

The Catholic Parish of Ongar and Doddington



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

ongar@brcdt.org

01277 362645

catholicparishongar.org

St. Margaret of Scotland
Doddington Road
Doddington
CM15 0QJ



THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA Feast SUNDAY 9TH NOVEMBER, 2025



Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia.

**I have chosen and consecrated this house, says the Lord,
that my name may be there for ever.**

Alleluia.

Communion Antiphon:

**Be built up like living stones,
into a spiritual house,
a holy priesthood.**

Our newsletter can also be found online at catholicparishongar.org
Parochial Administrator: Fr. Frank Westcott

In Case of Emergency If there is no answer from the parish phone and you are seeking a priest in an emergency then please call one of the local parishes - either Loughton 02085083492 or Epping 01992572516 or any nearby parish.

Annual Priestly Retreat

I will be away on my annual retreat in the New Forest this coming week. During that time, I will offer daily Mass for all of you and for the Holy Souls. Please refer to the parish newsletter for the weekly schedule at St. Helen's and for details of whom to contact in case of an emergency. God Bless, Fr Frank.

NOVEMBER – MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

The Church has always encouraged us to pray for the faithful departed. November is traditionally dedicated to the Holy Souls — a time when we lovingly remember all our deceased family members and friends in a special way.

If you would like your departed loved ones to be remembered in prayer throughout this month, please complete a November Deceased List and return via the presbytery or one of the Sunday Mass collections.

Envelopes are provided at St Helen's and St. Margaret's. You may include a Mass offering if you wish (this is entirely optional).

A basket containing the envelopes will be placed near the altar where Mass will be offered every day during November for our deceased loved ones.

This is a beautiful and meaningful Catholic tradition. I warmly encourage all parishioners to consider attending an extra Mass (or more) during the week in remembrance and prayer. *God bless, Fr Frank*

All Saints Church, Doddington Remembrance Sunday Service - Sunday 9th November 10.15am followed by wreath laying at 10.45am - Jane, as a representative of St. Margaret's, will be laying a wreath as part of Doddington Churches Together if anyone would like to also attend.

Baptism We welcome into the family of the church, Luciano and Cecilia Walker, who received the Sacrament of Baptism last weekend, and also Arlo Cairns, who will receive the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend. Let us join in prayer and celebration as we welcome these children into the Body of Christ. Let us continue to support and encourage our young families in their faith journey.



Requiescat in pace – Fr Emile Nkumu

We commend to the Lord the soul of our dear Fr Emile Nkumu, who died peacefully on Sunday 2nd November 2025, All Saints' Day, at King George's Hospital, Ilford, after a period of ill health.

Fr Emile was born on 25 November 1958 in the Republic of the Congo and ordained for the Diocese of Inongo on 14 October 1984. Having served faithfully for many years in the Diocese of Brentwood, he was incardinated here on 15 March, 2022.

Until his recent retirement, he served here as our Parish Priest of St Helen's, Ongar, and St Margaret of Scotland, Doddinghurst, where he ministered with quiet dedication and pastoral care since September 2016. Many of you will have your own fond memories of him.

Funeral details will be shared by Bishop Alan when arrangements have been confirmed. Next weekend we will have a special collection for Fr. Emile for a parish contribution towards funeral expenses.

Please keep Fr Emile, his family, and all those who mourn for him in your prayers.

Yours in Christ,
Fr Frank

O God, who raised your servant Fr Emile Nkumu
to the sacred priesthood of your Son,
grant that he, who faithfully ministered the mysteries of your love on earth,
may exult forever in the company of your saints in heaven.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon him.
May he rest in peace. Amen.

We have received condolences from Bishop Alan and Bishop Emeritus
Thomas McMahon

Parish Quiz and Lunch **Saturday 22nd November**

Join us for a fun quiz and lunch

12pm Saturday 22nd November

St Margaret's Hall, Doddinghurst Road,
Doddinghurst, CM15 0QJ

All welcome. Only £10 per person.

Tables of 6-8, you can book a table or
places can be allocated

For tickets contact Jane 01277821204
or Bernie 01277821986

Please may we request donations for the raffle

Eddie Terry RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Eddie Terry RIP.

The Funeral for Eddie will take place on Friday 21st November 11.30 at Bentley Crematorium and afterwards at the Bentley Golf Club, Ongar Road. May he rest in peace.

Thank You to Our Parishioners Several of our parishioners have been so kind in volunteering and helping with various job, repairs and improvements to both St Helen's and St Margarets in recent months and we express our sincere gratitude:

Thanks to Bernie and Stan for varnishing St Helen's main church door.

Thanks to Graham Bateson for organising the updating of the wooden notice board. Thanks to Ann Bateson for organising the Parish Harvest donation to the foodbank in Brentwood. 76kg of food was collected.

Thanks to Pat Allan for relining and repairing hall curtains at no cost to the parish and to Mila for sourcing the lining material.

Thanks to Ann, Graham and Jane Gay for organising a replacement carpet to the inside and outside of the front door at St Margarets.

Doddy Drop In

We're excited to welcome you to another **Doddy Drop In** on Tuesday 11th November, held once a month on every second Tuesday – your friendly space to connect, relax, and recharge. Whether you're popping in for a cuppa, doing some crafts, playing games or just looking for a chat, everyone is

always welcome! Please note that next month the Doddy Drop in will actually be on Tuesday 16th December for a special SVP Christmas Doddy Drop In.

RCIA Interested in becoming Catholic or learning more about the faith? RCIA sessions will hopefully begin soon, please contact the presbytery office or see me after Mass. Fr Frank

Why not spend some time before the Lord?

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be available after the Friday 9am Mass every week at St Helen's, Ongar with Reconciliation/Confession available on request.

Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession

No matter how long it's been, God is always ready to welcome you back with open arms. The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is a beautiful opportunity to experience God's mercy, healing, and peace.

The Sacrament of Individual Reconciliation is available on Saturdays 4.30pm – 5.15pm before Holy Mass at 5.30pm at St. Helen's, Ongar and on request at St Margaret's, Doddinghurst.

Toys for Christmas

As a parish, this Christmas, we will support the charity which distributes toys to over 2500 deprived children in Newham. We ask you to donate a **NEW** unwrapped gift including some wrapping paper in a carrier bag. Age group birth - 16 years. Suggested gifts are babies rattles, soft toys, teddies, dolls, board games, books, lego etc. (no weapons). For Age 13-16 we suggest an appropriate voucher so they can choose their own present. Please hand voucher directly to Fr. Frank. Please take toys to Mass on Saturday 29th or Sunday 30th November to be placed at the altar. These will then be taken to St Nicholas Church, Kelvedon Hatch, for the vicar to transport to Newham. Thank you for your generosity.

100 Club Please get in touch with Anne Robertson or Bernie Wrobel if you wish to join the Parish 100 Club for a chance to win the monthly draw. There is still time before this months draw. Forms available at church or on website.

World Youth Sunday - Sunday 23rd November - Second Collection

23rd November is **World Youth Sunday**, celebrating the young people of our Church. There will be a **second collection** to support the work of the **Brentwood Catholic Youth Service**, helping young people grow in faith through retreats, pilgrimages, and leadership opportunities.

Catechist Training & Resources Day Sat 8th November 2025, 10:30am – 3pm at Brentwood Ursuline Convent High School Find out all information and book your place now here: www.bcys.net/events/catechists2025

Remembrance Reflection 2025 - CBEW Fr Paul McCourt is a priest of the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle who has spent a quarter of a century serving as an army chaplain. In this reflection for Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day, he talks about our remembrance observance as “an annual salute to that innate human instinct to protect peace and all who live by it, to protect life in all of its ages against threat, and to live by principles so hard won in times past.” [Remembrance Reflection 2025 - Catholic Bishops' Conference](#)

Assisted Suicide: England

The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill will enter [Committee Stage in the House of Lords](#) on 14 November. Catholics are being encouraged to write to peers to oppose the Bill. The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England & Wales has issued [guidance](#) on how to write to peers with reasons that can be emphasised in a letter.

www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/news/bishops-urge-catholics-to-write-to-peers-on-assisted-dying-bill/

Learn To Pray Course Online

Would you like some tips to help your prayer life each day? The Diocesan Service Team are offering an online course running from Friday 14th November for six weeks until Friday 19th December from 7.30 to 9.00 pm. If you are interested in signing up for this course please follow this link:

<https://wkf.ms/3VcDEgl?text0=>

Senior Citizens' Party – Sunday, 14th December, 2025

There will be a Senior Citizens' Party at The Campion School on Sunday, 14th December, 2025 between 12.30 pm and 5.00 pm, with lunch served at 1.30pm. There are 15 spaces allocated for members of our parish if a group would be able to attend and if transport would be required.

What Good News Celebrated biblical scholar and translator Fr Nicholas King SJ will be considering how the document on the Bible of the Second Vatican Council - entitled *Dei Verbum* - continues to help us to read, study and pray the Scriptures. The talks, arranged by the Catholic Biblical Association, will take place at Christ the High Priest Catholic Church, Gidea Park, Romford RM2 6DH, from 11 am on Saturday 22nd November 2025. Entrance is free. The talks will be livestreamed on www.whatgoodnews.org and a recording of the talks will be made available subsequently on the same website.

Prayer List: Please pray for all our parishioners and friends who are sick and need the benefit of our love and prayers: Alan Chapman, Maureen Hamilton, Lucy Gay, Sue Potter, Philip Denton, Douglas Jordan, John Varellas, Bruno Vassallo, Richard Denton, Theresa Aikin, Finlay Wilson and Family, David Love, Curtis & Family, Hayley Duff & Family, Bethany Luetchford & Family, Ann Bateson.

Please also pray for those whose Anniversaries occur at this time.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

As part of compliance with safeguarding, any children under 16 using the Presbytery toilet will need to be accompanied by an adult. Please also be careful when using the uneven stairs in the accessway.

Parish Safeguarding Officers:

Margaret Payne 01277 362203 and Audrey McGill 01277 823485

Please note there is a Hearing Loop available at St Helen's Church.

REPOSITORY We have cards and gifts for Christmas, First Holy Communion's, Baptisms, Mass Intention Cards and other occasions for sale in the Repository in the porch 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 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 to get your mobile number added.

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 last minute bookings only)

Hall Usage Calendar <https://catholicparishongar.org/hall-usage-calendar/>

Parish Events Diary <https://catholicparishongar.org/parish-events-calendar/>

Mass Attendance: Nov 1/2 5.30pm: 21 Sun 8.45am: 31 10.30am: 27

Offertory Cash/Chq Collection: £546.23

Please make cheques payable to: 'Catholic Church Ongar St Helens'

For electronic payments please email ongar@brcdt.org

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

THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA Feast

SAT 8 NOV	St H 1.00pm	Baptism: Arlo Cairns
	St H 4.30pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation
	St H 5.30pm	David Speller RIP (Kathy Speller)
SUN 9 NOV	St H 8.45am	Intention & support of Amanda, Toby and Alicia (Lauren, Mum & Dad)
	St M 10.30am	Ann Bateson Speedy Recovery (Graham Bateson) People of the Parish
MON 10 NOV	St H 9.00am	St Leo the Great, P, D <i>No Weekday Parish Mass</i>
TUE 11 NOV	St H 9.00am	St Martin of Tours, Bp Communion Service Holy Souls
WED 12 NOV	St H 9.00am	St Josphat, Bp, M Communion Service Holy Souls
THU 13 NOV	St H 9.00am	Communion Service Holy Souls
FRI 14 NOV	St H 9.00am	Communion Service Holy Souls

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C) (World Day of the Poor)

SAT 15 NOV	St H 4.30pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation
	St H 5.30pm	Lally & Frank Falco RIP (Paul Falco)
SUN 16 NOV	St H 8.45am	Maria Falco RIP (Anniv. 17/11) (Paul Falco)
	St M 10.30am	People of the Parish