

# CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION HAINAULT

Parish Priest: Fr Jean-Claude Selvini  
98, Manford Way  
Chigwell  
IG7 4DF

☎ & Fax 020 8500 3953

✉ [nda.hainault@btinternet.com](mailto:nda.hainault@btinternet.com)

website: <http://nda.hainault.org.uk>

Registered Charity No. 234092



24th/25th December 2017

THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

linksmu Kalèdu

Beannachtaí  
na  
Nollag

Fröhliche  
Weihnachten

Nadolig  
Llawen

Buon  
Natale

Nedeleg  
laouen deoc'h

സന്തോഷകരമായ  
ക്രിസ്മസ്



A holy and blessed Christmas  
to you and all your loved ones!

Cracium Fericit

Bon  
Et Joyeux  
Noël

Feliz  
Navidad

Wesołych  
Świąt

Feliz  
Natal

*from Fr Jean-Claude Selvini*

## *Reflections for Christmas* *by Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI*

Christmas is a privileged opportunity to meditate on the meaning and value of our existence. The approach of this Solemnity helps us on the one hand to reflect on the drama of history in which people, injured by sin, are perennially in search of happiness and of a fulfilling sense of life and death; and on the other, it urges us to meditate on the merciful kindness of God who came to man to communicate to him directly the Truth that saves, and to enable him to partake in his friendship and his life. Therefore let us prepare ourselves for Christmas with humility and simplicity, making ourselves ready to receive as a gift the light, joy and peace that shine from this mystery.

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God's sign is his humility. God's sign is that he makes himself small; he becomes a child; he lets us touch him and he asks for our love. How we would prefer a different sign, an imposing, irresistible sign of God's power and greatness! But his sign summons us to faith and love, and thus it gives us hope: this is what God is like. He has power, he is Goodness itself. He invites us to become like him. Yes indeed, we become like God if we allow ourselves to be shaped by this sign; if we ourselves learn humility and hence true greatness; if we renounce violence and use only the weapons of truth and love.

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Only if people change will the world change; and in order to change, people need the light that comes from God, the light which so unexpectedly [on the night of Christmas] entered into our night.

*Et Verbum caro factum est, et habitavit in nobis*

### THE ANGELUS

*As is now our custom, the Angelus is said at the beginning of the 6.00pm Mass on Saturdays and the 12noon Mass on Sundays. The text of the prayer can be found in the Parish Mass Books on page 2 (opposite the Table of Contents).*



### TEA & COFFEE

*are served in the Parish Hall after the 10.00am Mass every Sunday. Please come along, even if only for a few minutes, to meet and chat with your fellow parishioners.*

**HAINAULT CATHOLIC CLUB LTD:**  
*Membership renewal now due: £8. Concessions £2.*

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A **MASS** for those enquiring or discerning a vocation to the priesthood will be held at Our Lady of Lourdes at Leigh on Sea at 12noon *this Friday*, the feast of St Thomas Becket. All are welcome to come and pray for vocations and meet our seminarians. Anyone who would like a lift, please let me know as soon as possible. *Fr Selvini*

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“**CHOSEN**” is a four day retreat for young people and young adults (16-35) run by Youth 2000 at St Bonaventure’s School, Forest Gate. *This takes place over the New Year bank holiday weekend - 29th December to 1st January.* Dynamic talks, creative workshops, friendship, adoration and worship, reconciliation and healing. Visit: [www.youth2000.org](http://www.youth2000.org)

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**ADVANCE NOTICE:** the annual *White Flower Appeal* organised by the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children will be held at the end of all Masses over the weekend of *13th & 14th January 2018.*

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**SICK AT HOME OR IN HOSPITAL**

If anyone is seriously ill at home or is in hospital, it is most important that a priest be informed so that the sick person may receive the spiritual help of the sacraments. Relatives or friends should inform their parish priest their parish priest and/or the Catholic chaplain of the hospital (*at King George Hospital, 8590 9026; at Queen’s Hospital, 01708 477890 (Helen Miranda); at Whipps Cross Hospital, 8520 5877.*)

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**GOING INTO HOSPITAL?**

I draw your attention to the *Sick Parishioner Care* forms at the back of church. Please take one if you are going to hospital and wish the Catholic chaplain to look after you!

*Fr Selvini*

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**MASS INTENTIONS/OFFERINGS**

Special envelopes are available at the back of church. If you would like a Mass offered on a *particular anniversary*, please let the Parish Priest know well in advance – the sooner the better! Thank you for your co-operation.

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## Mass Intentions for the week beginning 23rd December 2017

Sat 23	FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT	6.00pm	Maureen Reidy RIP / For Robert Reed (FM)
Sun 24		10.00am 12noon	Alan, Simon & Jeremy Newell RIP John McLaughlin RIP
Sun 24	CHRISTMAS EVE	6.00pm 9.30pm	The People of the Parish Ronald & Patricia Taylor RIP
Mon 25	CHRISTMAS DAY	8.30am 10.00am	Rose Murphy RIP Sylvestro Peluso RIP
Tue 26	ST STEPHEN, DN & M.	10.00am	Peter Hethrington RIP ( <i>anniv.</i> )
Wed 27	ST JOHN, AP. & Ev.	10.00am	Sheila Eales RIP ( <i>anniv.</i> )
Thu 28	THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MM.	10.00am	Richard Eales ( <i>first anniv.</i> )
Fri 29	ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY, BP & M.	10.00am	Madeleine Selvini RIP & Intentions of Roland Selvini
Sat 30	WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS	9.30am	Bernard White RIP (benefactor)
Sat 30	THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH	6.00pm	Michael Scanlon RIP, Scanlon & Keville Families RIP / Bill Wakefield RIP ( <i>anniv.</i> )
Sun 31		10.00am 12noon	Connie Liddard RIP ( <i>anniv.</i> ) The People of the Parish

### ***Confessions this Saturday 5.30 – 5.45pm***

#### ***Your prayers are asked for the sick and housebound, especially:***

Roland Selvini, Fr Daniel Kulangara, Clare Merrins, Maciej Pogorzelski, Margaret McQueen, Paul Westrop, Bernadette Prudence, Kathleen Newell, John Liddard, Jones Bediako-Antwi-Benneh, Leslie Cook, Trevor Barnham, Ann Dunseath, Christopher Johnstone, Josie D'afers, Christina Whiting, Anne Purcell, Ken Stanton, Kathleen Simpson, Pamela Allen, Grace Lobendhan, Marcus Prospert, Eoin Oliver, Peggy Gajewski, Victor Francis, Mary Evelyn Piotrowski, Derek Pyner, Gerald Rowe, Mary Brock, Ann Divine, Ann O'Donovan, Anthony Fonseca, Maria McLoughlin, John Phillips, Mick Martin, Adriano Agatiello, Kay Fahy, Tony Baldwin, Paul Doyle, Susan Coker, Daniel Sutton, Tony Morton, Bernadette Thomas, Jane Anne Harvey, the Kitteridge Family, Maximilian Peluso, Patricia Theobalds, Jean Salter, Terry Eales, Norah Kelly, the residents of Sherrell House, Belmont Lodge and Pinewood.

**Mass Attendance last weekend: 338**

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**Offertory Collection last weekend: £844.02**