



**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

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** Livestreaming : Kentchurches.com

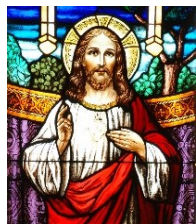
Website: <https://sacredheartgoudhurst.org.uk>

Parochial Administrator : Fr Damian Ilodigwe

Parish Secretary: Lizzi Payne (Emergency no 07831252314)

Office Hours: Tuesday and Friday 10.30 – 2.00pm

Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050

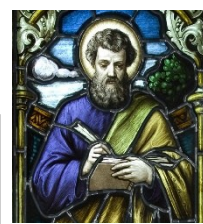


ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY 9:00am – 9:30am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

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



SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A)

Week Commencing 18th January 2026

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading : Isaiah 49:3, 5-6

Responsorial Psalm: 40:2, 4ab, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10 Response: Behold, I have come, Lord, to do your will.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians: 1:1-3

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia, The Word became flesh and dwelt among us; to all who did receive him, he gave the authority to become children of God. Alleluia

Gospel: John 1:29-34

Saturday 17th 5.30pm ** Livestreamed Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Second Sunday (A), Peace Day Vigil Mass	Ray Burrough RIP 2 nd Anniversary
Sunday 18th 08.30am St Barnabas, Hawkhurst	Second Sunday (A), Peace Day Holy Mass	Missa Pro Populo
Sunday 18th 10.30am **Livestreamed Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Second Sunday (A), Peace Day Holy Mass	Flora Hansell RIP
Monday 19th	No Mass	
Tuesday 20th	No Mass	
Wednesday 21st	No Mass	Saint Agnes, Virgin and Martyr, Memorial
Thursday 22nd	No Mass	
Friday 23rd	No Mass	
Saturday 24th 5.30pm **Livestreamed Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Third Sunday (A) Sunday of the Word of God Vigil Mass 2 nd collection St George's Cathedral	Missa Pro Populo
Sunday 25th 8.30am St Barnabas, Hawkhurst	Third Sunday (A) Sunday of the Word of God Holy Mass 2 nd collection St George's Cathedral	
Sunday 25th 10.30am **Livestreamed Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Third Sunday (A) Sunday of the Word of God Holy Mass 2 nd Collection St George's Cathedral	Moyra Baker RIP

REFLECTION, Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Our vocation as Christians is to bear witness to Christ. Unless we are sign posts that point others to Christ, we cannot say we are true Christians. To live, such as to lead others to Christ, our lives must resemble the life of Christ. We should not be excessively attached to things of this world and it should be evident from the way we carry on, that our whole life is dependent on God; that we live for God and not merely for ourselves or for others.

This is one basic lesson we can deduce from the lifestyle of John the Baptist. The figure of John the Baptist may strike us as strange, yet it speaks of a life sunk in God and lived totally for the service of God and humanity. Indeed, his unusual lifestyle tells us that in order to be effective witness of Christ in our contemporary situation our lives must not only correspond with the life of Christ but, more importantly, we need a bit of distance from the world in order to see things as they really are.

Living with an awareness of our pilgrim status is always the result a spirit-filled life. Indeed, if our life is animated by the Spirit, we will be so attuned to the voice of God, that we always recognize the signs of time and not be preoccupied with or misled by mere appearances.

This is precisely the situation of John the Baptist in the gospel. Because John was not engrossed in the world but lived a spirit-filled life, he was able to recognize Christ and pointed him out as the Lamb of God.

That John succeeded in recognizing him and introducing him to the world is all down the spirit-filled life he led, so that it is evident that we cannot make a success of our vocation unless we are animated by the Holy Spirit. We certainly cannot walk in the footsteps of Christ or assume his attitudes and dispositions in various contexts of our everyday life, unless we are spirit-filled persons and we follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

Same is true about the task of introducing Christ to others. We cannot be effective sign posts that lead others to Christ unless we are moved by the Holy Spirit. Indeed, if we are moved by the spirit and follow the promptings of the Spirit, everything about us and everything we do becomes a means through which Christ reveals his presence in our lives and situations and so draws others to himself through our instrumentality.

The truth is if, like John the Baptist and Christ, we learn to dwell in communion with the spirit and follow his promptings, we will not only understand what God demands of us but we shall also have the courage and strength to do it, regardless of the challenges involved. Because we have the discernment that comes from the Holy Spirit, we will avoid the deceptions of this world and this can only mean that our lives will be fruitful and productive.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. We welcome Bishop Paul Hendricks again and also Father Stephen Trafford from St Francis, Maidstone who will be covering the Vigil Mass on Saturday 17th January and we thank them for helping us.
2. Please will you inform the office 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.
3. Join our pilgrimage to Lourdes travelling overnight by luxury coach from 9 to 14 February 2026. It is always a beautiful and deeply spiritual experience soaking in the Spirit of Jesus as we travel to honour Our Blessed Mother. Leaving Slough and Ealing Broadway on 9 Feb 2026 and departing Lourdes on 13 February for a visit to the Shrine of the Miraculous Medal in Rue de Bac, Paris on 14 February morning and arriving in London later on 14 February 2026 Full board, exciting festival devotional program, experience the Blessed Sacrament Procession of the Sick, the Candlelight Marian Rosary Procession and the International Mass on the Feast Day followed by Stations, Confessions and Adoration with Hour of Mercy. Travel, full board and program cost £590. Call Millie on 07957594646 for more info.

If you need to contact us whilst Father is away, please use telephone number 07831252314.



Please continue to keep in your daily prayers the sick of our parish family, Noelle McFadden, Hannah Oliphant-Morgan, Jackie and David, Maureen Allanson, Lorraine Smith, Richard Brook-Hart, Marion Weeks, Geaft Weeks, Jenny Doyle, Chris Davis, Jasmin Cameron and Vilma Fernandez

ANNIVERSARIES

† Please pray for the repose of the Souls of France Dorothy Billson, Mary Degutis, Phil Heart, Canon Joe Callinan, Kit Wilkinson, Eric Tanzer, Vivienne Peach, Kate Warr, Christopher Graves, Ted Myles, Maire Brongor, Maire Dee, Frederick Rushmore, Barry Mort, Paul Hendrickx, Audrey Martine and Elaine Martin. *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 Aid: Please add your envelope number & name as a reference

SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVES

If you wish to report any safeguarding concerns, please contact one of our representatives:

**Katherine Lawson Tel: 07717312571
Kveta Waterman, Tel: 07732 785517**