

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



www.dioceseofbrentwood.net



St. Margaret of Scotland
Doddinghurst Road
Doddinghurst
CM15 0QJ

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) Sunday 4th February, 2024

Job 7.1–4,6–7 Psalm 146 1 Corinthians 9.16–19,22–23 Mark 1.29–39

Job expresses a very common sentiment, and above all one that appears to have no future and so no hope.

In a radical, contrast with this reading .St Paul makes himself the slave of everyone. He emphatically rejoices in the work to which he is totally committed. He recounts how much his labour costs him, and yet how great a blessing it is.

The Gospel gives us a third reflection on work from the Lord himself ,they move 'straight' to the house of Simon, Jesus is told 'straightaway' about Peter's mother-in-law, and he heals her in the evening , great crowds gather and he heals them as well .

'Long before dawn' Jesus is up and out praying when the disciples find him, but he does not delay, sets off to the neighbouring towns to preach , totally focused on ensuring every moment is used to enable the job at hand to be done.

Series of texts invite a gentle pondering so that the hearer can be challenged on different models to their own experience and situation, thereby exploring in what ways their life resonates with the lessons offered by the Scriptures : a very fruitful 'work' for contemporary disciples.

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 to follow.

Second Collection This Weekend - Lourdes Sick & Helpers Pilgrimage Fund
This Sunday the second collection is for the Diocesan Lourdes Fund. Thank you for taking this collection. In recent years, this fund has enabled us to subsidize nurses, doctors, and helpers so that we have the team we need to support all our pilgrims, especially our assisted pilgrims. The Fund also allows us to fund pilgrims, who otherwise would not be able to join the pilgrimage. If you have a parishioner, who may need help to join the pilgrimage, please e-mail kathrynyoung@mail.com

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 Please join us for our Family Mass every third Sunday of the Month. Please get in touch if any child would like to be involved.

Diocesan Pilgrimage 2024 Join Bishop Alan on the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes (Friday 19 – Friday 26 July). To book, please go online: [Brentwood Lourdes - Lourdes - Tangney Tours \(tangney-tours.com\)](http://Brentwood Lourdes - Lourdes - Tangney Tours (tangney-tours.com)) If you wish to discuss any aspect of the pilgrimage, please e-mail Kathryn Young: kathrynyoung@mail.com

Vocations to the Priesthood The next “Enquirers’ Evening” for those considering or interested in a vocation to the priesthood is on Tuesday 6 February at Brentwood Cathedral .The speaker will be Deacon Matúš Meleg who is training for the priesthood for our Diocese. For further information please contact Fr Mark Swires vocprom@dioceseofbrentwood.org

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/>

Apprenticeships at Walsingham House: Walsingham House are offering a two year apprenticeship course in Youth Ministry and Chaplaincy (Yr13 school leavers). Participants will live and work at Walsingham House, running retreats for young people across the diocese whilst studying with St Mary’s University, Twickenham. For more information please email clairebailey@brcdt.org or visit the website www.bcys.net/apprenticeship-opportunity-at-walsingham-house/

Caritas Diocese of Brentwood is inviting you to take part in several activities during Lent. We have a photo challenge for all ages, Stations of the Cross for teen-

YOUR PARISH NEEDS YOU

Lenten Lunches will be held at **St Margaret's Hall** this year on **Saturday 24th Feb, Saturday 2nd March and Saturday 9th March.**

Please sign up to the tick sheets which will be at the back of both churches from next weekend.

We need volunteers to make soup, waiting staff to serve soup, kitchen staff to wash-up and make teas and coffees.

We will need raffle prizes donated.

Ideally we would like a setting up team from 11am on the day to put out the tables and a tidying up team from 1.30pm to help with putting everything away and getting the hall ready for Sunday Mass.

Many hands make light work!

agers, a Giving Calendar to help collections for local foodbanks, suggestions on how to raise awareness for the homeless within Essex and East London and some great resources from charities such as SVP and CAFOD. All information and resources can be found at www.caritasbrentwood.org/lent or by emailing sianthomas@brcdt.org

HCPT Easter Lourdes Volunteers Wanted!

Are you, or do you know anyone who is 18 - 30 years old and would like the opportunity to travel with The Brentwood Group on Pilgrimage to Lourdes this Easter? HCPT Group 709 are an all-adult service group who are looking for enthusiastic, hard-working individuals to join us between 1st-6th April 2024 in Lourdes to help facilitate an unforgettable week for disabled and disadvantaged children from all over the world. If you would like more information or think this is something you may want to get involved in, please contact us at group709@hcpt.org.uk or via Instagram by searching HCPT Group 709. Sign up deadline for new group members is February 7th, 2024.

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/

Mass Attendance: Jan 27/28 Sat 5.30pm: 18 Sun 8.45am: 30 Sun 10.30am: 40

Offertory Collection: £547.27

Racial Justice Second Collection: £79.47

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.

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sat 3rd Feb, 2024	St. H 5.30pm	St Anne Line, M Enrolment Service First Holy Communion Children Patrick Kivneen RIP 2 nd Anniv
Sun 4th Feb, 2024	St. H 8.45am St. M 10.30am	Alice Drew int. (Sue & John Fahey) Anne Smith recently deceased (Terry Family)
Mon 5th Feb, 24	Ilford 9.30am	St Agatha, V, M Bridget Fox & Family intentions Mary & Edward Dixon, RIP Kathleen Claffey, RIP Kieran O'Leary, RIP Larry Dixon RIP Ann Henry RIP Joe Haliburn RIP Peter Costello RIP 1 st Anniv. 7/02 John Quinn RIP
Tue 6th Feb, 2024	St. H 9.00am	St Paul Miki and Comps, Mm Mary Theresa Perry (RIP)
Wed 7th Feb, 2024	St. H 9.00am	Eileen Clancy RIP
Thu 8th Feb, 2024	St. H 11.00am	(Day of Prayer for Victims of Trafficking and Those Who Work to Combat it) Bernie & Jim O Mahoney , RIP
Fri 9th Feb, 2024	St. H 9.00am	Frankie Harmon RIP recently deceased (Pat Scott)

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

(World Day for the Sick, and Day of Prayer for the Unemployed)

St Blaise Blessings of the Throat this weekend

Sat 10th Feb, 2024	St. H 5.30pm	St Scholastica, V Bruno Vassallo int.
Sun 11th Feb, 2024	St. H 8.45am St. M 10.30am	Steve Perkins RIP (Sue & John Fahey) Frankie Harmon RIP (Kelly Love)

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, Douglas Jordan, John Varellas, Bruno Vassallo