



**Parish of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Goudhurst TN17 1DN
and St Barnabas Catholic Church, Hawkhurst, Kent TN18 4AH**

Contact : The Presbytery, Beresford Road, Goudhurst, Kent TN17 1DN

Tel : 01580211268 E-Mail: goudhurst@rcaos.org.uk

** Livestreaming : kentchurches.com

Website: <https://sacredheartgoudhurst.org.uk>

Priest in Charge : Fr Ethelbert Ukpabi

Parochial Administrator : Fr Damian Ilodigwe

Parish Secretary: Lizzi Payne (Emergency no 07831252314)

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday – 10:30am – 5.00

Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



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



SIXTEENTH SUNDAY (C)

Week commencing 20th July 2025 Mass Book Page 111

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: Genesis 18:1-10a

Responsorial Psalm: 15:2-3a, 3b-4b, 5 Response: O Lord, who may abide in your tent?

Second Reading: Colossians 1:24-28

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Blessed are those who hold fast to the word of God in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience. Alleluia.

Gospel: Luke 10: 38-42

Saturday 19th July 5.30pm **Livestreamed Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Vigil Mass –	Missa Pro Populo
Sunday 20th 8:30am St Barnabas, Hawkhurst	Holy Mass –	Jon Hawley RIP
Sunday 20th 10:30am **Livestreamed Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Holy Mass –	Jon Hawley RIP
Monday 21st	FATHER'S DAY OFF (Office closed)	
Tuesday 22nd 6.00pm Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Weekday Mass – Saint Mary Magdalene, Feast	
Wednesday 23rd 09.30am Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Weekday Mass –	
Thursday 24th		
Friday 25th 9.30am Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Holy Mass – Saint James, Apostle, Feast	
Saturday 26th 5.30pm ** Livestreamed Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Seventeenth Sunday (C), Vigil Mass	
Sunday 27th 08.30am St Barnabas, Hawkhurst	Holy Mass	Maureen Allanson, for her healing
Sunday 27th 10.30am **Livestreamed Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Holy Mass	Missa Pro Populo

REFLECTION, SIXTEENTH SUNDAY (C)

The visit of Jesus to Martha and Mary, the sisters of Lazarus, as recounted in the gospel, is usually taken as a foil for explaining the two dimensions of the Christian life: the practical side, which consists in action, doing things for God in order to demonstrate our love and appreciation, and the contemplative dimension, which consists in pondering the word of God in order to be nourished and enlightened by the Word.

On the occasion of the visit, Martha, who exemplifies the practical dimension, expends herself in some practical concerns in service of the Lord, while Mary, who exemplifies the contemplative dimension, opts to seat at the feet of Jesus to listen to his words instead of dissipating herself in the practical concern of entertaining him. Instructively, Jesus does not condemn either attitude but indicates that the more important of the two is the contemplative attitude. Nothing is as important as listening to the Word of the Lord and contemplating the Divine presence. How else can our lives be shaped and influenced apart from seating at his feet? Yet it is not just about listening; it is also about making what we hear, namely, the Word, the foundation of our desire, thinking and action.

As Jesus once said, "it is not what goes into a man that makes a man unclean but what comes from his heart". This statement accentuates the correlation between the heart, the mind and the will. If the Word of God finds a home in our heart, it is bound to impact on the rest of our personality. Indeed, as we dwell at the feet of Jesus and allow the Word to infiltrate our innermost faculties, we not only experience interior transformation and peace, but we also find renewed motivation and energy to engage appropriately in all our practical activities such as to be pleasing to the Lord. If our active life is properly anchored in our affective life, and if our affective life is grounded in the Word of God, the entirety of our lives literally becomes a moment of prayer, a moment of communion with God in which we are recharged continually and made more effective in our self-transcending.

If we appreciate the correlation between solitude and strength, we will make it a habit to observe periodic quiet time in the course of each day, during which, in the aloneness of our domain, we allow ourselves to be stripped of our spurious supports, in order to rediscover our authentic life-anchors in God. Nothing can be as medicinal as quiet time properly observed. It is a form of rest – and a form of rest that ensures that we maintain a qualitative active life throughout the course of the day.

Indulging the contemplative side of life therefore is like recharging the battery of our active life, for in the solitude of the contemplative moment, we are not only able to process past events properly, but we are also able to anticipate the future in its proper relation to the present and the past. The contemplative moment gives us a basis upon which we can appropriate the past while remaining focused in respect of the present and the future, as the events of our lives come to emergence, in their proper meaning.

Lord, help us to observe periodic quiet time in your presence and build our life on your word.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Bible Reading, Acts of the Apostles. Ch 2. If anyone has any questions, please contact Father Damian by email or phone.
2. The Funeral Mass for Rowena Bennett will be held on 5th August at 12.00 at St Laurence Church, Hawkhurst.
3. Please will you inform Father 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 prayers.
4. The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a Celebration of St Faustina Birthday at Aylesford Priory, Aylesford, Kent on Bank Holiday Monday 25 August 2025 from 10:30 am to 4pm. The reflection day will include teachings on the Message of Divine Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Stations of the Cross, Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome. Call Millie on 07957594646 for more information. Coaches from Ealing Broadway and Victoria
5. **Mass Intentions** – In the Catholic Church, a Mass intention refers to a specific prayer request or intention for which a priest offers the Mass. This practice allows individuals to dedicate the graces of the Mass to a particular need, whether it be for the well-being of a living person, the repose of a deceased soul, or to express gratitude.
6. **Office news!** Lizzi is still working from home but if you need anything, please call her on 07831252314.



Please continue to keep in your daily prayers the sick of our parish family, Maureen Allanson, Lorraine Smith, Marion Weeks, Geaft Weeks, Jenny Doyle, Chris Davis, Jasmin Cameron and Vilma Fernandez.

ANNIVERSARIES

† Please pray for the repose of the Souls of Piotr Lesniewka, Roy Hutson, Mary Sharman, Nina Young, Eileen Whiffin, John Rathe, Marie McGlone and Jon Hawley, Bill Elliott, Florence, William Bennett, David John Dee, Pat Day, Joanna McClean, Ros Reardon, Mirabelle Kelly, Nick Rourke, Penny Scott-Watson, Helena Lesniewska, Christian Le Bourlier and Monica Scrowston.. *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