



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



THIRD 'GAUDETE' SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A) SUNDAY 14TH DECEMBER



Year A
3rd Sunday of Advent

Response to Psalm
Come, Lord, and save us.

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, Alleluia.

**The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he has sent me to proclaim good news to the poor.
Alleluia.**

Communion Antiphon:
**Say to the faint of heart:
Be strong and do not fear.
Behold, our God will come,
and he will save us.**

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.

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>

Christmas Eve Family Mass

This will take place on **Wednesday 24th December, 5.30pm** at **St Margaret's R.C. Church, Doddinghurst.** Please see Lorraine Mitchell, who will be available after 8.45am Mass on Sunday 21st December, to allocate reading parts and offertory helpers to any children who would like to take part.

**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. For 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

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)
MON 15 DEC		<i>No Weekday Parish Mass</i>
TUE 16 DEC	St H 9.00am	Tony Bourke RIP (Lillie & Family)
WED 17 DEC	St H 9.00am	Eddie Terry RIP (Carol Terry)
THU 18 DEC	St H 9.00am	Michael John Read RIP (Maureen Roberts)
FRI 19 DEC	St H 9.00am*	Communion Service

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SAT 20 DEC	St H 4.30pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation
	St H 5.30pm	People of the Parish
SUN 21 DEC	St H 8.45am	Helen Nyman Int. (Lillie & Family)
	St M 10.30am	Eddie Terry RIP (Lorraine Mitchell)



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, Frances Wiseman.

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**

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.

St Margarets SmileTrain Christmas Card

Just a reminder that at St Margaret's at Doddinghurst, the annual Christmas Card is available at the back of the church, for parishioners to sign instead of sending individual cards if preferred. Donations in aid of SmileTrain, the global charity that helps to treat children with a cleft. Your support funds lifesaving treatment for these children in need around the world. <https://www.smiletrain.org.uk/>

The New Diocesan Directory is now available for purchase from the Parish Office for £3.20

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: Dec 6/7 5.30pm: 21 Sun 8.45am: 40 10.30am: 28

Offertory Cash/Chq Collection: £614.75

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.