

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

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

Sunday 25th August, 2024

Joshua 24.1–2,15–18 Psalm 33 Ephesians 5.21–32 John 6.60–69

At the end of his ministry, **Joshua**, who led the people of Israel into the Promised Land after the death of Moses, presents the people with a choice. He brings them to **Shechem**, a place strongly linked to the patriarchs Abraham and Jacob (cf. Gen. 12.6; 33.18–19) and where Joseph's bones were buried (cf. Josh. 24.32), so that the lives of their ancestors in faith be a testimony against them. Joshua challenges the people now that they have arrived at the promised land to choose whom to serve. Do they want to serve the gods of the other nations around them, the gods of the Amorites? Joshua is very emphatic about his personal decision. 'But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.'

The people also decide to serve the Lord and give reasons to follow him. In the Gospel, **Peter gives his own response. Jesus has been speaking about him being the bread of life**. He says, 'This is the bread that came down from heaven, unlike the bread their fathers ate and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.' (Jn 6.58) Twelve to ask them, 'Do you want to go away too?' Peter responds, 'Lord to whom shall we go? You have the message of eternal life.' It was difficult for the disciples to accept Jesus as the bread of life, claiming to have come down from heaven. Is it easy to accept the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist?

In the second reading, Paul focuses on the relationships that should exist between husbands and wives. The husband-and-wife relationship is built on that between Christ and the Church. It is a relationship of respect and mutual submission to one another in love. Thus, they make a healthy home where God is loved and revered. Enshrining God in the home and following Christ's teachings makes the home a domestic church.

Keep safe and well, Fr Emile

PLEASE NOTE: St Helens Car Park is currently under occasional camera surveillance. Also there is some hemlock growing at the bottom of the garden at St. Helen's. It is being treated but please avoid the area.

An Afternoon with the Ongar Singers

Sunday 29th September, 2024 St. Mary's Church, High Ongar – 3pm

Ticket £10 including tea and cake

Contact: 07724 995667

Ingatestone Hall 2.30pm Sunday 22nd September

Bishop Thomas has very kindly invited our parish to join their parish as part of the "linked parishes" on a special afternoon at Ingatestone Hall on Sunday 22nd September at 2.30pm. Dominic Petre, son of Lord Petre, will be conducting a personal guided tour and then afterwards there will be refreshments available in the Summer Parlour. Bishop Thomas would like to know numbers of those attending about a week before and there are now 4 places available with the group size being 30 approximately. Please get in touch with Kelly Love in Parish Office if you would like to attend. For more information on Ingatestone Hall <https://www.ingatestonehall.com/>

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 some wooden trestle tables and an 8x4 piece of plywood. 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.

Youth Gather, Essex Outdoors, East Mersea, 26th – 27th October

For anyone in year 9 and above, join us for a weekend of speakers, workshops, prayer and more, alongside the opportunity to try high ropes, archery or climbing at the amazing Essex Outdoors in East Mersea. **Applications are now open** and you can apply and find all information at www.bcys.net/events/youth-gather-2024/

BBQ and Mass for young adults, Our Lady Immaculate, Chelmsford, Sunday 8th September If you are 18+, having left school, from 1st September then you are very welcome to join a group of young adults for a BBQ from 3pm with Mass at 7pm, at Our Lady Immaculate Church in Chelmsford. No need to book, simply come along to meet other young adult Catholics and find out more about upcoming events just for you!

Walsingham House Anniversary Mass and Celebration, Walsingham House at Abbotswick, Saturday 31st August Whether in Chingford, Canvey Island or Abbotswick, we have been blessed with 40 years of volunteer teams at our vibrant Diocesan Youth Retreat Centre "Walsingham House". Join us for Mass celebrated by Bishop Alan at 12pm, followed by a picnic in the beautiful grounds of Walsingham House at Abbotswick throughout the afternoon. If you can share any photos, or to find out more information, you can email info@bcys.net, visit www.bcys.net or search @brentwoodcys on Instagram and facebook.

Called and Gifted Teaching Day at the Most Holy Redeemer, Billericay: Saturday, 14th September On Saturday, 14th September from 9am to 4.15pm at the Most Holy Redeemer Church in Billericay we will be running a “Called and Gifted” teaching day. “Called and Gifted” is a discernment process developed by the Catherine of Siena Institute which enables everyone to understand the gifts and the charisms that God has given to them so that they are able to share these gifts with others. Those who have taken part in the Called and Gifted process have found that their faith has deepened and that they have been able to discover new ways of serving God in their parish and the wider community. As well as the teaching day, participants are invited to complete an online “Gifts Inventory” prior to the day, as well as having a 1-1 Zoom session with a member of the Called and Gifted team. The total cost of the process including the Teaching Day is £120 which includes online access to the Gifts Inventory as well as a Resource book which will be given out during the Teaching Day. In order to secure your booking please register your interest before Friday, 23rd August by emailing the Billericay Parish Office at billericay@brcdt.org. If you would like more information about Called & Gifted please visit their website: <https://www.calledandgifted.org.uk/>

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/>

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 pay using the card box on the wall in the porch or get in touch with Ann Jackson if anything else required. Thank

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/msg 07929241350.

Mass Attendance: Aug 17/18 Sat 5.30pm: 11 Sun 8.45am: 17 10.30am: 28

Offertory Collection: £165.33

Cheques payable to: 'Catholic Church Ongar St Helens'

Please contact Kelly Love if you require bank transfer 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.

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

Sat 24h Aug, 2024	St. H 5.30pm	ST BARTHOLOMEW, Ap Feast People of the Parish
Sun 25th Aug, 2024	St. H 8.45am	People of the Parish
	St. M 10.30am	Fr. Emile (Ann & Graham)
Mon 26th Aug, 2024	Ilford 9.30am	Alan John Lewis 25.08 Michael Dunne RIP (recently deceased) Mary Hayes RIP (M Dixon) Kathleen Cadam Birthday 19/08 (Josie Byrne) Ann Dixon Birthday (Josie Byrne)
Tue 27th Aug, 2024	St. H 9.00am	St Monica Lily Sheridan RIP (M Dixon)
Wed 28th Aug, 2024	St. H 9.00am	St Augustine, Bp, D Larry Dixon (M Dixon)
Thu 29th Aug, 2024	St. H 9.00am	The Passion of St John the Baptist Annette Boriel Birthday
Fri 30th Aug, 2024	St. H 9.00am	

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) (World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation)

Sat 31st Aug, 2024	St. H 5.30pm	Alice & Dennis Drew RIP (Sue Fahey)
Sun 1st Sep, 2024	St. H 8.45am	Liliana Rozmus RIP (Sue & John Fahey)
	St. M 10.30am	Fr Andrew Hurley, Lesley Boyall, Brian Arnell (Richard Arnell and Arnell Family)

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 Varella, Bruno Vassallo