

Mass times and intentions: 12th – 20th September 2026

Saturday	19	TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18.00 – Angelina Selvan RIP
Sunday	20	11.30 – The People of the Parish
Monday	21	NO MASS
Tuesday	22	Feria of Twenty-Fifth Week in Ordinary Time 10.00 – Dana RIP
Wednesday	23	St Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio) 10.00 – Kathleen McDowell RIP
Thursday	24	Our Lady of Walsingham 10.00 – Pompea Ionio – birthday
Friday	25	Feria of Twenty-Fifth Week in Ordinary Time 10.00 – Dick Grainge RIP
Saturday	26	Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary 10.00 – Charles Vas – birthday
		TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	27	11.30 – Lourdes Selvan 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: 289

Offertory Collection last weekend: £ 432.40

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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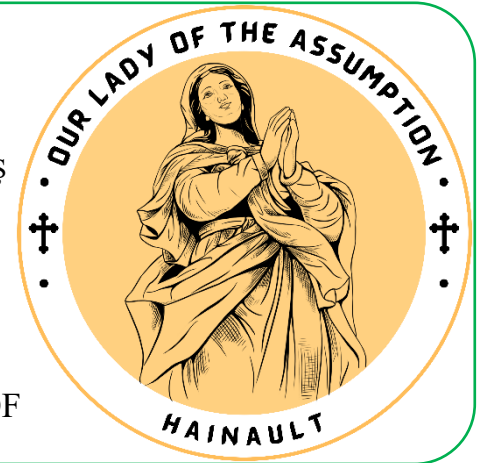
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TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 20th September 2026

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass

351 - Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us

Responsorial Psalm: *The Lord is close to all who call him.*

84 - Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine

88 - Blest are the pure in heart
- Mary of Walsingham

187 - From heaven You came, helpless babe

Dear brothers and sisters,

Today's Gospel gives us a beautiful image: a landowner who goes out early in the morning to find workers for his vineyard. But then he goes out again. And again. At the third hour, the sixth, the ninth, and finally, almost at the end of the day, at the eleventh hour.

And perhaps this is the first beautiful message of today's Gospel: God never stops going out in search of us. He never grows tired of calling us. He never looks at a person and says, "For you, it is too late."

Perhaps someone has been away from the Church for twenty or thirty years. Perhaps someone has not prayed for a very long time. Perhaps someone has made mistakes, taken the wrong path, wasted opportunities, and now thinks that God could no longer possibly want them. Today's Gospel tells us something different. God is still looking for you. Even at the eleventh hour.

And when the landowner finds those who are still waiting, he says to them: "You go into the vineyard too." What a beautiful image of the heart of God.

Saint Augustine is a wonderful example of this. For years he searched for happiness far away from God, while his mother, Saint Monica, prayed and wept for him. And when grace finally touched Augustine's heart, God did not say, "You are too late." God welcomed him. And the man who had spent years running away from God became one of the great saints of the Church. This is the logic of grace.

But then the parable becomes uncomfortable. At the end of the day, those who worked for only one hour receive the same wage as those who worked all day. And those who came first begin to complain.

If we are honest, perhaps we understand them. "It isn't fair!" But Jesus is not giving us a lesson about employment or wages. He is speaking about grace.

God's love is not a salary that we earn. It is a gift that we receive.

The problem with the workers who arrived first is not that they received too little. They received exactly what had been promised. Their problem is that they cannot rejoice in the generosity shown to someone else. And sometimes we can fall into the same trap. "I have been coming to church for years." "I pray." "I try to live a good life." And somewhere inside us we may begin to ask, "Why should God give that person the same love?"

Because God does not know how to love by halves. A father does not love the child who comes home late any less. Perhaps that is the child for whom his heart has been waiting the longest.

And today, as we mark *Home Mission Sunday*, known in recent years as *Evangelii Gaudium Sunday*, this Gospel speaks beautifully about our mission as Christians. Notice something important. The landowner does not remain in the vineyard waiting for workers to find him. He goes out to find them. And that is the mission of the Church. We cannot simply remain inside our churches waiting for people to come through the doors. We are sent out to them. Into our families. Into our workplaces. Among our friends. To the person who has lost their faith. To someone who feels alone. To someone who believes that there is no longer a place for them in the Church or in the heart of God. And evangelisation does not always require great words. Sometimes it begins with something very small. A smile. An act of kindness. The willingness to listen. Or perhaps simply saying to someone, "Would you like to come to Mass with me on Sunday?" There may be someone who has been waiting for years for that invitation.

Evangelii Gaudium reminds us that the Gospel is, before anything else, Good News – a message of joy. A Christian is not simply someone who follows a set of rules. A Christian is someone who has discovered that they are loved by God – and who cannot keep that joy entirely to themselves.

Dear brothers and sisters, perhaps some of us entered the Lord's vineyard early in the morning. Others came at midday. And some may feel that they have only just arrived. The hour does not matter. What matters is that God is still calling.

So, when we leave this Mass today, perhaps instead of asking, "Lord, what will I receive?" we might ask: "Lord, whom can I help to hear your invitation?" Perhaps a child. A friend. Someone in our family who no longer comes to church. Perhaps someone who thinks that, for them, it is already too late.

Through our lives, our kindness and our faith, may we help them to discover the message at the heart of today's Gospel: For God, it is never too late. He is still searching. He is still calling. And in his vineyard, there is still a place for you.

Amen.

• **Evangelii Gaudium Day – Second Collection Today**

This Sunday we celebrate Evangelii Gaudium Day, a special opportunity to reflect on our calling, through Baptism, to share the joy of the Gospel with others. We are invited to pray for the Church's mission of evangelisation and to consider how each of us can bring the love and hope of Christ into our families, workplaces and communities. A second collection will be taken after Mass today to support the mission and evangelisation work of the Catholic Church in England and Wales. Thank you, as always, for your prayers, generosity and support.

• **Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham – Thursday 24th September**

This Thursday, 24th September, we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Walsingham, a day of particular importance for the Catholic Church in England.

The story of Walsingham dates back to 1061, when, according to tradition, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to Richeldis de Faverches and asked her to build a replica of the Holy House of Nazareth, where the Annunciation took place. Walsingham became one of the great places of pilgrimage in medieval Europe and has long been known as "England's Nazareth."

As we celebrate this beautiful feast, let us ask Our Lady of Walsingham to pray for our parish, our families and the Church in England, and to help us, like Mary, to welcome Christ into our hearts and bring his love to others.

Our Lady of Walsingham, pray for us.

• **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 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 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@brcdt.org

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

The Programme will commence on Tuesday 22nd September 2026 at 5.00pm.