

# The Catholic Parish of Ongar & Doddinghurst



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

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



St. Margaret of Scotland  
Doddinghurst Road  
Doddinghurst  
CM15 0QJ

## THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) Sunday 21st January, 2024

Jonah 3.1–5, 10 Psalm 24 1 Corinthians 7.29–31 Mark 1.14–20

Jonah is called and goes to proclaim God's word and is amazingly successful in his proclamation; in the brief passage from 1 Corinthians, Paul presents his convictions in a totally detached and serene manner. Jesus simply calls the two sets of brothers to follow him and they leave their family and possessions and do so.

If we allow successes' passages stories to resonate with us and form us as disciples. Anyone who knows the story of Jonah will know of 'Jonah and the whale' Jonah was swallowed by a great sea monster and then regurgitated onto dry land. The reason Jonah was at sea because he was running away from God and the call to be a prophet preaching repentance to Nineveh. The story of Paul is similarly familiar – he starts off by persecuting the Church, ends up its greatest preacher.

Mark's presentation of apostles is showing perception of who Jesus is and they all flee at the end. Those reading the passages can reflect on the way that the grace of God can enable weak and unwilling people to be changed and transformed. This experience of inspiration, empowerment and conversion disciples, conscious perhaps of their own poor commitment, are encouraged by the knowledge that God's grace is offered to them as it was to Jonah, Paul and the pair of brothers by the sea of Galilee.

*Keep yourself safe and well, Fr. Emile*

**Frankie Harmon RIP** One of our most longstanding and supportive parishioners, housekeeper for many years at the Presbytery, has very sadly passed away this week. She will be greatly missed by everyone who knew her and was a great support to Fr. Emile, Fr. Andrew and all the other priests that she looked after over the many years since starting with Fr. Galvin as well as to all the parish secretaries, particularly working closely alongside her friend, Lesley Boyall RIP. **Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.** Funeral details will follow.

**Fr. John McKeon RIP** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Fr John who died peacefully at Queen's hospital on Wednesday 17th January, ordained in 1962 in Brentwood Diocese.

**Altar Servers** Due to a last minute change it will now be this Sunday at 8.45am Family Mass at St. Helen's, that Julia Fagan will be joining the Guild of St. Stephen as an altar server so our congratulations and thanks 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.

### **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. Please let Fr. Emile know if anyone would be available to read at the service at St. Helens on Thursday 25th January.

**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](mailto: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](http://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/](http://www.bcys.net/events/yr12retreat/)

**Knock Pilgrimage** Escorted Tour to Westport, Knock & Co Mayo, 7<sup>th</sup> April 2024. £899.00 pps. Contact Patricia or Natali on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com).

**Second Collection - next weekend for Racial Justice. Thank you.**

**Whatsapp Group:** If anyone would like to join the parish Whatsapp Group then please contact Denise Terry-Roberts at [d.terryroberts@btinternet.com](mailto: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](mailto:ongar@brcdt.org) or whatsapp/msg 07929241350.

**Mass Attendance: Jan 13/14 Sat 5.30pm: 23 Sun 8.45am: 22 Sun 10.30am: 42**

**Offertory Collection: £303.69**

**Second Collection Pax Christie: £55.00**

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.**

## THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

### (Week of Prayer for Christian Unity)

<b>Sat 20th Jan, 2024</b>	(St. H) 5.30pm	Mrs Lorna Stuart RIP
<b>Sun 21st Jan, 2024</b>	(St. H) 8.45am	Anne Mary Fagan RIP (Robert Fagan)
	(St. M) 10.30am	Kathleen Buckley int
<b>Mon 22nd Jan, 24</b>	Ilford 9.30am	Jim Hennessy Tom O'Brien RIP Maggie Molden, Int. Josie, John & Sinead Byrne Int. Angela Riordan Joe & Breda Keane Mary & Brian Devlin . int. Larry Dixon, RIP Kathleen Cadam int. Selsey Seaman RIP
<b>Tue 23rd Jan, 2024</b>	(St. H) 9.00am	Mary Raftery
<b>Wed 24th Jan, 2024</b>	(St. H) 9.00am	<b>St Francis de Sales, Bp, D</b> Bridie Doolan & Family
<b>Thu 25th Jan 2024</b>	(St. H) 11.00am	<b>THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL, Ap Feast</b> Ann Henry RIP
	(St. H) 12.00pm	<b>Week of Christian Unity Service</b>
<b>Fri 26th Jan, 2024</b>	(St. H) 9.00am	<b>Ss Timothy &amp; Titus, Bpp</b> Sr Camillus Gallagher

## FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### (Racial Justice Day)

<b>Sat 20th Jan, 2024</b>	(St. H) 5.30pm	Sr Elizabeth Taaffe
<b>Sun 21st Jan, 2024</b>	(St. H) 8.45am	John Foy (RIP)
	(St. M) 10.30am	Sr Ann Salmon

**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.