

Second Sunday of Lent (C) Week commencing 16th March 2025 Mass Book Page 156

TODAY'S READINGS First Reading: Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

Responsorial Psalm 27:1, 7-8, 8-9, 13-14 Response: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Second Reading: Philippians 3:17-4:1

Gospel Acclamation: Glory and praise to you, O Christ. O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father. From a bright cloud, the Father's voice was heard: 'This is my beloved Son, listen to him'. Glory and praise to you, O Christ. Gospel: Luke 9:28-36

Gospei. Luke 3.20-30		
Saturday 15 th March 5.30pm ** <i>Livestreamed</i> Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Vigil Mass 2 nd Collection for CAFOD Fast Day	Repose of the Soul of Josie Cooke and comfort and healing for Peter.
Sunday 16 th		
8: 30am	Holy Mass	
St Barnabas, Hawkhurst	2 nd Collection for CAFOD Fast Day	
Sunday 16 th		
10:30am ** <i>Livestreamed</i>	Holy Mass	Missa Pro Populo
Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	2 nd Collection for CAFOD Fast Day	
Monday 17 th	FATHER'S DAY OFF	
Tuesday 18 th		
6.00pm	Holy Mass – Feria	
Sacred Heart, Goudhurst		
Wednesday 19 th	Feast of St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Patron of the Universal Church, Solemnity	Moyra, for God's healing during
9.00am	Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	this difficult time.
9:30am	Holy Mass	
Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	-	
Thursday 20 th		
Friday 21 st		
9.00am	Stations of the Cross	
9:30am	Holy Mass – Feria	
Sacred Heart, Goudhurst		

Saturday 22 nd	PARISH LENTEN RETREAT 2025 <u>Preacher: Fr Behruz Raf'at</u> Theme: "Yet even now", declares the Lord, "Return to me with all your heart". (Joel 2:12)	
4.00pm 4.45pm 5.30pm ** <i>Livestreamed</i> Sacred Heart, Goudhurst Sunday 23 rd	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament / Talk Confessions Holy Mass	
08.30am St Barnabas, Hawkhurst	Holy Mass	
10.30am **Livestreamed Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Holy Mass END OF PARISH LENTEN RETREAT 2025	

REFLECTION Second Sunday of Lent (C)

Jesus took with him Peter, James, and John to a mountain, and in their presence, he was transfigured. The transfiguration took place after Jesus told his disciples about his coming passion, that he would go to Jerusalem and suffer and be killed and rise on the third day. But Peter, and I guess the others, refused to accept that. Peter protested saying, "God forbid, Lord! No such thing shall happen to you." Poor Peter, he loved Jesus, but he was not in tune with God's plan. Jesus said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle to me. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do." (Mt 16: 22ff)

The transfiguration was to strengthen their faith when they would see Jesus during the passion, humiliated, "his face so disfigured he seemed hardly human, and from his appearance, one would scarcely know he was a man." (Is 52: 14)

Some have asked why the church puts the reading of the transfiguration within Lent. It is partly because the transfiguration has close affinity with the agony of Jesus in the garden of gethsemane, the beginning of his passion. Let us see how:

Like the agony in the garden, which took place on a mountain, the mount of Olives, the transfiguration took place on a mountain also, Mount Tabor.

For the agony in the garden, Jesus took with him three of his disciples, Peter, James, and John, so too with the transfiguration, he took the same three disciples.

Like at the agony, the three disciples fell asleep, at the transfiguration, they were fighting to stay awake.

Also, the transfiguration and the agony in the garden complement each other. On mount Tabor the three disciples saw Jesus in his divinity as God as they never did before. On the mount of Olives, on the other hand, they saw Jesus in a moment of agony, so humiliated; when his humanity shone through in a way it did before.

The events of the two mountains complement each other, they are like two sides of a coin; they show the two sides on the one person Jesus, the divine and the human. What message do these two mountain events have for us this Lent?

Like Jesus, though on a different level, we too have a twofold dimension about us. There is the divine and the human in each one of us. Like Jesus there are times the divine shines through us. We have this inner joy that words cannot describe, we feel so close to God and marvel at the beauty and goodness of God. That is our mount Tabor moment.

There are also times in our lives that our humanity takes over, we are weak and experience moments of agony and regret. We may even begin to doubt God.

When we feel either of these two moments in our lives, whenever we find ourselves on any of these mountains, especially the mount of Olives, we should remember that even Jesus was on these mountains. He too experienced the low and high points of life.

We should also remember something more important. We should remember that on both occasions, whether on mount Tabor or Olives, Jesus prayed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1. Bible Reading: Gospel of Luke 8. If anyone has any questions, please contact Father Ethelbert by email or phone.
- 2. Stations of the Cross on Friday's of Lent at 9.00am before Mass, at Sacred Heart, Goudhurst.
- 3. Lenten Reflections 2025: <u>The Seven Last Words of Jesus on the Cross.</u> At Mass on all Fridays of Lent, there will be a short Reflection on one of the Seven Last words of Jesus.
- 4. Churches Together, Lent Lunches at Hawkhurst Baptist Church are every Friday starting 21st March from 12.00 to 1.30pm until 18th April. Everyone is very welcome.
- 5. **Stations of the Cross** on Friday's of Lent at 9.00am before Mass, at Sacred Heart, Goudhurst.
- 6. Light a Candle for Lent on Tuesday 18th March between 10am to noon. Theme: Come back to the Lord. Let your hearts be broken not your garments torn. Joel 2:13-14.'
- 7. There will be a **second collection** next weekend for **Poor Parishes**.
- 8. **The works** regarding the garden area around the car park at Sacred Heart are continuing. Thank you to everyone who has contacted us with suggestions. However, we now need the funding for this. If anyone would like to purchase a bird box or a plant in memory of a loved one, their name would then be added to our Memorial. Please contact Lizzi Payne on the Parish number or 07831252314.
- 9. Please sign the form at the back of the churches to say 'NO' to Assisted Suicide.



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

ANNIVERSARIES

† Please pray for the repose of the Souls of Robert Holmes, Malcolm Joseph Butt, Tim Gower, Tom Faulkner, Margaret Body, Sue Ring, Margaret Banfield, Terence Burton, Sheila Boyce and Anthony Richards. *Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them, May they rest in Peace.*

ONLINE DONATIONS

BANK DETAILS, *Gift Aiders please add your envelope number and name as a reference* NatWest Bank: RCAS Sacred Heart Goudhurst, Account No: 59004576 Sort Code: 60 06 18