

# The Catholic Parish of Ongar & Doddinghurst



St. Helen's Catholic Church  
The Presbytery  
87 High Street  
Chipping Ongar  
CM5 9DX

Parish Priest:  
**Fr Emile Nkumu**  
Phone: 01277 362645  
ongar@brcdt.org

[www.catholicparishongar.org](http://www.catholicparishongar.org)



[www.dioceseofbrentwood.net](http://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net)



St. Margaret of Scotland  
Doddinghurst Road  
Doddinghurst  
CM15 0QJ

## TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A) Sunday 8th October, 2023

**Isaiah 5.1–7 Psalm 79 Philippians 4.6–9 Matthew 21.33–43**

The parable of the vineyard is another undisguised attack on the chief priests and elders of the people who hold the key religious role in Israel. The imagery of the vine and vineyard in the psalm always refers to God and his people Israel.

This is an indictment of the religious leaders of Israel – the chief priest and the elders. A key word for understanding the parable is **‘tenants’ – the people who run the vineyard do not own it – it is not their vineyard;** they have been entrusted with it, but as tenants. The vineyard belongs to God. When Jesus invited the leaders as they implicitly condemn themselves – no wonder such hostility grew up against Jesus!

In the light of early opposition to the early Church experienced by Matthew's community, after the fall of Jerusalem in the year 70 and the end of the Temple and the priesthood, 'the kingdom of God given to a people who will produce its fruit' could be understood by Matthew's hearers as confirming their place as the New Israel. This teaching can apply equally to any who regard themselves as entrusted with the vineyard, this is the Lord's vineyard and we are tenants.

*Keep yourself safe and well, Fr. Emile*

**Please pray** for the repose of the soul of our dear friend Bill Hamilton RIP who sadly passed away on 25th September. There will be a Requiem Mass on Monday 6th November at 11am at St. Helen's, Ongar followed by a Cremation Service at Bentley Crematorium at 12.30pm.

**Telephone Number Change** Please note that the Presbytery recently had to change to a digital telephone line. When calling the number 01277 362645 you must now always use the dialling code even if local and even though you did not have to previously. This will be the case when all telephone lines migrate over to digital telephone lines in the next couple of years.

**Fr. Emile 39th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood** - Please save the date for **Saturday 14th October**. Mass will be at 5.30pm at St. Helen's, Ongar as usual followed by a little get together at the Presbytery afterwards.

**Christmas Tabletop Bazaar** to be held on Saturday 25th November from 10-2pm at St. Margaret's, Doddinghurst. We are holding a organising meeting at 2pm on Monday 9th October at St. Margaret's for those who be interested in getting involved.

**St. Margaret's Hall** is available for hire for private functions and parties, childrens parties, events holding up to 100 people at reasonable rates. If you would like more information or to make a booking please contact Kelly Love on 01277 362645, [ongar@brcdt.org](mailto:ongar@brcdt.org) or whatsapp/msg 07929241350.

**100 Club**—Thank you to all our members who have helped to get us to 100 tickets in the draw! Details and application forms are available on the website <https://catholicparishongar.org/parish-100-club/> and hand in or email to Bernie Wrobel, Anne Robertson or Kelly Love at the parish office [ongar@brcdt.org](mailto:ongar@brcdt.org). The 100 club draw takes place on the last Sunday of every month alternating between the two churches and is a nice way to make a little extra to support the parish. The next draw will be held at St. Margaret's. Thank you.

**First Communion Programme** Children who would like to prepare to receive Holy Communion need to register for the programme which will begin later in the year, Children need to be at least 7 years old (Year 3 in school or above). Please register with the Parish Office as soon as possible so that we can organise all the requirements. Any parent who is willing to assist as a catechist, please, speak to Fr Emile.

**Altar Servers** Any person who has received Holy Communion is eligible to become an altar server. Please, let Fr Emile know if you would like to join a programme to become an altar server.

**Family Mass** On the third Sunday of each month, we are hoping to have a Family Mass in St Helen's. We will be contacting all the children who have already received Holy Communion as we hope that they will be central to preparing and participating in this with us.

**Second Collection - Family Fast Day - Friday 6th October - CAFOD** are hoping to raise funds to bring relief and support to so many people around the World-people like Meera, in Pakistan. Meera gave birth to just as her home was destroyed by the devastating floods that hit Pakistan last year. When her baby Marwi became sick, she brought her to Dr Nasha's mobile health clinic and got the treatment she needed. This would not be possible without the generosity of parishes like ours. We hope everyone will join us in praying for the communities affected and for the helpers responding to these disasters. [Donate to our Libya Floods Appeal](#) directly or please donate to our **Second Collection** at the 7/8th October Masses. Cafod envelopes will be available in both churches. Thank you.

**Second Collection** for Prisoner's Sunday will be on Sunday 15th October.

**URSULINE SISTERS OF THE ROMAN UNION (ST ANGELA'S URSULINE SCHOOL, FOREST GATE & URSULINE SCHOOL, ILFORD):** To mark the centenary (1923-2023) of the establishment of the English Province of the Ursuline Sisters (Roman Union) a new book ROOTS AND SHOOTS has been published: 172 pages with colour illustrations. To order a copy please send a donation of £12.50 (includes p&p) to Natasha Zammit, Ursuline Convent, 38 Grosvenor Road, Forest Gate, London E7 8JA (cheque payable to Ursuline Sisters) or email [ursuline-book.ursuline@gmail.com](mailto:ursuline-book.ursuline@gmail.com) to use BACS: Ursuline Provincialate a/c no.23135852 sort code 16-00-15.

**Brentwood Catholic Children's Society (BCCS)** offers therapeutic support directly to children, young people, families and parents through their Child and Family Counselling Service (CFCS) located in their centre in Billericay. Their CFCS team consists of several experienced and highly qualified therapists working in specially adapted therapy rooms. Families can contact BCCS directly by emailing Donna Booth [dbooth@bccs.org.uk](mailto:dbooth@bccs.org.uk) who will outline the type of support that will be provided for them or their child. There is a charge for this service, but they urge any families needing support to contact them. More information is available on their website: [www.bccs.org.uk](http://www.bccs.org.uk)

**St. Margaret's Hall Hire** St. Margaret's is available for hire for private functions and parties, childrens parties, fitness classes, local groups and events holding up to 100 people at reasonable rates. If you would like more information or to make a booking please contact Kelly Love on 01277 362645, [ongar@brcdt.org](mailto:ongar@brcdt.org) or whatsapp/msg 07929241350.

**Mass Attendance: Sep 30/Oct 31 Sat 5.30pm: 23 Sun 8.45am: 24 Sun 10.30am: 34**

**Offertory Collection: £231.50**

Bank Account Name/Cheques payable to: 'Catholic Church Ongar St Helens'

Please contact Kelly Love if you require bank account details.

For Gift Aid Envelopes please contact Bernard Adams 01277 823511

**TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)**  
**(Week of prayer for prisoners and their dependants)**

<b>Sat 7th Oct, 2023</b>	(St. H) 5.30pm	<b>Our Lady of the Rosary</b> Ricardo Castiglioni
<b>Sun 8th Oct, 2023</b>	(St. H) 8.45am	Mary & Vera Fusco RIP (Paul Falco)
	(St. M)10.30am	Vassallo Family Int.
<b>Mon 9th Oct, 2023</b>	(Ilford) 9.30am	<b>ST JOHN HENRY NEWMAN, Pr National Feast</b> Eleanor Tierney RIP (Josie Byrne) Noel Johnson RIP (K. Cadam) Michael Corry sick Evelyn Boateng Birthday
<b>Tue 10th Oct, 2023</b>	(St. H) 9.00am	Larry Dixon RIP
<b>Wed 11th Oct, 2023</b>	(St. H) 9.00am	Eleanor Tierney RIP
<b>Thu 12th Oct, 2023</b>	(St. H) 11.00am	<b>Ss Ethelburga, Hildelithe &amp; Cuthberga, Rel</b> Sister Fidelma Dixon int.
<b>Fri 13th Oct, 2023</b>	(St. H) 9.00am	Victoria Nella RIP Patricia D' Monte

**TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)**

<b>Sat 14th Oct, 2023</b>	(St. H) 5.30pm	<b>Fr. Emile 39th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood</b> Georgina Hagley Birthday 14/10
<b>Sun 15th Oct, 2023</b>	(St. H) 8.45am	Rose John-Lewis Birthday
	(St. M)10.30am	Dominique Coughlin (Corinne Adams)

**Fr. Emile** would like to welcome any parishioners for Tea/Coffee and a chat on Thursdays in the Presbytery after the 11am mass each week.

**Prayer List:** Please pray for all our parishioners who are sick and need the benefit of our love and prayers: Alan Chapman, Maureen Hamilton, Lucy Gay, Stephen Garfield and family.