



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

**SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)  
SUNDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2026**

St. Margaret of Scotland  
Doddinghurst Road  
Doddinghurst  
CM15 0QJ



Seventh Sunday of  
*Easter*

17 MAY 2026 • YEAR A

JOHN 17:1-11a

*"Father, the hour has come.  
Glorify your Son,  
so that your Son may  
glorify you."*

John 17:1



Response to Psalm:

**I believe I shall see the Lord's goodness in the  
land of the living.**

Gospel Acclamation:

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

**I will not leave you as orphans, says the Lord.  
I am going away and I will come to you,  
and your hearts will rejoice.  
Alleluia.**

Communion Antiphon

**Father, I pray that they may be one  
as we also are one, alleluia.**

Our parish newsletter can also be found online at [catholicparishongar.org](http://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 19th May at 12:30pm. RCIA on Tuesday we will be discussing 'Virtues and Vices' pg 33. 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.

**Baptism** We welcome to the family of the Church, Michael Corse, who will be baptised in our parish this weekend. Remember their parents who are the "first and best teachers of their children in the ways of the Faith"

**Blessing of the Graves**

The Blessing of the Graves for the parish will take place at 3pm on Pentecost Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May at Ongar Town Cemetary at Love Lane, Ongar.

**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.

**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.

## Mass Times and Intentions

### SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A) (World Communications Day)

SAT 16 MAY	St H 2.00pm	Baptism – Michael Corse
	St H 5.30pm	Sr Bernadette McCaffrey Int.
SUN 17 MAY	St H 8.45am	People of the Parish
	St M 10.30am	Simon Bateson Birthday and Maria & Steven Taylor – 23 <sup>rd</sup> Wedding Anniversary (Ann & Graham)
MON 18 MAY	No Mass Service	
TUE 19 MAY	St H 9.00am	Maureen- restoration to good health (Alan Chapman)
WED 20 MAY	St H 9.00am	
THU 21 MAY	St H 9.00am	
*FRI 22 MAY	St H 9.00am	Patricia Annesley Int. (Ann & Graham)

### PENTECOST (A)

SAT 23 MAY	St H 5.30pm	Bernie Morrison RIP (Karen Markiewicz)
SUN 24 MAY	St H 8.45am	Barbara Bridle RIP (Lillie & Marvin)
	St M 10.30am	People of the Parish

**\*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.**



**Brentwood Catholic Children's Society** invites you to a wonderful charity two-course luncheon at the beautiful Grade II listed Georgian house, The Lawn in Rochford.  
Friday June 19th - 13:00-15:30 - Tickets are £38.50 per person. Please scan the QR code to book or go to <https://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events-campaigns/>

#### **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).



**Catholic Legacy Week**, 24-30 May, is a time when Parishes and Catholic charities such as CAFOD celebrate the work made possible in the life of the Church through gifts in Wills. Find out more about the week using QR code or at [//cafod.org.uk/CatholicLegacyWeek](https://cafod.org.uk/CatholicLegacyWeek)

**Caritas** You are invited to our online Caritas Conversation on 13<sup>th</sup> 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>

CAFOD are hiring. Could you inspire Catholics to participate in the Church's mission, working to overcome poverty and injustice? Do you want to work for CAFOD and encourage support and partnership within the Church? We are looking for a Community Participation Coordinator to work in the Diocese of Brentwood. Follow the link for more details and please pass on to any friends or relatives who might be interested. Closing date: 18 May 2026. See [cafod.org.uk/work-with-us](http://cafod.org.uk/work-with-us)

**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](http://www.thecampionschool.org.uk)



### **Defend NHS workers & Patients' Rights**

The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill has fallen, but a very similar assisted dying bill for England and Wales is expected to be introduced soon. Such a bill is expected to deny nursing homes, hospices, health and social care professionals who oppose all involvement in the suicide of patients on conscience grounds—including NHS staff—the right to 'opt out' completely from such involvement without facing penalties. In addition, doctors with years of clinical expertise who are opposed to assisted dying on ethical or religious grounds (including frontline GPs) could be forced to resign, depriving NHS patients of their services.

*We, the undersigned, request that the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care:*

- 1. Instruct the NHS to protect conscientious objection rights, generously interpreted, for all NHS staff.*
- 2. Make clear to all healthcare employers that existing human rights and equality laws prohibit discrimination based on religion or belief.*
- 3. Help ensure that, should assisted dying be legalised in the future, institutions such as hospices and Care Homes can refuse any form of involvement in the suicide of patients/residents without fear of sanctions.*
- 4. Help ensure that patients can consult with a doctor without fear that they may be invited to end their own lives.*

**Signatories must be 18 or over. To sign online: [Scan QR code above](#) or go to [bioscentre.org/petition-on-conscience-protection](https://bioscentre.org/petition-on-conscience-protection)**

**Hospital Chaplain- Basildon Hospital** A vacancy has arisen for a Hospital Chaplain. All applicants should have strong communication skills and be able to deal with the private and confidential nature of the role. The post will be part-time working 5.25 hours per week – during the hours of 8am – 8pm. One day per week. The salary is £13.45 per hour. The closing date for applications is 29th May 2026 and suitable applicants will be invited to attend an interview. If you have any queries or if you would like to apply, please send your CV to [basildon@brcdt.org](mailto:basildon@brcdt.org)

**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

**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.**

Mass Attendance: May 9/10 5.30pm: 26 Sun 8.45am: 46 10.30am: 29 Total: 101

Offertory/Cheque Collections: £303.00

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

For electronic payments please email [ongar@brcdt.org](mailto: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.**