



**Parish of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Goudhurst and
St Barnabas Catholic Church, Hawkhurst, Kent TN17 1DN**

Contact : The Presbytery, Beresford Road, Goudhurst, Kent TN17 1DN
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 Livestreaming : Kentchurches.com **
 Website: <https://sacredheartgoudhurst.org.uk>
 Priest in Charge : Fr Ethelbert Ukpabi
 Parish Secretary: Lizzi Payne
 Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday – 10:30am – 2:00pm



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY 9:00am – 9:30am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
 Sacred Heart, SATURDAY 5:00pm before Mass
 St Barnabas, SUNDAY 8.00am before Mass



Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Week commencing 26th January 2025 Mass Book Page 129

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: Nehemiah 8:2-6, 8-10

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm: 18 8-10, 15 Response: Your words, O Lord, are spirit and life.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-30

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia The Lord has sent me to proclaim good news to the poor; to proclaim liberty to the captives. Alleluia.

Gospel: Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21

Saturday 25th January Sacred Heart, Goudhurst 5.30pm	End of Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Sunday of the Word of God Holy Mass – Peace Day	Maurice O'Connor RIP
Sunday 26th 8:30am St Barnabas, Hawkhurst	Sunday of the Word of God Holy Mass	Missa Pro Populo
Sunday 26th 10:30am **Livestreamed Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Sunday of the Word of God Holy Mass *****Followed by the Concert *****Please stay after Mass and support our performers for this worthy cause.	Jon Hawley RIP
Monday 27th	FATHER'S DAY OFF	
Tuesday 28th 6.00pm Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Holy Mass – Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church, Memorial	Private Intention
Wednesday 29th 9:30am Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Holy Mass - Feria	Thanksgiving for the Thakerar Family
Thursday 30th		
Friday 31st 9:30am Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Holy Mass – Saint John Bosco, Priest, Memorial	Opa Johannes Franke RIP
Saturday 1st February 5.30pm Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Vigil Mass - The Presentation of the Lord, Candlemas Feast with candles	Missa Pro Populo
Sunday 2nd 08.30am St Barnabas, Hawkhurst	Holy Mass – The Presentation of the Lord, Candlemas Feast with candles	
Sunday 2nd 10.30am **Livestreamed Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Holy Mass – The Presentation of the Lord, Candlemas Feast with candles	Jon Hawley RIP

REFLECTION Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Today, Sunday of the Word of God, in the first reading, Ezra the priest assisted by the Levites read out loud the word of God to the hearing of the people. The word of God had a profound effect on all who heard. In the gospel Jesus entered the Synagogue and read a passage from the prophet Isaiah that talked about himself and his mission.

Our two readings point to the importance of the reading, listening to and meditating on the word of God in the life of a believer. Jesus is the Word of God. He speaks the word, and he is the word spoken. Jn 1: 1 says, 'In the beginning was the word and the word was with God and the word was God.' That is why the Lord said in Isaiah 55: 11, 'The word that proceeds from my mouth shall not return to me empty but must accomplish that which I please.' This word of God 'is spirit and life,' (Jn 6: 63) it is 'living and active. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword' (Heb 4: 12) it 'gives life', (Proverbs 3: 1).

How much value do you place on the Word of God? How often do you read the bible, and meditate on it? The bible, the word of God is the book of life. If you want to hear the voice of God, if you want to have a conversation with God, read the bible daily.

The Jews had two places of worship, the Temple, and the Synagogue. There was only one Temple in Jerusalem while the synagogue was in every village and town, and it was a place for reading and explaining the word Of God. In Luke 2: 22 Jesus was presented in the Temple by Mary and Joseph where they offered the sacrifice prescribed by the Law, Ex 13: 2, Lev 14; 22). In Luke 1: 1ff, as in several other passages, Jesus went to the Synagogue to celebrate the Word; as in today's gospel, he read the word of God and explained it to the people and told them that what they heard was being fulfilled right before them.

In the Holy sacrifice of the Mass, the celebration of the Word of God and the offering of Sacrifice to God are brought together- the Liturgy of the Word, and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. But the Eucharist is on a far higher and incomparable level. The temple sacrifice was with the blood of animals. The Eucharistic sacrifice is with the blood of Jesus, the Word of God.

In the Holy Mass, the word of God that is read, explained, and meditated upon is then offered to the Father. The beauty and the mystery are that he who is offered is the one offering. Jesus the Word is the one being offered, and he is the one offering. He is both priest and victim. Isn't that marvellous? Imagine the beauty and the wonder!

That is why the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the most wonderful, the most sublime and the greatest prayer and worship we can offer to God. It is a prayer, the only prayer on earth in which Jesus is the one being offered to the Father, and he is still the one offering. The Father cannot see Jesus being offered and offering and not pay heed. That is why the Holy Mass is the greatest anyone can say on earth.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Bible Reading: Gospel of Luke 1. If anyone has any questions, please contact Father Ethelbert by email or phone.
2. **The Concert this weekend is after Mass on Sunday 26th at Sacred Heart. Teas and coffees will be served afterwards. We look forward to seeing you.**
3. If there are any candidates for First Holy Communion this year, please will you contact the Parish Office.
4. We should be really grateful if someone could lend a hand with the Lent Lunches. Please contact Lizzi after Mass at Hawkhurst or at the Parish Office.
5. Please will you inform Father Ethelbert of any parishioners who are sick and would like a visit, and if they would like their names to appear in our Newsletter for our prayer.
6. **Please Note:** There will be building works commencing the last week in January/ 1st week February at the entrance to Sacred Heart Church, Goudhurst. We will try to limit any disruption to the Masses during this time.
7. **The Booklets mentioned in Archbishop John's letter have arrived. They are now at the back of the church for you to collect. It would also be good to get some feedback from you.**

Dates for your Diary:

Goudhurst Village Fete, Saturday 14th June from 12 to 16.00h. More information nearer the time.



Please continue to keep in your daily prayers the sick of our parish family, Jenny Doyle, Chris Davis and Alison McKenna

ANNIVERSARIES

† Please pray for the repose of the Souls of France Maire Brongor, Maire Dee, Frederick Rushmore, Barry Mort, Paul Hendrickx, Audrey Martine, Elaine Martin, Janina Lesniewska-Chapman, Sadie Brown, Jack de Wilton, James Bolland, Irene Lillian Brookman and Mary Morley. *Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them, May they rest in Peace.*

ONLINE DONATIONS

BANK DETAILS,

NatWest Bank: RCAS Sacred Heart Goudhurst, Account No: 59004576 Sort Code: 60 06 18

Gift Aiders please add your envelope number and name as a reference