



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

The Catholic Parish of Ongar and Doddinghurst

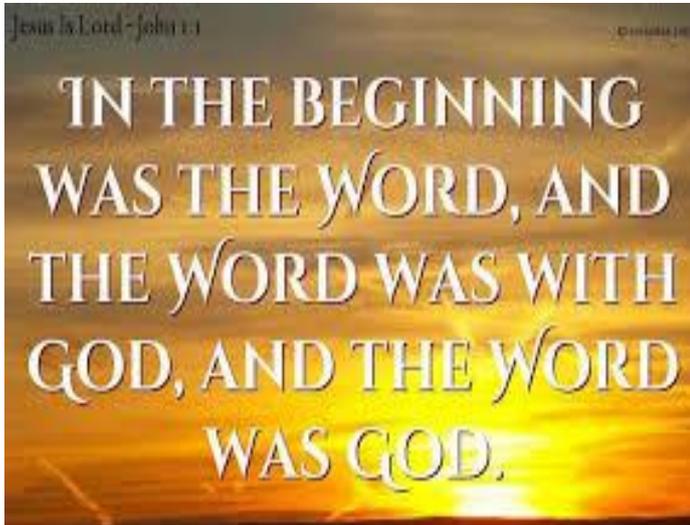
Email: ongar@brcdt.org

Tel: 01277 362645

St. Margaret of Scotland
Doddinghurst Road
Doddinghurst
CM15 0QJ



**SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY (A)
SUNDAY 4th JANUARY 2026**



Response to Psalm
The Word became flesh and dwelt among us

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia.

**Glory to you, O Christ, proclaimed among
the nations.**

**Glory to you, O Christ, believed in throughout the
world.**

Alleluia.

Communion Antiphon:

**To all who would accept him, he gave the power to
become children of God.**

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.

Parish Office: Kelly Love, the parish administrator, will return to parish office on Tuesday 6th January, 2026.

Electronic Giving Device (rear of St Helen's church) : Dona Device

We now have new electronic facilities available for Offertory, the Repository, and general donations. The instructions are mostly self-explanatory; however, if you require any assistance, please do not hesitate to ask.

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.

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

MARRIAGE SUPPORT:

Retrouvaille helps marriages. It can bring hope and healing to relationships.

www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel: 07887 296983

Relationship Counselling: Marriage Care

To discuss Relationship Counselling availability, please contact our Appointments Service on **0800 389 3801**

Mon – Thurs (9 am–6 pm) <https://www.marriagecare.org.uk/>

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

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY (A)

SAT 3 rd JAN	St H 4.30pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation
	St H 5.30pm	Peggy Maxwell Speedy Recovery (S&B Wrobel)
SUN 4 th JAN	St H 8.45am	Liz Cavey RIP, recently deceased (Ann Jackson)
	St M 10.30am	People of the Parish <i>No Weekday Parish Mass</i>
MON 5 th JAN		
TUE 6 th JAN	EPIPHANY*	HOLYDAY OBLIGATION
	St H 9.00am	John Scott RIP (1 st Anniv.) (Pat Scott)
	St M 7.30pm	Holy Souls
WED 7 th JAN	St H 9.00am	The Tew Family Ints. (Pat Scott)
THU 8 th JAN	St H 9.00am	The Terry Family Ints. (Pat Scott)
FRI 9 th JAN	St H 9.00am*	Tom & Gertrude Ashworth RIP. (Pat Scott)

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (A)

SAT 10 JAN	St H 4.30pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation
	St H 5.30pm	John, Milly, Cissie Scott RIP (Pat Scott)
SUN 11 JAN	St H 8.45am	People of the Parish
	St M 10.30am	Ron Scott RIP (Anniv.) Kathy Scott



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.

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

Dear Friends in Christ,

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2026!

May I begin by wishing you all a very Blessed and Happy New Year.

As we begin this New Year, we thank God for the many graces we have received as a parish family. The past year has been marked by both joy and sorrow, and we hold all of it before the Lord with trust and gratitude.

We remember with prayer those from our parish who have passed away during the year gone by, especially our own dear Father Emile. May they rest in the peace of Christ and know the joy of eternal life. At the same time, we rejoice in the gift of new life through the children and adults who were baptised and confirmed among us. In them, we see a sign of hope and God's continuing work in our community.

The New year invites us to renew our faith, deepen our prayer, and recommit ourselves to the life of the Gospel. May our parish continue to be a place of welcome, compassion, and faithful witness to Christ.

Entrusting ourselves to the care of Our Lady and asking for the guidance of the Holy Spirit, I assure you of my prayers for you and your families. May the Lord bless you with peace, good health, and hope in the year ahead.

God Bless, Fr Frank

N.B. THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD, HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION, TUES 6th JAN – See Mass times above*

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: 27/28 DEC 5.30pm: 25 Sun 8.45am: 29 10.30am: 32

Offertory Cash/Chq Collection: £615.00

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.