

The Catholic Parish of Ongar & Doddingtonhurst



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

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) Sunday 14th January, 2024

1 Samuel 3.3–10,19 Psalm 39 1 Corinthians 6.13–15,17–20 John 1.35–42

We have an account at the beginning of Jesus' ministry. The encounters he has with people: opportunities for teaching, evangelisation and conversion. Nicodemus, the woman at the well, the man born blind, Martha and Mary. Having been directed by John the Baptist to him, Andrew and another disciple come to Jesus. His first words to them: 'What do you want?', that is, in fact, the most significant of questions addressed by Him who can offer the only meaningful answer.

In the end of course the question is not really 'What do you want?' but 'Who?', the answer is the one who has been designated 'the Lamb of God' by John the Baptist. That title, a powerful interpretation of Jesus underpins key details in John's Passion account. Jesus' further invitation to the two disciples is also significant: 'Come and see' an invitation to come and spend time – which they do. The result of that outreach draws in Peter.

The encounter with Jesus changes people, makes them into disciples and evangelisers, the model whereby the Lord encounters people who are brought to him, then spend time with him and so make the transition, like Simon, to become followers.

Keep yourself safe and well, Fr. Emile

Altar Servers This Sunday at 8.45am Mass at St. Helen's, Julia Fagan will be joining the Guild of St. Stephen as an altar server. Well done and thank you to Julia 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 - Sunday 21st January, 2024

Please join us for our Family Mass every third Sunday of the Month. The next one will be next week at 8.45am Mass on Sunday 21st January, 2024. Please get in touch if any child would like to be involved.

Second Collection Pax Christi - World Peace Day Sunday 14th Jan, 2024

Peace Sunday 2024 is Sunday 14th January and the theme chosen by Pope Francis is 'Artificial Intelligence and Peace'. You can read a full copy of his message for the World Day of Peace here:

[Pope Francis Message for World Day of Peace 2024](#)

Week of Christian Unity 2024 - Ongar Churches Together

"You shall love the Lord your God ...and your neighbour as yourself..."

From 22nd to 26th January we are celebrating Christian Unity Week as part of Ongar Churches Together. The theme, this year, of the parable of the Good Samaritan is one of the best known passages of Scripture, yet one that never seems to lose its power to challenge indifference to suffering and to inspire solidarity. It is a story about crossing boundaries that calls our attention to the bonds that unite the whole human family. There will be a service each day next week at 12pm midday at each church in Ongar.

Monday 22nd Jan - Greensted Church

Tuesday 23rd Jan - St Martin's Church

Weds 24th Jan - United Reform Church

Thursday 25th Jan - St. Helen's Catholic Church

Friday 26th Jan - St. James' Church

BCYS YOUTH MASS – Thursday 1st Feb, 6pm at Brentwood Cathedral

Beginning with pizza & refreshments in the Parish Hall from 6pm, with a speaker from the SVP joining us to help prepare for the start of Lent. Youth Mass will then be celebrated in the Cathedral at 7:30pm. Absolutely everyone is welcome, please bring instruments, and sing, serve or read if you wish! No need to book, but do let us know if you have a group coming – just email info@bcys.net

BCYS SUMMER LOURDES YOUTH PILGRIMAGE – Last week of July 2024 (exact dates TBC)

Bookings are now open online for the Brentwood Catholic Youth Service pilgrimage to Lourdes in July.

Serve the main Diocesan pilgrimage, assist the elderly and infirm, with times

of retreat, reconciliation, visit the baths, take part in the beautiful Processions, as well as an afternoon in the mountains, party and social nights - all with other young Catholics from around our Diocese.

The pilgrimage is open to all those in school year 10 – 13, with all those of school leaver age (18+) invited to join us as young leaders (subject to attending a training weekend). All details and applications can be found on the website www.bcys.net/events/sl24

YEAR 12 RETREAT – Friday 16th to Sunday 18th February

“Life to the Full” - You are at a stage where you are about to start making decisions and dreaming about future plans. You might be at a stage where you are looking to explore your faith further and learn more about the role God plays within your life. This retreat will give you time to think, pray and chat with those in your year from across Essex and East London. There will be a mix of fun and games, along with times of reflection and personal prayer. For just £35, the cost will include meals, accommodation and youth-led formation. Apply now at www.bcys.net/events/yr12retreat/

CAFOD The Big Lent Walk Join CAFOD and SCIAF for the Big Lent Walk and raise vital funds for communities around the world. Walk 200km (or any other distance!) wherever you like, and with whomever you like! Your sponsorship can change lives. Every £1 raised through the Big Lent Walk will help fight poverty globally in countries like Afghanistan, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and South Sudan. With your hard work and sponsorship this Lent, we can change families' lives for good and tell poverty to take a hike. <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/>

Diocesan Directories for 2024 are available from the parish office for £2.95

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.

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: Jan 6/7 Sat 5.30pm: 18 Sun 8.45am: 24 Sun 10.30am: 35

Offertory Collection: £156.11

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

Thank you for your continued selfless generosity and support.

Please consider remembering the parish in your will. Thank you.

Mass Times and Intentions

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) (Peace Day)

Sat 13th Jan, 2024	(St. H) 5.30pm	Mary & John O' Sullivan
Sun 14th Jan, 2024	(St. H) 8.45am	Sheila & Bernie Banister
	(St. M)10.30am	John Piggott (Foundation Mass)
Mon 15th Jan, 2024	Ilford 9.30am	Alan & Alana John-Lewis Brian John-Lewis Warren John-Lewis Rhys John-Lewis Suzanne Reilly, int. Corry Family int. Linda +Steve int. Mary Santos
Tue 16th Jan, 2024	(St. H) 9.00am	Mr & Mrs Fontaine
Wed 17th Jan, 2024	(St. H) 9.00am	St Anthony, Ab Mr & Mrs Barnis and Family
Thu 18th Jan 2024	(St. H) 11.00am	Mr & Mrs Singh
Fri 19th Jan, 2024	(St. H) 9.00am	Saloni & Ricardo

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) (Week of Prayer for Christian Unity)

Sat 20th Jan, 2024	(St. H) 5.30pm	Mrs Lorna Stuart RIP
Sun 21st Jan, 2024	(St. H) 8.45am	Anne Mary Fagan RIP (Robert Fagan)
	(St. M)10.30am	Kathleen Buckley int

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, Susan Corbin and family, Sue Potter, Philip Denton, Ivy Denton.