



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

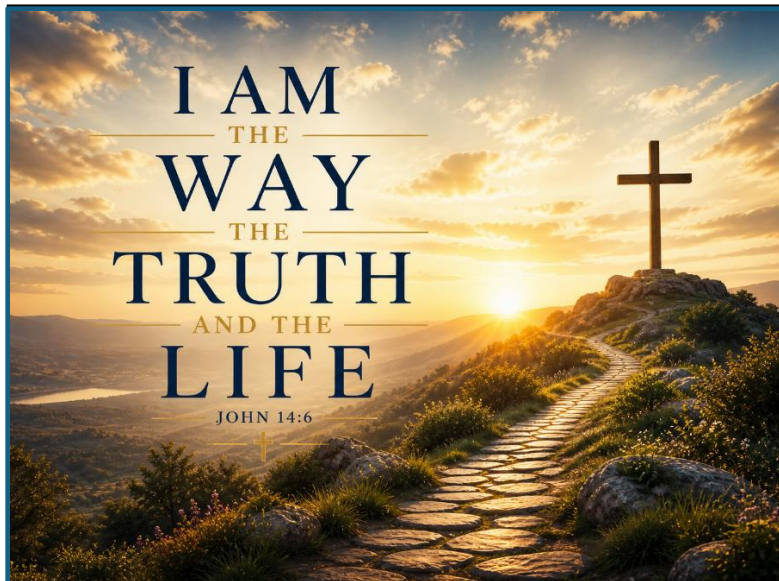
The Catholic Parish of Ongar and Doddinghurst

Email: ongar@brcdt.org

Tel: 01277 362645

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)
SUNDAY 3RD MAY, 2026**

St. Margaret of Scotland
Doddinghurst Road
Doddinghurst
CM15 0QJ



Response to Psalm:
**May your merciful love be upon us,
as we hope in you, O Lord.**

Gospel Acclamation:
**Alleluia, alleluia.
I am the way, and the truth,
and the life, says the Lord.
No one comes to the Father except through me.
Alleluia.**

Communion Antiphon:
**I am the true vine and you are the branches,
says the Lord.
Whoever remains in me, and I in him,
bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.**

Our parish newsletter can also be found online at catholicparishongar.org to access newsletter links.

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, Epping 01992572516 or any nearby parish..

RCIA – “The Church” Our RCIA sessions will continue on Tuesday 5th May at 12:30pm. The topic for this week will be “Scripture and Tradition” page 17 in Evangelium book. If you are curious to learn more about the Catholic faith, you are warmly invited to join us. All are welcome, whether you are exploring for the first time or simply wish to deepen your understanding.

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.

100 Club April Draw Congratulations go to Pat Allan, who was the lucky winner of £100 in the 100 Club Draw for April.

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.

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 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.

Mass Times and Intentions

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)

SAT 2 MAY	St H 5.30pm	Dr. Ken Menon Thanksgiving Mass Int.
SUN 3 MAY	St H 8.45am	Josephine Sands return to good health (Anne Robertson)
	St M 10.30am	Residents of Dudbrook Hall and Howard Lodge Int.
MON 4 MAY	No Mass Service	
TUE 5 MAY	St H 9.00am	Olga Santorelli RIP (Paul Falco)
WED 6 MAY	St H 9.00am	St John Payne, Pr, M
THU 7 MAY	St H 9.00am	People of the Parish
*FRI 8 MAY	St H 9.00am	Holy Souls

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)

SAT 9 MAY	St H 5.30pm	
SUN 10 MAY	St H 8.45am	Amanda, Alicia & Toby Trew Int. (Lillie & Marvin)
	St M 10.30am	

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



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.

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.

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 if you have any questions. Paper booking forms to follow.

BCYS Summer Lourdes Pilgrimage A small number of last-minute places are now available for the BCYS Youth Service Pilgrimage to Lourdes, open to young people currently in Year 10 and above. There are a number of funding opportunities available. Find out more and apply at: www.bcys.net/events/sl26

Caritas You are invited to our online Caritas Conversation on 13th May 2026, 18:30-19:30. This is an opportunity to explore our three areas of focus: Refugees, the Environment, and Homelessness, as well as the Cost of Living. Anyone can join, and we look forward to you registering: <https://dob-conversations.eventbrite.co.uk>

BCYS Youth Mass The next Youth Masses will take place at Brentwood Cathedral on Thursday 7th May, 4th June and 2nd July. It is open to any young people from around the Diocese to enjoy pizza, prayer, workshops and celebrate Mass together! For more information, please visit www.bcys.net/events

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>

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. 25th July – 1st August or 1st – 8th 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, 25th 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

MARANATHA at Grays Friday 15 May 2026

Maranatha! Come Lord Jesus! All are warmly invited to an evening of prayer, praise and worship, including Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at the Catholic Church of St Thomas of Canterbury, Grays RM17 6SR on Friday 15 May 2026, led by Fr. Paschal Uche. The time is from 7:00pm to 9:00pm, with refreshments afterwards. Come and join us! Everyone is welcome.

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.**

THE LEGACY OF ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI As we mark 800 years since the death of St Francis (3rd 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 2nd May. Refreshments available from 10.30. Everyone is welcome to this free event, which is also available by live stream on www.whatgoodnews.org No booking necessary.

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.

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

Mass Attendance: Apr 25/26 5.30pm: 26 Sun 8.45am: 42 10.30am: 34 Total: 102

Easter Offertory/Cheque Collections: £658.65

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

For electronic payments please email ongar@brcdt.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.