucharist is not a reward for the perfect. It is food for those who need God.

There is a story about an elderly man who attended Mass every morning. One day someone asked him, “Why do you come so often? Don’t you get tired of doing the same thing every day?” The old man simply replied, “Every day I feed my body with bread and water, and nobody asks me why I do that. Why should it seem strange that I also feed my soul with Christ?”

How much truth there is in those words! No one can live without food. Yet we often forget that the soul also needs nourishment. We take care of our bodies, our homes, our work, and our plans, but sometimes our souls remain hungry for God.

Jesus knows this hidden hunger of the human heart. He knows that there is a thirst within each of us that nothing in this world can fully satisfy. Success cannot satisfy it. Wealth cannot satisfy it. The approval of others cannot satisfy it. Only God can fill that deep place within the soul. And that is why Jesus says: “Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.”

What a wonderful promise! Not only do we receive Christ, but He remains in us. He walks with us when we leave this church. He enters our homes, our families, our joys, and our struggles.

Carlo Acutis, the young saint who loved the Eucharist so deeply, used to say: “The Eucharist is my highway to heaven.” He understood something that many adults sometimes forget: that Jesus present in Holy Communion is not merely a religious custom, but a living encounter with the One who loves us.

Brothers and sisters, perhaps at times we approach the altar out of habit. Perhaps the busyness of life causes us to forget how great the gift truly is. Today the Church invites us to rediscover a sense of wonder. To look upon the Holy Eucharist with the eyes of faith and say: “Lord, You are here for me.”

And if He gives Himself completely to us, then we too are called to become bread for others.

The Eucharist does not end when we leave the church. It continues in the way we love, in the way we serve, and in the way we carry one another in our hearts.

Today, as we approach the altar, let us do so with gratitude and trust. Perhaps we are not perfect. Perhaps we carry many weaknesses and many struggles. Yet Christ never ceases to offer Himself to us.

He comes to us not because we are worthy through our own efforts, but because He loves us.

And perhaps this is the most beautiful message of today’s feast: God never grows tired of feeding us with His love. Sunday after Sunday, year after year, He waits for us at His table. He knows our names. He knows our wounds. He knows our hopes. And once again He says to us: “Take and eat. This is my Body given for you.”

As we leave this church today, let us carry grateful hearts. Let us never forget how close God truly is to us - not distant, not unreachable, but present, living, and loving in the Holy Eucharist.

And when life becomes difficult, when our strength begins to fail and the road seems too long, let us remember that at the altar there is always a food that never runs out: the love of Christ. The world offers many things that satisfy us only for a moment, but Christ offers Himself and remains with us forever. He is the companion who never abandons us, the bread that never fails us, the love that never grows weary of us.

May we always find our way back to Him. May we approach His table with faith, with humility, and with hearts full of trust. And may every Eucharist remind us that we are deeply loved, never forgotten, and always welcomed by the Lord who gives Himself completely for us.

Amen.

• A Time to Remember, Give Thanks, and Renew

From Monday, 8 June until Friday, 12 June, I will be travelling to Romania to take part in a special gathering with my brother priests and former classmates from the seminary. This year marks a very meaningful milestone for us, as we celebrate 10 years since our priestly ordination. To give thanks to God for this gift, we will return together to the seminary where we were formed and where our vocation first took shape. It will be a wonderful opportunity to spend a few days together, sharing memories, encouraging one another, and reflecting on the journey that God has led us on over these past ten years.

As I prepare for this reunion, I am especially mindful that half of those ten years have been spent here in Hainault, serving and walking alongside you. For that reason, I carry each of you with me in my prayers and in my gratitude. Thank you for your friendship, your support, your faith, and for allowing me to be part of your lives and your families. I would like to ask for your prayers during these days, not only for me, but for all priests. Let us thank God together for the gift of the priesthood and pray that priests may always remain faithful, joyful, and generous servants of the Gospel.

May the Lord continue to bless our parish community, and may Our Lady keep us all under her loving protection. Thank you!

• Diocesan Second Collection - Sick & Retired Clergy Fund

This weekend there will be the annual collection for the Sick & Retired Clergy Fund of the Diocese. The fund helps Clergy who require assistance in their retirement after years of service, it also helps those who are in ill health at any age.