

The Catholic Parish of Ongar & Doddington



St. Helen's Catholic Church
The Presbytery
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St. Margaret of Scotland
Doddington Road
Doddington
CM15 0QJ

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A) Sunday 19th November, 2023

Ezekiel 34.11–12, 15–17 Psalm 22 1 Corinthians 15.20–26, 28 Matthew 25.31–46

The first reading from Ezekiel reveals God as the shepherd who personally watches over the sheep, who gathers the lost and watches over the weak; it is a very reassuring image of a 'true shepherd'. The final sentence, however, brings in a theme of judgement, which dominates the Gospel. The one who comes 'as a shepherd' in the parable 'comes in glory, escorted by all the angels'.

The 'Son of Man' is the King who takes the seat of judgement and separates those gathered before him 'as a shepherd separates sheep from goats'. When the King tells them of their actions, which bring reward or condemnation, they fail to recognise themselves, because they fail to recognise in the all-powerful judge who is in glory with the angels, the destitute to whose needs they have responded in action.

In his version of the beatitudes in the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus give profound promises to those whose lives reflect the values of the kingdom. By identifying the King who judges with the destitute, Matthew gives us a radical and challenging lesson in what it means to belong to the shepherd.

Keep yourself safe and well, Fr. Emile

November List We remember our dead and communion that we still enjoy with them during the forthcoming month of November. We also pray and offer Masses for the repose of their souls in the eternal life of God. During the month of November, the small individual crosses will be available and will be an opportunity for each parishioner to write the names of their deceased loved ones, relative or friend on a cross. The completed crosses can then be placed in the baskets provided on the offertory tables and will become part of the offertory at each mass. Crosses will be available at every mass during November.

THANK YOU Maureen & Peter, Bill Hamilton's brother gave Fr. Emile a message to say thank you to the congregation at Doddinghurst, for their attendance at the Requiem Mass for Bill, for the choir and to Lesley Denton, who arranged the flowers.

Family Mass - Third Sunday of every month - 8.45am at St. Helen's. The next Family Mass will be held on 19th November.

Healing Mass - there will be a special Healing Mass for anyone in the parish who would like to attend at St. Helens, Ongar on Thursday 23rd November starting with the Rosary at 2.30pm, followed by Holy Mass at 3.00pm then Adoration and healing prayer. The Healing Mass will be led by Fr. Eamonn Power, who used to perform this service at Abbotswick.

Kenneth Blackett RIP Please pray for the repose of the soul of Kenneth Blackett RIP recently deceased, husband to Carmen Blackett RIP also recently deceased. The funeral will take place at Bentley Crematorium at 2.30pm on Thursday 30th November, followed by a wake at Bentley District Village Club. If anyone would like to contact their son Chris, he can be reached on 07899 303 303 or at 52 Plovers Mead, Wyatts Green, Brentwood, CM15 0PS. May he rest in peace.

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. **The deadline for submitting applications will be January 1st, 2024.**

Confirmations - The Confirmation preparation is for young men and women who are presently in year 11. It allows them to reflect on their own relationship with God and to explore with other young people some of the questions they may have about their faith. If there are any young people who would like to make their Confirmation next year 2024 please speak to Fr. Emile. Application forms are available from the Parish Office ongar@brcdt.org **The deadline for submitting applications will be January 1st, 2024.**

Hall Meeting The next Hall Committee Meeting will take place at 1.45pm on Tuesday 21st November at St. Margaret's.

Whatsapp Group: If anyone would like to join the parish Whatsapp Group then please contact Denise Terry-Roberts at d.terryroberts@btinternet.com or on 07545 240064 for her to add your mobile number.

**PARISH CHRISTMAS TABLETOP SALE
SATURDAY 25TH NOVEMBER 2023
10AM – 1.00PM**

ST. MARGARETS HALL, DODDINGHURST ROAD, DODDINGHURST

Free Entry

**INCLUDING ADVENT CALENDARS, CARDS, CRAFTS,
TOMBOLA, CAKE STALL, LUCKY DIP, POP-UP CAFÉ
WITH RUSSELL'S FAMOUS PIZZA**

World Day of the Poor The seventh World Day of the Poor will be celebrated by the Catholic Church on Sunday 19 November, with the theme of “Do not turn your face away from anyone who is poor” (Tobit 4:7). **World Day of the Poor Poster and prayer card** www.caritasbrentwood.org/news/world-day-of-the-poor-2023
Pope Francis’ message for World Day of the Poor www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/poveri/documents/20230613-messaggio-vii-giornatamondiale-poveri-2023.html

Second Collection World Youth Day 26th November is a unique opportunity to celebrate the role and significance of young people in the Catholic Church, along with the global Church, and is celebrated each year on the feast of Christ the King. Any money raised on will go towards supporting those in need of financial support to go on pilgrimages and to events, as well as allowing the BCYS to continue running events, such as the monthly Youth Masses, provide support and training to those working with young people and so much more. Please pray for all our young people and those who work with them. To find out more about the work of the BCYS, please visit www.bcys.net

Caritas Brentwood In the Gospel narratives, we hear of the family displaced from their home, finding solace in a humble stable, cradling their newborn amidst the simplicity of their surroundings. This Holy Family, vulnerable yet resilient, resonates profoundly, urging us to reach out to those facing hardships during this Advent season. It prompts us to remember that amidst the festivities, there are individuals and families across Essex and East London experiencing great difficulties, requiring our support, kindness, and care. **Caritas Reverse Advent Calendar and Alternative Christmas Gifts: links to 15 charities with ways to support**
www.caritasbrentwood.org/advent

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 or whatsapp/msg 07929241350.

Mass Attendance: Nov 11/12 Sat 5.30pm: 25 Sun 8.45am: 27 Sun 10.30am: 28

Offertory Collection: £224.82

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

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A) (World Day of the Poor)

Sat 18th Nov, 2023	(St. H) 5.30pm	Margaret Gallagher RIP
Sun 19th Nov, 2023	(St. H) 8.45am	FAMILY MASS People of the Parish
	(St. M) 10.30am	Bill Hamilton RIP (Jane Gay)
Mon 20th Nov, 2023	(Ilford) 9.30am	Terry & Anne Thomas RIP Brendan & Mary Quinn RIP Freda Boylan RIP (Josie Byrne) Mary & Edward Dixon RIP
Tue 21st Nov, 2023	(St. H) 9.00am	The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Moalyn Pierre RIP
Wed 22nd Nov, 2023	(St. H) 9.00am	St Cecilia, V, M Bridie Cullinane sick
Thu 23rd Nov, 2023	(St. H) 11.00am	John Laughlin RIP
	(St. H) 2.30pm	ROSARY AND HEALING MASS FR. EAMONN POWER
Fri 24th Nov, 2023	(St. H) 9.00am	St Andrew Dung-Lac, Pr, & Comps, Mm Breege McDevitt RIP

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST THE KING (A) Solemnity (Youth Day)

Sat 25th Nov, 2023	(St. H) 5.30pm	Kathleen Delaney RIP
Sun 26th Nov, 2023	(St. H) 8.45am	Margaret & James McDermott RIP
	(St. M) 10.30am	Friends & Relatives of the Maher Family

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, Sonia Denton, Susan Corbin and family, Sue Potter.