



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

# The Catholic Parish of Ongar and Doddinghurst

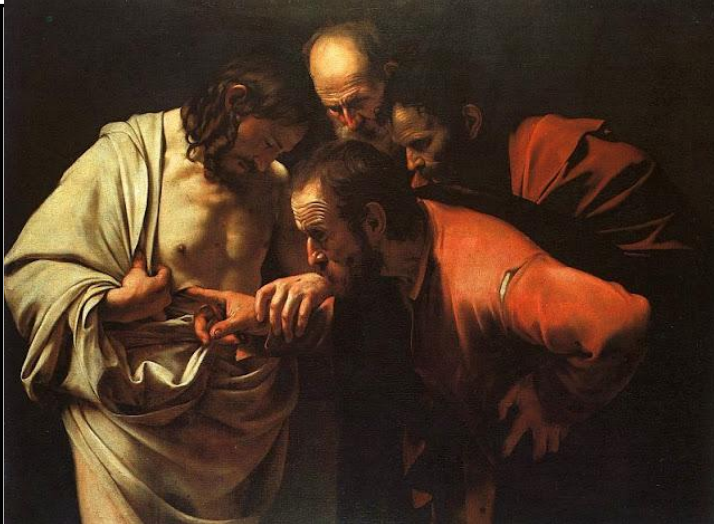
Email: [ongar@brcdt.org](mailto:ongar@brcdt.org)

Tel: 01277 362645

St. Margaret of Scotland  
Doddinghurst Road  
Doddinghurst  
CM15 0QJ



**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER  
SUNDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2026**



Response to Psalm:  
**Give Praise to the Lord, for he is good,  
his mercy endures for ever.**

Gospel Acclamation:  
**Alleluia, alleluia.**

**You believed, Thomas, because you have  
seen me, says the Lord. Blessed are those who  
have not seen and yet have believed.  
Alleluia.**

Communion Antiphon:  
**Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails,  
and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.**

*The Incredulity of Saint Thomas (Caravaggio)*  
Source: [Wikimedia](#) Artist: Caravaggio (1571–1610)

Our parish newsletter can also be found online at [catholicparishongar.org](http://catholicparishongar.org) to access newsletter links.

**Parochial Administrator: Fr. Frank Westcott**

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we continue to rejoice in the joy of Easter, thank you sincerely for your kindness and generosity. I am especially grateful for your Easter offering, as well as for the many personal gifts and cards, all of which I receive with deep appreciation and humility.

I feel truly blessed to serve as your priest. As I approach my first year in the parish, I am ever more aware of the privilege it is to walk this journey of faith together. Your faith, commitment, and community spirit are a constant source of encouragement and inspiration.

Please be assured of my continued prayers for you and your families.  
May the risen Lord bless you abundantly and fill your hearts with His peace and joy.

With every blessing,  
Fr Frank

**RCIA** will continue on Thursday, 16th April at 12:30pm in the presbytery. This session will focus on the Paschal Mystery. All are warmly welcome—especially anyone who would like to deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith.

**Mothers Prayers Group** The Mothers' Prayers Group meets on the last Wednesday of the month at 1.30pm in the Presbytery. Everyone welcome. Please call Lesley Denton 07981964892 for more information.

## Mass Times and Intentions

### SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

(Divine Mercy Sunday)

SAT 11 APR	St H 5.30pm	People of the Parish
SUN 12 APR	St H 8.45am	Jayne Kelley - thanksgiving for coming through cancer operation safely (Tony Jones)
	St M 10.30am	Sue Maher (Kelly Love)
MON 13 APR		<i>No Weekday Parish Mass</i>
TUE 14 APR	St H 9.00am	Mary Buxton RIP
WED 15 APR	St H 9.00am	Tony Cvek (Margaret Payne)
THU 16 APR	St H 9.00am	Mary Bergin's Family's Int.
FRI 17 APR	St H 9.00pm	Sr Ann Salmon Int.

### THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)

SAT 18 APR	St H 5.30pm	Dr Ben Menon Int.
SUN 19 APR	St H 8.45am	Colette & John Bourke RIP (Lillie & Family)
	St M 10.30am	Pat Annesley Good Health (Ann & Graham)



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 unless a funeral**

**Whatsapp Group:** If anyone would like to join the parish Whatsapp Group, which is available for the whole parish to use and to help keep everyone up to date with current issues and events, please contact the administrator, Denise Terry-Roberts, at [d.terryroberts@btinternet.com](mailto:d.terryroberts@btinternet.com) or on 07545 240064 for her to add your mobile number.

#### **Dona Digital Collection Plate (rear of St Helen's church) :**

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

**SAFEGUARDING** 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.

**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](mailto:ongar@brcdt.org) or 01277 362645

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

**REPOSITORY:** We have cards & gifts in stock for Easter, 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, the Dona device (Select Repository) or get in touch with Ann Jackson if anything else required.

**100 Club** Congratulations to No. 85 Alina Burns for winning the 100 Club Draw for March. Renewal letters have been going out. Could we ask you to send in the information for how you are renewing your subscription on the paper provided to make administration easier? Thank you for all your support

### **Happy Birthday to the 100 club**

Our 100 club has now been going for 5 years. It is classed as a private lottery and is open to all St Helen's and St Margaret's Parishioners over the age of 16 years. By joining the 100 Club you will be giving much needed support to the Parish whilst having a chance to win a cash prize every month.

Tickets are £2 each per draw with a minimum annual subscription of £24. Each draw will take place on the last Sunday of the month after one of the morning Masses. Each ticket will bear a unique number. The more tickets sold the higher the prize money. There is no limit on the number of tickets you can buy. You can pay by standing order, cheque, bank transfer, or cash. Application forms are available in each church or can be downloaded from our website.

To date the 100 club has contributed £5498 to Parish funds. Thank you to all who participate.

*Anne Robertson & Bernie Wrobel (100 club facilitators)*

**CAFOD Big Lent Walk** On Easter Saturday, I crossed the finish line in the big Lent walk. I would like to thank everyone who sponsored me. Their incredible generosity will help our brothers and sisters, who walk miles every day, to fetch water. Amount raised was £438. *Jim Browning*

### **Cathedral MUSIC RECITAL on Wednesday 15 April at 4pm**

On Wednesday 15 April at 4 PM instead of our usual Lunchtime Recital time of 1pm, we are delighted to welcome for the first time to Brentwood Cathedral the DURHAM UNIVERSITY CHAMBER CHOIR who will be performing Herbert Howells REQUIEM. This will be accompanied by Choral favourites of Rheinberger, Marsh and more. The Recital will be conducted by Cameron Davies and as mentioned will take place at 4pm to 5pm which we hope will enable young students to attend. There will be a short interval. Admission to this prestigious event is free – there will be a retiring collection. Please do support these young people.

### **Divine Mercy Devotions**

**St Peter's Parish, Dagenham (RM9 6UR)**, is holding Divine Mercy Devotion on Divine Mercy Sunday on 12 April 2026 starting with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Adoration at 2.00pm, continuing with Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3.00pm, and finishing with refreshments in the Liturgy Room. Confessions available from 2.15pm. All welcome.

**St John Vianney, Clayhall**, is holding an afternoon of Divine Mercy Devotion on Divine Mercy Sunday, 12 April 2026. Starting at 1pm and ending with Mass at 5pm, it will comprise Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, recitation of St Faustina's Praises, the Litany of the Divine Mercy, the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy and the Holy Rosary, prayers and time for Confession. Bishop David Waller will give the homily. Refreshments will be available. All are welcome at St John Vianney Catholic Church, 1 Stoneleigh Road, Clayhall IG5 0HE. Parking available, nearest TfL station Gants Hill, buses 123 and 179 pass nearby, also buses SL2 and 462 slightly further away.

### **Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine & Co. Mayo Led by Bishop Alan Williams**

Monday 15th June 2026 to Friday 19th June 2026. 4 nights in Knock House Hotel, with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Visit Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Ballintubber Abbey, Fr. Peyton Centre. Price of £799.00 per person Package includes: Return flight from Lon Stansted – 10kg check in bag. 4 nights Dinner, B&B in Knock House Hotel. All entertainment, excursions and guided tours. Assistance from Knock Pilgrimages representative. Single room supplement ?250.00. Maximum 3. Contact: Patricia Tel: 01268 762 278 Mob: 07740 175 557 [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com)

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham (23 May 2026)** A day pilgrimage of prayer with Mass, picnic, the Holy Mile walk and Vespers/Benediction at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham with opportunities for young people to serve and an optional overnight at Walsingham House beforehand.

**DIOCESAN LOURDES PILGRIMAGE:** Would you like to join our bishop and parishioners and clergy from around the diocese on our annual pilgrimage to Lourdes this summer? The dates are Friday 17th - Friday 24th July. Please visit <https://tangney-tours.com/brentwood> for further information and to book, or contact Deirdre Pembroke, [lourdes@brcdt.org](mailto:lourdes@brcdt.org) if you have any questions. Paper booking forms to follow.

**Summer Lourdes Pilgrimage** Applications are now closed, however we have had some applicants drop out so if you know of a young person in Year 10 or above who may still be interested, please do get in touch.

**World Youth Day 2027 (Seoul, South Korea)** We have an initial group preparing to attend. There is still time to nominate a young person (aged 19+ by August 2027). Further details are available on our website (BCYS)

**Youth Mass** The next Youth Mass will take place on Thursday 7th May, which you are very welcome to attend. Please do just send us a quick message if you are planning to bring a group, to assist with catering arrangements.

**Diocesan Walsingham Pilgrimage – Saturday 23rd May** Representatives from the BCYS will be joining the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham, and we would like to invite other young people to join and assist with the liturgy. Please contact us if interested.

**Flame 2027 – Saturday 6th March, OVO Wembley Arena** Almost 1,000 young people from the Diocese are already registered. A limited number of early bird tickets (£30) remain available. To book, please complete the form: <https://forms.office.com/e/KTevSZwGQH>

**Walsingham House Team Applications** Applications are now open for those finishing Year 13 or university who are interested in a year of volunteering at Walsingham House. For further information, please email [clairebailey@brcdt.org](mailto:clairebailey@brcdt.org).

#### **LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS AT THE MOST HOLY REDEEMER, BILLERICAY**



Starting on Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> April, there will be an opportunity to encounter the Holy Spirit and share your faith together at a series of seminars running every Wednesday evening from 7pm to 9.15pm in the Canon Roche Pastoral Centre at the Most Holy Redeemer Church, Billericay, Essex. (Postcode: CM12 9LL) Speakers include Michelle Moran, Father Paschal Uche and Reverend Wayne Dulson as well as video input from “The Gift”. While the Seminars are mainly intended for practicing Christians, they are open to all people from every walk of life, including those who currently have no involvement with the Church. If you would like to take part in this please follow the link to register:

<https://mostholyredeemerchurch.churchsuite.com/events/6ehdypgb> Alternatively, you can use the QR code.

**St John Bosco Children’s Camp, summer 2026.** Applications are now open for children currently in school year 5 – 7 (i.e. aged 9-12 in August 2026) to spend a week at camp. 25<sup>th</sup> July – 1<sup>st</sup> August or 1<sup>st</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> August. Activities include archery, fishing, AquaPark visit, football, kayaking and much more. The camp is especially for children who may not otherwise have a summer holiday. Suggested donation £200, but full bursaries are available. All application details are at <https://boscocamp.co.uk>. Places are likely to go quickly – early applications are encouraged.

**Campion School Open Evening** Campion School would like to warmly invite parents/carers and year 5 boys to our Open Evening on Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> June from 4.30 pm to 7 pm. The Headteacher’s talk will be at 4.30 pm and repeated at 6.30 pm. Please visit our school website for more details [www.thecampionschool.org.uk](http://www.thecampionschool.org.uk)

**Mass for Migrants - You are warmly invited to join the Dioceses of Brentwood, Southwark, and Westminster for the 20th annual Mass for Migrants on Bank Holiday Monday, 4 May 2026, at St Antony of Padua Catholic Church.** The celebration will begin at 12.00 pm with a procession of banners. This year, the Mass is hosted by the Diocese of Brentwood. Celebrated for the Feast of St Joseph the Worker, the Mass is prepared by the Caritas and Ethnic Chaplaincies of the three dioceses and gives thanks for the contributions made to faith, life and work in the UK by all those who have come from other countries to make their home here. **The preacher will be Archbishop Richard Moth, and the celebrant will be Bishop Alan Williams, sm.**

#### **CARITAS upcoming event hosted by the Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN).**

##### **Dignity of Workers in the 21st Century: A landmark symposium marking the 135th anniversary of Rerum Novarum**

📍 Westminster Cathedral Hall, London

📅 Friday, 15th May 2026 | 9:30am - 4pm | Lunch & refreshments provided

📖 Book your place: <https://csan.charitysuite.com/events/tbuj7kbj>

In a world shaped by automation, the gig economy, low pay, migration, and shifting patterns of work, the question of human dignity has never been more urgent. Join us in London for a powerful day of reflection, dialogue, and action as we explore how Catholic Social Teaching can respond to today’s labour challenges and help shape a more just and humane economy.

There will be leading speakers from theology, policy, and practice, deep engagement with the Church’s social tradition, practical pathways for advocacy and real-world impact and opportunities to connect, collaborate and build partnerships. This is more than a symposium; it is a space to think seriously, connect meaningfully, and act boldly

**St. Francis of Assisi Pilgrimage 2026** The 800<sup>th</sup> Death Anniversary of St. Francis of Assisi Jubilee Year 2026 is inviting us to visit the Holy Franciscan Shrines and obtain plenary indulgence. The parishes of Our Lady Star of the Sea, Tilbury and Our Lady and St. Joseph, Stanford-le-Hope are organising a pilgrimage to Italy visiting Assisi and the Rieti Valley. The date is Monday 7<sup>th</sup> – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2026 (5 days). Hotel accommodation: 3\* Superior with daily breakfast and dinner (lunch not included). Cost of Pilgrimage: Adults and children over 9 years: £695 per person (based on twin sharing) and single room supplement of £100. To book your place, email: Fr. Anthony at [tilbury@bcdt.org](mailto:tilbury@bcdt.org) before the end of April to avoid escalating price of flights. To secure your place, a Deposit Cheque of £250 per Pilgrim should be made payable to Our Lady Star of the Sea or a Bank Transfer: HSBC Bank, Sort Code: 40-13-22, A/c No. 81018922 as soon as possible. Please ask Parish Office if you would like a copy of itinerary.

## **THE LEGACY OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI**

As we mark 800 years since the death of St Francis (3<sup>rd</sup> October 1226), Fr Alban McCoy OFM Con will speak about how Francis changed the Church of his day, and can help us to renew the Church in our own times. The event will take place in the hall at the Catholic Church of Christ the Eternal High Priest, Gidea Park (RM2 6DH) from 11 am until 1 pm on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May. Refreshments available from 10.30. Everyone is welcome to this free event, which is also available by live stream on [www.whatgoodnews.org](http://www.whatgoodnews.org) No booking necessary.

**MARRIAGE SUPPORT:** From relationships that are 'Just in a Rut', needing some refreshment or more serious issues - If you are open to try again – Retrouvaille could be the solution. We have helped thousands of couples get their relationship back on track as they rediscovered hope and trust in the marriage. To find out more: [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk) +44 797 338 0443

Mass Attendance: 4/5 APR 5.30pm: 40 Sun 8.45am: 70 10.30am: 50 Total: 160

Easter Offertory/Cheque Collections: £1226.60

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

For electronic payments please email [ongar@bredt.org](mailto:ongar@bredt.org) or use the Dona machine at St Helens.

For Gift Aid/Envelopes please contact Peter Gaston on 07949654401

**Thank you for your continued selfless generosity and support.**

**Please consider remembering the parish in your will.**