

The Catholic Parish of Ongar & Doddinghurst



St. Helen's Catholic Church
The Presbytery
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St. Margaret of Scotland
Doddinghurst Road
Doddinghurst
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SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) Sunday 28th July, 2024

2 Kings 4.42–44 Psalm 144 Ephesians 4.1–6 John 6.1–15

Elisha is in Gilgal during a famine in the land, and the sons of the prophets gather around him. Aware that the men are starving, Elisha asks that barley loaves and fresh grains be given to them to eat. But his servant replies, 'How can I serve this to a hundred men?' Elisha insists that the servant gives it to them, for the Lord says, 'They will eat and have some left over.' Indeed, they eat and, as the Lord has promised, there is more than enough for all of them. Praise the generosity of God, feeding his followers with physical food after he had fed them with the word of God. Like the prophet Elisha, Jesus knows the people are hungry. Jesus asks Philip where they could buy some bread for the people. Philip is pragmatic in his response, 'Two hundred denarii would only buy enough to give them a small piece each.'

A denarius was a day's wage. In other words, a hundred-day wage would not be enough to feed the number of people. Interestingly, Andrew notices a small boy with five barley loaves and two fish but knows it is insufficient for the crowd.

There seems to be some acknowledgement that Jesus could perform a miracle like Elisha. Jesus then takes the loaves, gives thanks, and shares them out. He does likewise with the fish. The people eat as much as they want, and there are leftovers, just as in the miracle of Elisha. Jesus asks that they pick up the leftover pieces so nothing is wasted.

Keep safe and well, Fr Emile

Going Forth Mass The rescheduled Going Forth Mass for our First Holy Communicants, Charlie and Elliott, will now take place at 10.30am on Sunday 28th July at St. Margaret's. They will now Go Forth as Christians and follow Jesus' example in how to live their lives.

St Margaret's Storage Clearout The playgroup have asked if we could make more room available for them in the shed so we are looking for a new home for a set of stocks and some staging comprising of 10 concrete blocks and an 8x4 piece of plywood kindly donated by Chris Beith when the parish used to run the annual Fun Day. If you are interested in these items please contact Russell McGill on 07419335019 to arrange access.

Collection Notice: Please be aware that recently we have had some instances of Scottish notes being rejected by the Post Office when paying in the weekly collection to the parish bank account.

Walsingham House Anniversary Mass: This year marks 60 years since the opening of Walsingham House and 40 years since the first volunteer team took residence. There will be a Mass of Thanksgiving on Saturday 31st August at midday celebrated by Bishop Alan in the grounds of Walsingham House at Abbotwick. Everyone is very welcome to attend with a special invite to those who have been part of the Walsingham House team over the last 40 years. After Mass you are welcome to stay for a picnic in the grounds.

Open House Billericay: Saturday, 12th October 2024 The Most Holy Redeemer Church, Billericay will be hosting a day focusing on parish renewal with talks and workshops designed to help parishes transition from maintenance to mission. Bishop Alan will also be presiding at the Midday Mass. Get inspired by priests and parishioners as they share stories of transformation. Hear what they are learning and dream about the change that could be possible in your own parish. The day will last from 9.30am to 5pm and the cost is £20 per person. In order to attend you need to register in advance by following this link: <https://divinerenovation.org/events/>

The Tradition of Mass Intentions It is a longstanding Catholic tradition to have Masses offered for a particular intention, for the living and the dead. Mass Cards, signed by the priest, can be sent to comfort relatives, friends and loved ones. We do this because our Catholic faith is centred on Mass and the Eucharist, the source of our life in Christ. The tradition began in the early Church when the faithful would donate bread and wine for the Eucharist. In time donations of money were substituted which would support the clergy in their ministry. Thus the priest would accept a stipend for a specific intention. All Mass Intentions are voluntary offerings, since the Holy Eucharist is the universal prayer of all the church. The suggested amount to donate is usually £10 for each person. Mass Cards are available in the Repository shop in the church porch at St. Helen's. In both churches there are also little brown envelopes on which you can write the details of your own mass intention, if not sending a Mass Card, and then please drop into the offertory collection. Alternatively please email Ongar@brcdt.org or speak to Fr. Emile directly. Mass will be said at the earliest date available, but we will try to meet a requested date.

“Adoremus” Festival at Oscott College, Birmingham - Sat, 14th September

On Saturday, 14th September at Oscott College in Birmingham, the “Adoremus” National Eucharistic Congress and Pilgrimage is taking place with representatives from dioceses across England and Wales. Our diocese has been allocated a limited number of places for this event. If you would like to attend please contact the Diocesan Co-ordinator, Father Dan Mason at frdanmason@brcdt.org by the 1st August. There will be a coach leaving for the Congress from St Edward’s Church, Romford (RM1 4AT) at 8am on the day. There is no charge for the coach or attending the Congress but you will need to bring a packed lunch. For more information please visit the Adoremus page on the Catholic Bishops’ Conference website: Adoremus at Oscott - Catholic Bishops' Conference (cbcew.org.uk)

Job Vacancy - Headteacher Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Primary School, Chelmsford Required from 1st September 2025. Group 2: L8 – L21 (starting salary based on experience). NOR: 218 (one form entry). Deadline for applications: 12:00 noon on Monday 30th September 2024. We warmly welcome and encourage applicants to visit our school, please speak with the Admin & Finance Officer, Lindsey Murgatroyd for more information. For an Application Pack please email: lindseymurgatroyd@ourladyimmaculate.essex.sch.uk

Inspire, nurture and accompany young people on the edge of East London. The parishes in the Romford Parish Partnership are recruiting a Parish Partnership Youth Coordinator. Salary £30,000/year, closing date September 10th 2024, start date no later than January 2025. This is a new role, with amazing potential to bring young people into leadership in the Church, and provide a wide range of opportunities for them to live and deepen their faith within a diverse and vibrant part of London. Full details: <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/diocese/working-for-us/>

REPOSITORY We have cards and gifts for First Holy Communion’s, Baptisms, Mass Intention Cards and other occasions for sale in the Repository at St Helen’s at very reasonable prices. Please use the card box on the wall in the porch or get in touch with Ann Jackson if anything else required. Thank you.

Whatsapp Group: If anyone would like to join the parish Whatsapp Group 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, children’s 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/mmsg 07929241350.

Mass Attendance: July 20/21 Sat 5.30pm: **16** Sun 8.45am: **26** 10.30am: **34**

Offertory Collection: £ 370.21

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

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

Sat 27th July, 2024	St. H 5.30pm	Rita Doran (Paul Falco)
Sun 28th July, 2024	St. H 8.45am	Connie & John Cerroti RIP (Pat & John Scott)
	St. M 10.30am	GOING FORTH MASS Elliot and Charlie for their Going Forth Mass (M. Payne)
Mon 29th July, 2024	Ilford 9.30am	Ss Martha, Mary and Lazarus Sarah Moran 90th Birthday Larry Dixon RIP Kathleen Buckley Int.
Tue 30th July, 2024	St. H 9.00am	Bruno Vassallo Int.
Wed 31st July, 2024	St. H 9.00am	Thanksgiving Gracie Grandma
Thu 1st Aug, 2024	St. H 9.00am	St Alphonsus Mary de'Liguori, Bp, D Tess Hughes RIP
Fri 2nd Aug, 2024	St. H 9.00am	Sean Heneghan RIP

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

Sat 3rd Aug, 2024	St. H 5.30pm	John Sheridan RIP
Sun 4th Aug, 2024	St. H 8.45am	Doreen Bennett RIP (Pat & John Scott)
	St. M 10.30am	People of the Parish

Fr. Emile would like to welcome any parishioners for Tea/Coffee and a chat on Thursdays in the Presbytery after 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