

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

Saturday	11	FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	12	11.30 – Anna-Leah – healing
Monday	13	NO MASS
Tuesday	14	Feria of Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time 10.00 – Kevin and Liam Hayes RIP
Wednesday	15	St Bonaventure 10.00 – Liam Hayes RIP
Thursday	16	Our Lady of Mount Carmel 10.00 – Bouognon Monfre Felicite RIP
Friday	17	Feria of Fifteenth Week in Ordinary Time 10.00 – Tom Barry RIP
Saturday	18	Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary 10.00 – Sr. Immaculata – intentions
		SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 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: 224

Offertory Collection last weekend: £ 731.46

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/
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CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF BRENTWOOD

PARISH PRIEST: FR TARCIZU ERDEŞ
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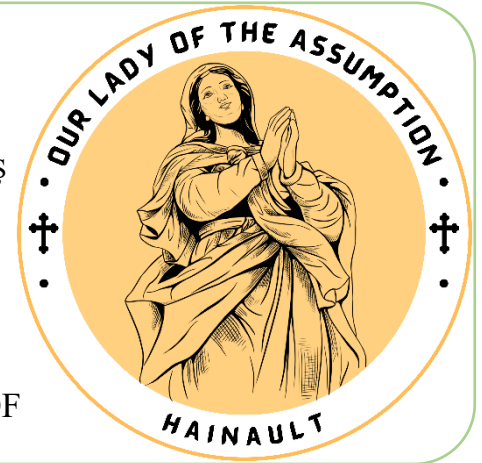
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FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 12th July 2026

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass

782 – We plough the fields and scatter (v. 1, 3)

Responsorial Psalm: *Some seed fell into good soil and yielded its fruit.*

177 – For the beauty of the earth (v. 1, 2, 5)

377 – Lord accept the gifts we offer

570 – Oh, the love of my Lord is the essence

175 – Follow me, follow me

Dear brothers and sisters,

Today's Gospel begins with a beautiful and very simple image. Jesus tells us about a Sower who goes out to sow his seed. He is not a king. He is not a scholar. He is not a powerful man. He is simply a farmer, walking slowly across his field, scattering seed with generous hands.

If we had been in his place, we might have done things differently. We would probably have said, "Don't waste the seed on the path. Don't throw it among the rocks. Don't scatter it where the thorns are growing."

But God does not think as we do. He scatters his seed everywhere.

This is the first piece of Good News in today's Gospel: God never gives up on people. Even when we have lost hope in ourselves, God continues to sow. His word falls into every heart. It falls into the heart of a child and the heart of an elderly person. It falls into the heart of someone who comes to Mass every Sunday and into the heart of someone who has not entered a church for years. It falls into the heart of the saint and into the heart of the sinner.

For God, no heart is ever beyond hope.

Perhaps someone here today is quietly thinking, "If God really knew me, he would stop believing in me." But today's Gospel tells us exactly the opposite. God keeps sowing, even when he sees stones, thorns and hard ground. He sees beyond what we can see. He sees the harvest that his grace can one day bring.

There is a story about an elderly man who spent his days planting oak trees in a place where very little seemed able to grow. Someone asked him, "Why are you planting these trees? You will never live long enough to sit in their shade." The old man smiled and replied, "I have enjoyed the shade of trees that I never planted. Someone planted them for me. Now it is my turn to plant them for others."

That is how God works. He keeps sowing without growing tired. He keeps sowing without becoming discouraged. He keeps sowing because he never stops hoping. But today's Gospel also invites us to look honestly at our own hearts. Sometimes our hearts are like the path. We hear God's word, but it never really enters us. We listen to it at Mass, but by Monday morning we have already forgotten it. At other times we are like the rocky ground. We become enthusiastic very quickly. We make good resolutions. We tell ourselves, "From tomorrow I will pray more. From tomorrow I will be more patient." But when difficulties come, we quickly lose heart.

Sometimes our hearts are full of thorns. Not because we do not love God, but because worries, busy schedules and everyday concerns leave very little room for him. Then God's word struggles to grow.

But notice something very important. Jesus is not describing four different kinds of people. He is describing four different moments in the life of the same heart. Some days we are good soil. Some days our hearts are hard. Some days they are full of stones. Some days they are crowded with thorns.

And yet God never stops sowing. Saint Augustine once said that God is closer to us than we are to ourselves. Even when we walk away from him, he continues to knock gently at the door of our hearts.

Perhaps the greatest miracle in today's Gospel is not the harvest. Perhaps the greatest miracle is the patience of the Sower. He never says, "I tried once. That is enough." He comes back. He sows again. And again. And again. That is exactly how God treats each one of us.

How many times has he spoken to us through a homily? Through a time of suffering? Through a moment of unexpected joy? Through a child? Through a friend? Through a complete stranger? He never grows tired of speaking to our hearts.

Dear brothers and sisters, each one of us is not only soil. Each one of us is also a Sower. Every single day we sow something into the lives of other people. Through our words. Through our actions. Through the way we treat those around us. One harsh word can wound someone for years. But one kind word can restore

hope. One embrace can begin to heal a broken heart. One act of forgiveness can change a family. One sincere prayer can change a life.

So let us never say, "There is no point." With God, there is always hope.

Perhaps you have been praying for many years for a son or daughter who has drifted away from the faith. Perhaps for your husband or wife. Perhaps for someone who seems as though they will never change. Do not forget today's Gospel. The Sower never gives up. God never gives up. And neither should we.

As we continue this Holy Mass today, let us ask the Lord for one simple gift. Not that he should change the whole world. But that he should begin with our own hearts. May he remove the stones that make us slow to listen. May he pull out the thorns that steal our peace. May he soften the places that have become hard through disappointment, hurt or fear. And may he make our hearts into good soil, where his word can take root, grow, and bear fruit - fruit of love, peace and hope.

Because whenever one heart truly welcomes God, the world around it begins to change.

Amen.

• **A Gentle Reminder for Parents**

The safety and wellbeing of all who attend Holy Mass, especially our children, is very important to us. We warmly welcome children at every Mass - they are a precious part of our parish family, and their presence brings joy to our community.

We kindly ask parents and carers to ensure that young children remain supervised throughout the celebration. In particular, we ask that children are not allowed to wander near the sanctuary, altar, or candle stands, where an accident could happen in just a moment.

Thank you for your understanding, your cooperation, and for helping us to maintain a safe and prayerful environment for everyone.

• **Parish Feast Day Celebration (Sunday 16th August 2026)**

Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

You are warmly invited to join us as we celebrate our Parish Feast Day on Sunday, 16 August 2026. Following the 11:30 am Holy Mass, everyone is welcome to stay and enjoy a time of fellowship with celebratory food and refreshments as we come together as one parish family. Contributions of food and drinks are greatly appreciated. Financial donations, both online and in person, are also welcome to help support the celebration.

Further details will be shared in the coming weeks.

We look forward to celebrating with you!

• **Diocesan Second Collection This Weekend**

There will be a second collection at both Masses this weekend for Stella Maris Sea Sunday when Churches worldwide pray for seafarers and fishers. Stella Maris (formerly known as the Apostleship of the Sea) provides practical and pastoral support to those who work at sea. Thank you for your generosity!