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

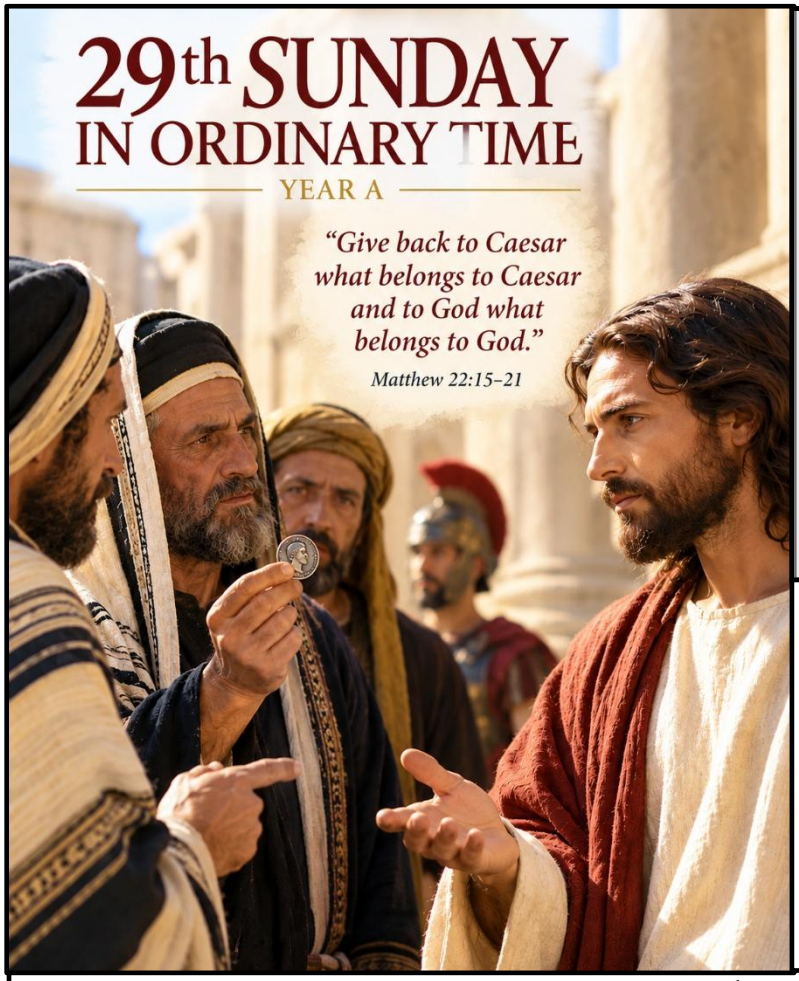
The Catholic Parish of Ongar and Doddinghurst

Email: ongar@brcdt.org

Tel: 01277 362645
please note that texts cannot be received on this number

St. Margaret of Scotland
Doddinghurst Road
Doddinghurst
CM15 0QJ

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)
SUNDAY 18TH OCTOBER, 2026



(World Mission Sunday)
Sunday Mass Responses

Response to Psalm:
Ascribe to the Lord glory and power.

Gospel Acclamation:
Alleluia, alleluia.
Shine as lights in the world,
holding fast to the word of life.
Alleluia.

Communion Antiphon:
The Son of Man has come
to give his life as a ransom for many.

Our parish newsletter can also be found online at catholicparishongar.org where you can 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 next RCIA meeting will be on Tuesday 20th October 12.30pm as usual when we will be exploring the Liturgy of the Eucharist. 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.

First Holy Communion Programme 2026–2027
Thank you to all those who have already enquired about or submitted application forms for First Holy Communion. Please note that the closing date for applications is **31st October**. Forms are available at the back of both churches or from the presbytery. Please ensure that completed forms are returned by this date.
I will arrange a meeting in November for parents to discuss the proposed First Holy Communion programme and answer any questions. God bless, Fr Frank

Wedding Announcement
Please keep Martin John Backes and Joanna Margaret Readman in your prayers as they prepare to celebrate the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony on Wednesday 21st October at 11.00am at St Helen's Church, Ongar.
May God bless them as they begin their married life together, and grant them a lifetime of love, joy and faithfulness (Mass will be celebrated as normal at 9.00am).

Mass Times and Intentions

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A) (World Mission Sunday)		
SAT 17 OCT	**St H 5.30pm**	Ian Dowers RIP Recently deceased (Peter & Denise Gaston)
SUN 18 OCT	**St H 8.45am**	People of the Parish
	St M 10.30am	Cornelius Coughlin RIP (Corrine Adams)
MON 19 OCT	**NO SERVICE**	
TUE 20 OCT	St H 9.00am	David Love RIP (Kelly Love)
WED 21 OCT	St H 9.00am	Joanna Readman & Martin Backes Wedding Intentions
	St.H.11.00am	**Wedding: Martin John Backes & Joanna Margaret Readman**
THU 22 OCT	St H 9.00am	Holy Souls
FRI 23 OCT*	St H 9.00am	**Mass followed by Holy Hour**

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)		
SAT 24 OCT	**St H 5.30pm**	
SUN 25 OCT	**St H 8.45am**	
	St M 10.30am	Charlie Branch Special Ints. (Mary & Bernard Adams)

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

The Sacrament of Individual Reconciliation is available 4.30pm - 5.15pm Saturday at St Helen's and 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, Curtis & Family, Hayley Duff & Family, Bethany Luetchford & Family, Ann Bateson, Wayne Aikin, Frances Wiseman, Peggy Maxwell, Anastasia Morris, Betty Helliar, Chris Stone.

Please also pray for those whose Anniversaries occur at this time.

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.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and may perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

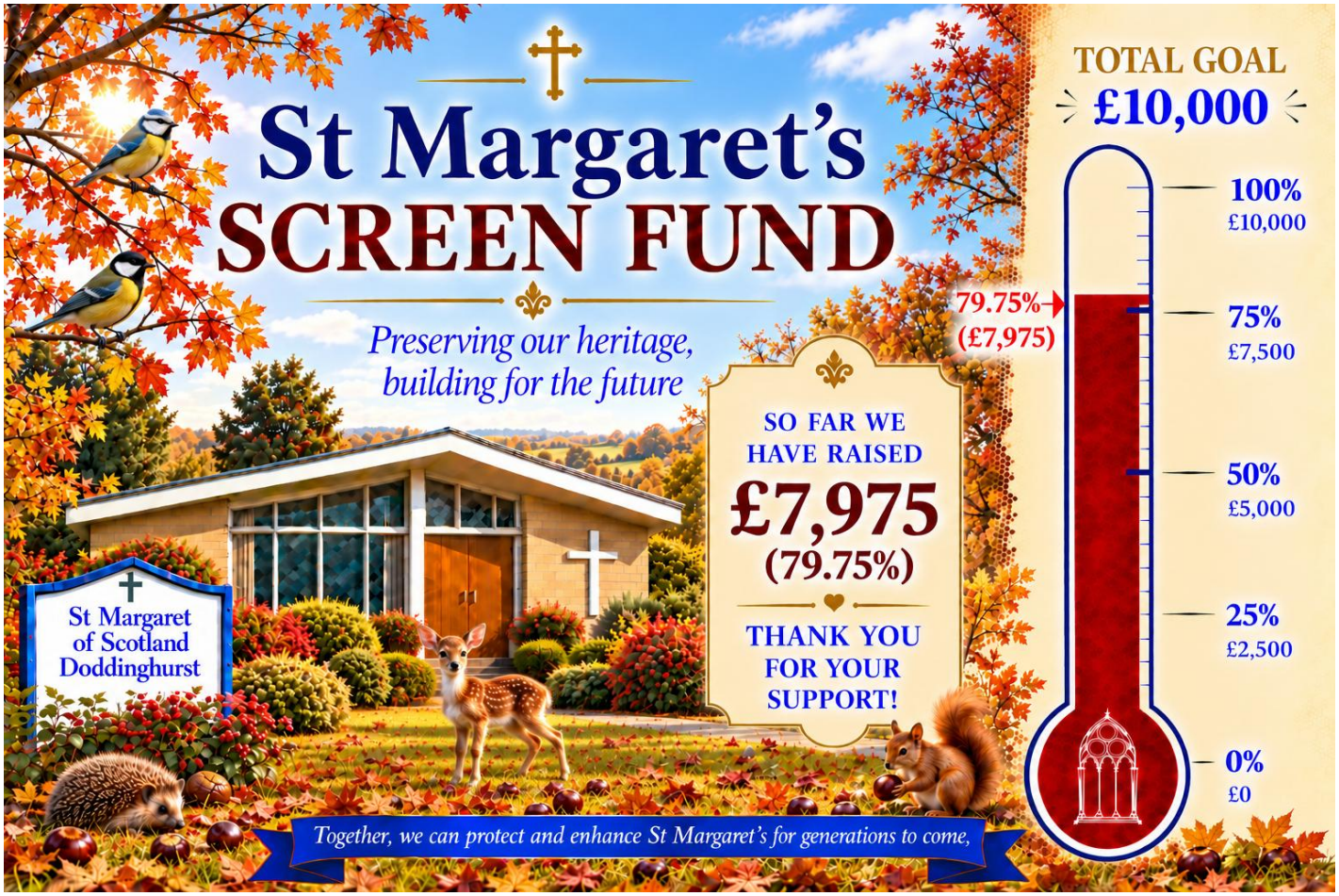
Whatsapp Group: The parish Whatsapp Group, which is available for the whole parish to use and to help keep everyone up to date with current issues and events, please contact the administrator, Denise Terry-Roberts, at d.terryroberts@btinternet.com or on 07545 240064 if you'd like to add your mobile number.

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.

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 Attendance: 10/11 October 5.30pm 36; 08.45am 31; 10.30am 31; Total: 98
Offertory/Cheque Collections: £259.98
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.

The Brentwood Diocese Trust is a Registered Charity no: 234092



A heartfelt 'thank you' to everyone who has contributed to St Margaret's Screen Fund. Every contribution, large or small, is greatly appreciated. Thank you

The floor-to-ceiling screen that divides the Church area from the main hall has become badly damaged and now needs to be replaced. This screen has served the parish faithfully for over **40 years**, enabling the building to function both as a place of worship and as a vital community hall.

While Church services take place on Sundays and Feast Days, the hall is used throughout the week as a lively community hub. It regularly hosts the **St Margaret's Pre-School**, **Doddinghurst Women's Institute**, **Musical Theatre Group**, monthly social **Doddy Drop-In**, village events, exercise classes, the **Christmas Party for the housebound**, and is available for private bookings. The screen is essential for allowing all these activities to continue safely and comfortably.

To install a new screen, we need to raise **£10,000**, and so we have launched a parish and local appeal.

How You Can Help:

- Attend upcoming fund-raising events
- Make a personal donation — **every contribution, no matter the size, makes a difference**

For bank transfers, please use the following details:
Account Name: Catholic Church Ongar St Helen
Account Number: 01017616 Sort Code: 40-13-22
01277 362645
ongar@brcdt.org
Cheques may be made payable to: **Catholic Church Ongar ST Helens**

There is an option now available for the Screen Fund on the Dona Contactless Device at St Helen's or, alternatively, you can use the QR code for card payments. Please note that you can Gift Aid your donation using one of the yellow general envelopes available at both churches. Please mark Screen Fund and Gift Aid number on your envelopes if using. There is also an option available on the Dona machine in the Altar Screen Fund. You only need to enter GA info once per bank card used. Those that are members of the Gift Aid Scheme will be identified in the usual way.

Your continued support and kindness are deeply appreciated, and every contribution helps us move closer to completing this much-needed project.

A Little Request About Parking

As parking at St Helen's is very limited, if you're able to park elsewhere and walk to church, we'd be very grateful. This helps leave spaces for those who need to park closer.

Thank you for your kindness and understanding.
Fr Frank

TO ANY BUDDING FLOWER ARRANGERS On the 5th Dec I am planning to hold a practical wreath making, and a Christmas table decoration seminar in the hall at Doddinghurst. The techniques that we will learn will lend themselves to making the kind of arrangements that we use on the Altar in both St Margaret's and St Helen's. If you are interested, please call Lesley Denton for more information. If numbers are small we may hold this event in the presbytery. Please call **Lesley** on **07981964892** by 31st October and to secure your place.

Missio – Today is World Mission Sunday – Sunday 18th October, 2026

Today, parishes worldwide celebrate World Mission Sunday. By Supporting Missio – the Pope's charity for world mission – we stand united as God's global family, in prayer, solidarity and action. The Holy Father has chosen the theme 'One in Christ, united in mission' to celebrate 100 years of World Mission Sunday and encourages us to unite with missionaries as they strive to reach out with God's love to communities in need. Please pray for the work of the mission and give what you can to this vital collection. To donate, use the **Missio Envelope** in your church collections, call 02078219755 (office hours) or visit missio.org.uk to give a gift, set up a Direct Debit and Gift Aid your donation if possible.

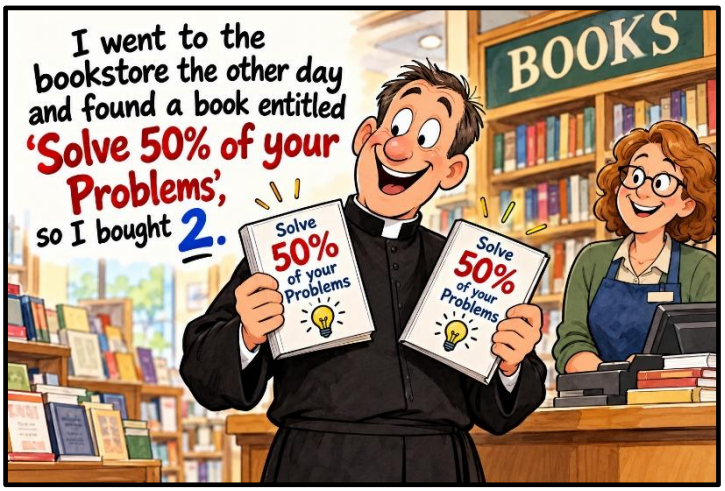
Please bring your Red Boxes to the weekend Masses this weekend.

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/**

St Helen's Please be careful when moving the kneelers during Mass as they can be noisy at times and cause disturbance.

St Margaret's There is now a box of religious cards available at St Margaret's. These will be available when teas and coffees are served after Mass on Sundays and are all individually priced.

Doddy Drop In Everyone is very welcome to drop in for our friendly social on the second Tuesday of every month at St Margaret's Hall, Doddinghurst between 2-4pm.



A Day with Mary is taking place at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 7 November 2026 (9.45am to 5.00pm). The Most Reverend Richard Moth, Archbishop of Westminster will be the Celebrant & Preacher at 10.30am Cathedral Mass on that day. Further information is available at **https://www.adaywithmary.org/**

BCYS Summer Lourdes 2027 – 17th–24th July: Join BCYS for an incredible week in Lourdes, France, combining pilgrimage, prayer, service and friendship. The first wave of applications opens **1st October 2026**, so now is a great time to start thinking about joining! For more information, and to apply, please visit www.bcys.net/events

FLAME 2027 – Saturday 6th March: Join thousands of young Catholics from across England and Wales at Wembley Arena for a huge day of inspiring speakers, live worship, prayer, Adoration and celebration. Open to young people in **Year 9 and above**, with BCYS group places available from £30. For more information, please visit www.bcys.net/events

Walsingham House Manager Vacancy: To ensure the smooth and efficient running of Walsingham House at Abbotswick, as an inspiring, faith-filled retreat house welcoming over 5,000 young people each year. Specific responsibilities include leading retreats, and leading and training the volunteer community. The post holder also has overall responsibility for Safeguarding and (together with the Site Manager) Health and Safety. Location - Walsingham House at Abbotswick, with travel to retreat locations and BCYS events, as needed. Hours- 35 hours per week- including significant evening and weekend work Salary- £30 - 32K depending on prior experience (ideally this is a "live in" role, with a one bedroom flat provided, however it is not essential). Contract: 3-year fixed term contract. The closing date for applications is 23rd October 2026.

Catechist Training & Resources Day – Saturday 7th November: An opportunity for First Holy Communion and Confirmation catechists, youth leaders, children's liturgy teams and anyone working with young people to come together for a day of training, inspiration, new resources and sharing ideas. The FREE event takes place at Brentwood Ursuline Convent School from 10am–3pm. For more information, please visit www.bcys.net/events

Brentwood Catholic Youth Service The BCYS offers retreats, events and pilgrimages for young people throughout the Diocese of Brentwood. If you'd like to get involved, you can find out more at **www.bcys.net** or follow **@BrentwoodCYS** on social media.

Caritas We are looking forward to a talk on Catholic Social Teaching from **Monsignor John Armitage**. This will be followed by lived experience from parishioners, as well as young adults involved with Citizens UK.
Saturday, 17th October at St Alban's Parish Hall, Elm Park
9:45am arrivals - 12:30pm departures *(refreshments provided)*
To register, clergy and parishioners can email us directly, go to our website or visit this link:
https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/caritas-brentwood-events-4458423

World Youth Day 2027 – Seoul: Join young people from around the world in Seoul, South Korea, from **1st–8th August 2027** for an unforgettable week of prayer, celebration, friendship and encountering the global Church. The BCYS pilgrimage is open to those aged **19–30** in August 2027, with applications now open. For more information, and to apply, please visit www.bcys.net/events

Ursuline Preparatory School

Teaching Assistant

The Ursuline Preparatory School based in Warley, Brentwood is a vibrant co-educational school educating children from 3 to 11 years. We are seeking to appoint an experienced Teacher Assistant at our thriving Prep. School from January.

Required for January 2027 an enthusiastic and committed person to join our dedicated team.

The successful candidate for the full-time Teaching Assistant position will be expected to support the class teacher and children within the class. Experience working with SEN children would be an advantage.

Salary offered will be dependent on knowledge and experience.

Please apply in writing with accompanying CV to Mrs. Wilson, Headteacher by post to Ursuline Preparatory School, Great Ropers Lane, Warley, Brentwood, CM13 3HR or via e-mail: secretary1@ursulineprepwarley.co.uk

Closing date for application is Friday, 23rd October 2026

Ursuline Preparatory School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. We expect all applicants to share this commitment. The post is subject to a successful DBS, reference and qualifications check.

At Brentwood Ursuline, we believe that a truly great Catholic education should form the whole person: nurturing faith, furnishing the mind, building character and inspiring ambition.
For over a century, our school has offered an education rooted in the Catholic faith and the Ursuline tradition; intellectually ambitious, rich in opportunity and centred on each young person.
Here, faith is lived, excellence is expected and every student is known and valued. Our outstanding academic results tell part of our story; the confident, compassionate and purposeful young people who leave us tell the rest.
We warmly invite prospective students and their families to join us for our Sixth Form Open Evening. Come through our doors, meet our community and discover all that a Brentwood Ursuline education could offer your son/daughter.

Brentwood Ursuline Convent High School

Sixth Form Open Evening:

Thursday 5th November 2026 6:30-8:30pm
Headteacher's talk at 6:30pm

We are delighted to invite you to our **Sixth Form Open Evening.**
This is a fantastic opportunity to discover all that BUCHS Sixth Form has to offer. Visitors will be able to explore our wide range of academic courses, enrichment and super-curricular opportunities, as well as the support and guidance we provide to help students prepare for life beyond BUCHS.

'Where ambition meets tradition'

Brand NEW Sixth Form Block

63.4% of students secured A*-B grades from the 2026 Summer Exams

The mission of our School is to create a Christian environment in which each student can grow in personality, relationships, knowledge and skill towards a full realisation of their potential.