

Mass times and intentions: 17th – 25th October 2026

Saturday	17	TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	18	11.30 – Ayomide Ishmael and Emmanuel Ayanru RIP
Monday	19	NO MASS
Tuesday	20	Feria of Twenty-Ninth Week in Ordinary Time 10.00 – Helen McMahon RIP
Wednesday	21	Feria of Twenty-Ninth Week in Ordinary Time 10.00 – Dana RIP
Thursday	22	St John Paul II 10.00 – Bill and Molly Donovan RIP
Friday	23	St John of Capistrano 10.00 – Cecilia Josephine Vas - birthday
Saturday	24	Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary 10.00 – Ruth Mekako - birthday
		THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 18.00 – The People of the Parish
Sunday	25	11.30 – Joan Eadon – anniversary

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.

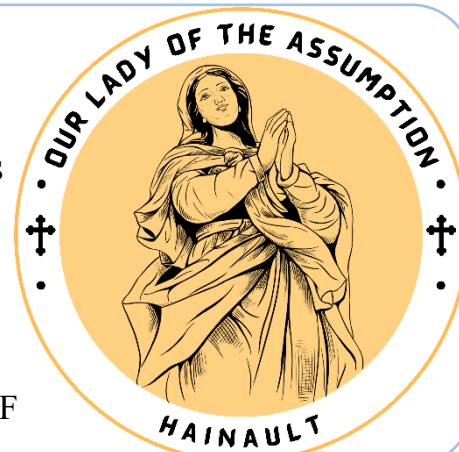
Mass Attendance last weekend: 260

Offertory Collection last weekend: £ 761.90

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

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TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 18th October 2026

Hymn Book numbers for Sunday Mass

179 - For the healing of the nations

Responsorial Psalm: Ascribe to the Lord glory and power.

496 - My God, and is thy table spread

246 - He is Lord, he is Lord

190 - Give me joy in my heart

S12 - The Spirit lives to set us free

Dear brothers and sisters,

In today's Gospel, the Pharisees try to trap Jesus. They ask Him whether it is lawful to pay taxes to Caesar. Whatever answer He gives could be used against Him. But Jesus asks them to show Him a coin and says: "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" They answer, "Caesar's."

Then Jesus speaks those well-known words: **"Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."**

But behind these words lies something truly beautiful. The coin bears the image of Caesar. But what about us? **We bear the image of God.**

Each one of us was created in His image and likeness. And perhaps this is the most important question for us today: if we bear God's image, how much of our lives do we truly give back to Him?

We give Him an hour on Sunday at Mass. Perhaps a few minutes of prayer in the morning or evening. Perhaps we light a candle when we are facing difficulties. But God does not simply want a few minutes of our time. He wants our hearts.

Not because He needs something from us, but because He loves us and knows that only with Him can we find true peace.

Think for a moment about our daily lives. How much time do we spend looking at our phones, following the news, worrying about money, work, and everything we need to do? And how much time do we give to God?

There is nothing wrong with working, having responsibilities, or caring for our families. These are important parts of our lives. But we must not become so busy with the things of this world that we forget the One who gave us life.

Perhaps, starting today, we can do something very simple. In the morning, before picking up our phone, we could say: “Lord, I place this day in Your hands.” In the evening, before going to sleep, we could thank Him for three good things we have received.

And when someone upsets us, before responding with anger, we could remember that this person also bears the image of God. Because we cannot truly say that we love God if we make no effort to respect His image in the people around us.

Today we also celebrate World Mission Sunday, a special occasion which marks its 100th anniversary this year. Pope Leo XIV has chosen a beautiful theme for this anniversary: “One in Christ, United in Mission.” The Holy Father reminds us that the mission of the Church is, above all, a mission of love. Today, we remember with gratitude the missionaries who have left their countries, their families, and the comfort of home to bring the Gospel to people who need hope, education, food, and support. Through our prayers and generosity, we can help them continue this wonderful work.

But let us remember something important: we do not need to travel to distant countries to become missionaries. We can be missionaries right here, in our families, at work, and in our own communities. A mother who teaches her child to pray is a missionary. A young person who has the courage to live their faith is a missionary. Someone who visits the sick, forgives, listens patiently, or helps a person in difficulty becomes a missionary of God’s love.

Sometimes, the most beautiful sermon is the kindness we show without saying a single word.

Dear brothers and sisters, at the end of this Mass, we will return to our homes, our responsibilities, and our daily concerns. But I would like us to carry one simple thought in our hearts: **We bear the image of God.**

Perhaps life has made us tired. Perhaps we have made mistakes. Perhaps, at times, we have forgotten about God. But His image remains within us. And God never stops loving us or calling us closer to Him.

So let us give Him not only the time we have left over, but also some of our most precious time. Let us offer Him our joys, our worries, our work, and our love. And during this coming week, let us try to do at least one thing that will help someone feel that God loves them.

Because, in the end, the most beautiful gift we can offer to God is a heart that is learning to love as He loves.

Amen.

• **WORLD MISSION SUNDAY – Second Collection This Weekend**

This weekend we celebrate World Mission Sunday, marking its 100th anniversary. Established by Pope Pius XI in 1926, this special day reminds us that every Catholic is called to share in the Church’s mission of spreading the Gospel and bringing Christ’s love to the world.

There will be a second collection for Missio, the Pope’s charity for world mission. Through our prayers and generosity, we support missionaries and local Churches serving communities affected by poverty, conflict and hardship around the world.

Thank you for your prayers and generous support. Together, we can help bring the hope and love of Christ to those who need it most.

• **OCTOBER – Month of the Holy Rosary and Mission**

October invites us to rediscover the beauty and power of the Holy Rosary, which brings us closer to Jesus through Mary, and to pray for missionaries who dedicate their lives to spreading the Gospel, especially in places affected by poverty and conflict.

In our parish, we pray the Rosary together Tuesday to Saturday after Mass, and on Sunday before Mass. Everyone is warmly invited to join us.

May this special month help us grow closer to Christ through Mary and become witnesses of His love in our daily lives.

• **Parish Council Meeting – Thursday 22nd October 2026**

Our next Parish Council Meeting will take place on Thursday 22nd October at 7.30 pm in the Meeting Room.

All parishioners are warmly invited to share any questions, concerns or suggestions they would like to be discussed at the meeting. Please feel free to speak with Fr Tarcziu or any member of the Parish Council about any matters you would like to raise.

Your thoughts and ideas are always welcome and appreciated as we continue working together for the good of our parish community.