



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

The Catholic Parish of Ongar and Doddinghurst

Email: ongar@brcdt.org

Tel: 01277 362645

St. Margaret of Scotland
Doddinghurst Road
Doddinghurst
CM15 0QJ



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A) - SUNDAY 7TH DECEMBER



Response to Psalm
**In his days shall justice flourish,
and great peace for ever.**

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, Alleluia.
**Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight;
All flesh shall see the salvation of God.**
Alleluia.

Communion Antiphon:
**Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
and behold the joy which comes to you from God**

Our newsletter can also be found online at catholicparishongar.org

Parochial Administrator: Fr. Frank Westcott.

Please note that Kelly Love is away on annual leave returning to the parish office on Tues 9th December.

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.

REQUIEM MASS: BISHOP THOMAS McMAHON Please pray for the repose of the soul of Rt Rev Thomas McMahon, Bishop Emeritus of Brentwood. His Requiem Mass will be celebrated on **Tuesday 16 December in the Cathedral at 11.30 a.m.** The burial will take place in the Cathedral cemetery. May he rest in peace.

(Unfortunately, as I mentioned at the weekend, seating is very limited, and each parish has been allocated only two to four places. These will be ticketed, and tickets will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis. If you would like to attend, please speak to me as soon as possible. Fr Frank)

Please be advised that Bishop Thomas's funeral on 16 Dec at 11.30am will be livestreamed from the Cathedral:
at: <https://www.shealolin.co.uk/bishop-thomas>

PARISH FINANCE COMMITTEE - Help Needed

I am looking for a parishioner from St Margaret's, Doddinghurst, to join our Parish Finance Committee. This group supports the parish priest in managing the parish's assets and resources (see Canons 532 and 537 for more details). No previous professional financial experience is required—although some basic knowledge would help. If you are interested or would like to know more, please see me after Mass or phone/email presbytery. Thanks, Fr Frank.

**SVP AFTERNOON TEA PARTY
PLEASE JOIN US FOR A
CHRISTMAS DODDY DROP-IN
MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT
DANCING, RAFFLE AND A TASTY
BUFFET
ON TUESDAY
16TH DECEMBER AT 2.00pm
VENUE - ST MARGARET'S HALL
DODDINGHURST ROAD
(free entry)**

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 ongar@brcdt.org or 01277 362645

Hall Usage Calendar

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

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 the Dona device or get in touch with Ann Jackson if anything else required.

Mass Times and Intentions

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)

| | | |
|------------|--------------|---|
| SAT 06 DEC | St H 4.30pm | Sacrament of Reconciliation |
| | St H 5.30pm | Peter Smith RIP Anniv.(Paul Falco) |
| SUN 07 DEC | St H 8.45am | People of the Parish |
| | St M 10.30am | Hannah & Paddy Maher RIP Anniv. (Patrick Maher) |
| MON 08 DEC | | <i>No Weekday Parish Mass</i> |
| TUE 09 DEC | St H 9.00am | Prof. Arun Ranganathan & Family Ints. (Nalan) |
| WED 10 DEC | St H 9.00am | Aidan Hughes & Family Ints. (Nalan) |
| THU 11 DEC | St H 9.00am | Mary Bolton & Family Ints. (Nalan) |
| FRI 12 DEC | St H 9.00am* | Francesca Stuart RIP (Anne Robertson) |

THIRD "GAUDETE" SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)

| | | |
|------------|--------------|---|
| SAT 13 DEC | St H 4.30pm | Sacrament of Reconciliation |
| | St H 5.30pm | Lally & Frank Falco RIP (Anniv.Frank) (Paul Falco) |
| SUN 14 DEC | St H 8.45am | People of the Parish |
| | St M 10.30am | In Thanksgiving for safe birth of Ffion Jones on 19 th Oct 25 (Tony Jones) |



The Sacrament of Individual Reconciliation is available on request at St Margaret's, Doddinghurst following the 10.30am Sunday Mass.

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, Wayne Aikin.

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.

If you would like to add a name to our prayer list, please contact the parish office. Let us keep one another in our prayers.

***EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION / HOLY HOUR following 9.00am Mass at St Helen's on Fridays.**

Toys for Christmas

A heartfelt thank you to everyone in St Helen's and St Margaret's who contributed to our recent collection of toys and gifts for children. The response was genuinely overwhelming – your generosity has filled not just boxes, but hearts. A special word of thanks also to those who gave their time to organise, collect and deliver the gifts: your quiet, practical help has made all of this possible. Because of you, children who might otherwise have had very little this Christmas will know that they are seen, valued and loved. These gifts will make a real, lasting difference in family homes where life is often a struggle, and they are a concrete sign of Christ's love in our community. Yours in Christ, Fr Frank
100 Club Winner! The lucky number drawn was 106, Patrick Hinchin. ...Congratulations, £105 on its way. (please see Anne Robertson or Bernie Wrobel if you'd like to join ... it might be you next time! :-))

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

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...please ask Fr Frank to activate it if required.

Mass Attendance: Nov 29/30 5.30pm: 26 Sun 8.45am: 37 10.30am: 32

Offertory Cash/Chq Collection: £290.00

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.