

Mass times and intentions: 26th September – 04th October 2026

Saturday	26	TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	27	11.30 – Lourdes Selvan RIP
Monday	28	NO MASS
Tuesday	29	Ss Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels 10.00 – Juliet Noronhna RIP
Wednesday	30	St Jerome 10.00 – Clavijo-Thomas Family
Thursday	01	St Thérèse of the Child Jesus 10.00 – Fr. Jean-Claude Selvini
Friday	02	The Holy Guardian Angels 10.00 – Daisy Suttle
Saturday	03	Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary 10.00 – Maria Vas – birthday
		TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	04	11.30 – Flora Cumberbatch and Sarah Joseph 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: 244

Offertory Collection last weekend: £ 656.92

Please consider SUPPORTING our Parish with a donation		
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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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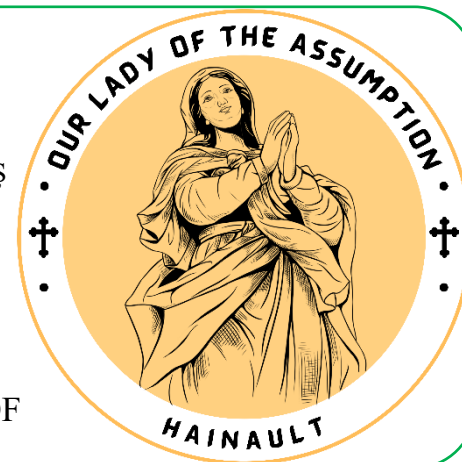
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TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 27th September 2026

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass

59 - At the name of Jesus (v. 1, 2, 7)

Responsorial Psalm: Remember your compassion, O Lord.

544 - O Mother blest

246 - He is Lord, he is Lord

800 - When I needed a neighbour

209 - God forgave my sin in Jesus' name

Dear brothers and sisters,

Today's Gospel is short, but it asks us a serious question: what value do our words have if they are not followed by actions?

A father says to his first son, "Son, go and work in the vineyard today." He replies, "I will not," but later changes his mind and goes. The father makes the same request of his second son. He answers, "I will, sir," but does not go. Jesus asks which son carried out the father's will. The answer is clear: the first.

The first son was wrong in what he said, but he corrected his words through his actions. The second spoke beautifully, but his words remained empty. God does not look only at what we say; he also looks at the way we live.

We, too, can resemble the second son. We say, "Yes, Lord, I believe in you," but sometimes live as though God did not exist. We pray, "forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors," yet may hold on to resentment for years. We say that we love our family, but find no time to listen to them. We promise that we will change, pray more, or leave behind a harmful habit, but keep postponing it.

Jesus does not say this to condemn us, but to awaken us. The beauty of the first son is that he does not remain a prisoner of his wrong answer. He had said no, but he thinks again and goes to work. Here lies the hope of the Gospel: a “no” spoken yesterday can become a “yes” lived today. We are not defined forever by our worst mistake. God always gives us the possibility of getting up and beginning again.

Saint Peter confidently told Jesus, “Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away.” Yet a few hours later, he denied him three times. But Peter wept, returned to Jesus and eventually gave his life for him. His holiness does not mean that he never failed; it means that he did not allow failure to have the final word.

The same is true for us. Perhaps we promised to be more patient and lost our temper again. Perhaps we resolved to leave a sin behind and then fell once more. We must not say, “There is no point trying.” Today we can begin again. God does not ask us to pretend that we have never fallen; he asks us not to remain on the ground.

In family life, doing God’s will can mean ending an argument before we cause deeper wounds; saying a sincere “I am sorry”; listening without interrupting; keeping a promise made to a child; being patient with an elderly parent; or putting down the phone and being truly present.

At work, it can mean being honest when nobody is watching, refusing to spread gossip, and not taking advantage of another person’s weakness. In our community, it can mean no longer waiting for somebody else to act. It is easy to say that the poor should be helped, the sick visited, and the lonely supported. But the Gospel asks: what am I doing? Whom can I help? Whom can I call? With whom do I need to make peace?

Sometimes we quieten our conscience with good intentions: “One day I will go to Confession. One day I will make peace with that person. One day I will begin to pray.” But the father in today’s Gospel says “today”. Not tomorrow, not when we have more time, and not when others change first.

So let each of us choose one concrete step for this coming week. Not ten impressive promises, but one honest action. If we have lost contact with someone, let us send a message. If we have hurt someone, let us apologise. If we have neglected prayer, let us give God a few minutes each day. If someone is lonely, let us call them. If a serious sin weighs upon our heart, let us come to Confession.

God does not ask how many promises we have made, but how many have become part of our life. He does not ask how beautifully we speak about love, but whom we have loved in a concrete way.

And if our choices have said “no” to him until now, let us not lose heart. The Father is still waiting, his vineyard is still open, and his invitation comes to us again today. Let us not answer him only with our lips. Let us answer him with our lives.

Amen.

• **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Confession is available every Saturday during Adoration and Holy Rosary and on request on weekdays during Adoration and Holy Rosary after the morning Mass.

• **Special Celebrations This Week**

† **Tuesday 29th September** – *Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels*

We honour the three archangels named in Sacred Scripture: Michael, who defends us in the battle against evil; Gabriel, who brought Mary the joyful news of the Incarnation; and Raphael, the companion and healer. Their feast reminds us that God never abandons us, but protects, guides and strengthens us on our journey.

† **Wednesday 30th September** – *Saint Jerome*

Saint Jerome was a priest, biblical scholar and Doctor of the Church who devoted much of his life to studying and translating the Scriptures. He reminds us that the Word of God is not simply a book to be read, but a living word that guides and transforms our lives. As he famously taught: “Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ.”

† **Thursday 1st October** – *Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus*

Saint Thérèse teaches us her beautiful “Little Way”: we do not need to perform extraordinary deeds to become holy; we can please God by carrying out ordinary duties with great love. She encourages us to trust God completely and to bring love into the smallest moments of each day.

† **Friday 2nd October** – *The Holy Guardian Angels*

On this day, we thank God for the guardian angels who watch over and accompany us throughout our lives. This memorial reminds us that we are never alone. May we listen to their quiet guidance and entrust ourselves each day to God’s loving care.

• **Parish Hall – A Request for Prayer**

We hope to begin the much-needed work on our parish hall, but at present we are facing some difficulties that need to be resolved. I kindly ask you to remember this intention, together with all the needs of our church, in your personal prayers. God has always provided the help we needed, and I trust that, with his guidance and blessing, everything will once again be resolved for the good of our parish community. Thank you so much!