

Mass times and intentions: 05th – 13th September 2026

Saturday	05	TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	06	11.30 – Maureen Marston RIP
Monday	07	NO MASS
Tuesday	08	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary 10.00 – Sebastian Stephen – healing
Wednesday	09	Feria of Twenty-Third Week in Ordinary Time 10.00 – Laura and Robert Hatt – intentions
Thursday	10	Feria of Twenty-Third Week in Ordinary Time 10.00 – Rosaleen Craig – special intention
Friday	11	Feria of Twenty-Third Week in Ordinary Time 10.00 – Noleen Kelly
Saturday	12	The Most Holy Name of Mary 10.00 – Anna-Leah – healing
		TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	13	11.30 – Joe O'Dwyer 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: 250

Offertory Collection last weekend: £ 500.46

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/
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
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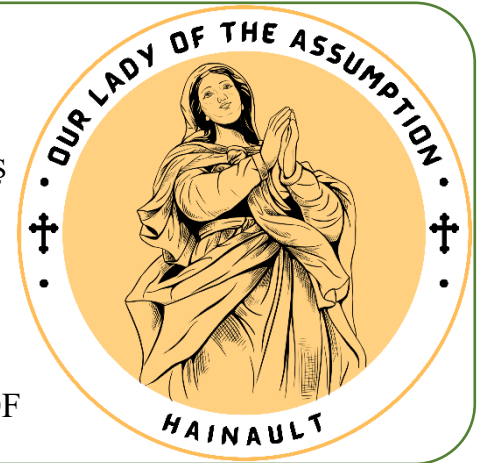
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TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 06th September 2026

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass

179 - For the healing of the nations (v. 1, 3, 4)

Responsorial Psalm: *O that today you would listen to his voice!*
'Harden not your hearts.'

676 - Take my hands and make them as your own

31 - All ye who seek a comfort sure

4 - A new commandment I give unto you

800 - When I needed a neighbour

Dear brothers and sisters,

Today's Gospel speaks about something that happens in every family, in every community and, probably, in the life of every one of us: someone hurts us. Sometimes with a word. Sometimes by something they do. Sometimes through injustice, dishonesty or betrayal. And what do we do when that happens?

Very often we are tempted to do one of two things: either we keep everything inside and allow the wound to grow, or we tell other people what has happened.

Today Jesus offers us another way. He says: ***"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone."***

Notice the gentleness of Jesus. He does not say, "Talk about him." He says, "Talk to him." He does not say, "Tell everyone what he has done." He says, "Between you and him alone."

How different our world would be if we truly lived this Gospel. How many families might be more united. How many friendships might be saved. How much more peace there might be in our communities.

Because it is much easier to talk about someone than to talk to someone.

But Jesus also tells us the purpose: *"If he listens to you, you have gained your brother."* What a beautiful expression. Jesus does not say, "You have won the argument." He does not say, "You have proved that you were right." He says, "You have gained your brother." For God, preserving a relationship is more important than winning an argument.

There is a story about two brothers who lived on neighbouring farms. For many years they had worked side by side, until one day they had a serious disagreement. Harsh words were spoken, and then came silence. One of the brothers called a carpenter and said, "Do you see that stream between our properties? Build me a high fence. I don't want to see my brother anymore." The man went away for the day, and when he returned that evening, the carpenter had not built a fence. He had built a bridge. And across that bridge came his brother. They met in the middle and, after months of silence, embraced one another.

We can build fences so easily. Christ asks us to build bridges. Sometimes such a bridge begins with two simple words: "I'm sorry." Sometimes with: "Can we talk?" Or perhaps: "Have I done something to hurt you?" That takes courage. Reconciliation does not mean pretending that something wrong is acceptable. Jesus himself asks us to speak the truth. But Christian truth must always be spoken with love. Not to humiliate. But to win back a brother or sister.

Dear brothers and sisters, perhaps today there is someone in our lives we no longer speak to. Perhaps a misunderstanding has lasted for months, or even years. And after so much time, perhaps we hardly remember how it began. But pride says, "Let them come to me first." The Gospel says: "You go." Not necessarily because everything was your fault. But because peace is worth more than pride.

And then Jesus ends today's Gospel with a wonderful promise: *"Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."* Perhaps this is the secret of a truly Christian community. Not that disagreements never happen. But that when they do, we allow Christ to remain in the middle of them. In a family where people forgive one another, Christ is there. Between two friends who find the courage to make peace, Christ is there. In a community that refuses gossip and chooses honest conversation, Christ is there. We do not have to repair the whole world today. Perhaps it is enough to begin by healing one relationship. Because whenever two people reach out their hands towards one another again, God is present between those two hands. And where God is present, even an old wound can become the beginning of a new story.

Amen.

• Visit of Statue of Our Lady of Fatima

Brentwood Cathedral on Saturday 12th September 2026

On Saturday, 12th September the Diocese of Brentwood will host the Visitation of the National Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima and the relics of Saints Jacinta & Francisco, at the Cathedral Church of St Mary and St Helen, Brentwood. This will be a Day of Prayer & Devotions, with the opportunity for the veneration of the relics. Bishop Alan accompanied by Priests of the Diocese will concelebrate Holy Mass (10:30am), this will be followed by the Consecration Prayer of the Diocese to the Immaculate Heart of Mary by Bishop Alan.

• Education Sunday – 13th September 2026

Next Sunday we celebrate EDUCATION SUNDAY, a special opportunity to pray for and encourage all our children and young people as they begin a new school year.

I warmly invite them to come to Mass wearing their school uniforms and bringing their school bags and supplies. At the end of both Masses, we will have a special blessing for them and their school bags, asking God to walk with them, protect them and help them grow in wisdom, faith and kindness throughout the year ahead.

We look forward to seeing all our young people and surrounding them with the prayers and love of our parish family!

• Missio/Red Box collection

It has come to the time of the year to collect your Missio red boxes. If you have one please over the coming weeks bring it into the church. I then collect them from the sacristy count the contents & bank it. I leave a replacement box at the rear of the church. PLEASE ensure your NAME is on the box so I can keep track of who needs a new box. Missio is the Papal charity which funds Missionaries around the world. Both supplying priests, teachers in Africa, S. America, the East & Far East. If anyone reading this is wondering what these boxes are for, please speak with me after Mass & I can explain. Thank you all in advance.

(Jim Moroney)

• First Holy Communion Programme 2026-2027

The Application and Consent forms for the First Holy Communion (FHC) Programme for 2026/27 are now available at the back of the church.

You need to have the following criteria to be eligible for the programme:

- live within the parish of *Our Lady of the Assumption*, Hainault
- your child needs to be at least in Year 3 at school (7 years old and above)
- practising Catholic family (goes to church regularly for at least one year) in this parish; or a reference from your previous parish priest if new to our church community.

If you have any questions then please reach out to FHC catechists Anne D'Cruz, Marie Pinto and Gizelle Da-Cunha or email them on fhc-hainault@breddt.org

Please hand in your completed application and consent forms to Fr. Tarcziu no later than Sunday 20th September 2026.

The Programme will commence on Tuesday 22nd September 2026.