



**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](https://kentchurches.com)

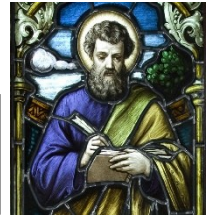
Website: <https://sacredheartgoudhurst.org.uk>

Priest in Charge : Fr Ethelbert Ukpabi

Parish Secretary: Lizzi Payne (Emergency no 07831252314)

Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday – 10:30am – 5:30pm

Parish Closed every Monday



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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (C)

Week commencing 18th May 2025 Mass Book Page 265

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: Acts 14:21-27

Responsorial Psalm 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13 Response: I will bless your name for ever, my God and King.

Second Reading: Apocalypse 21:1-5

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia, A new commandment I give to you, says the Lord, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. Alleluia.

Gospel: John 13:31-33, 34-35

Saturday 17th May 5.30pm **Livestreamed Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Vigil Mass	
Sunday 18th 8:30am St Barnabas, Hawkhurst	Holy Mass	Healing for Rowena Bennett
Sunday 18th 10:30am **Livestreamed Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Holy Mass	Missa Pro Populo
Monday 19th	FATHER'S DAY OFF (Office closed)	
Tuesday 20th 6.00pm Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Day of Prayer for Survivors of Sexual Abuse. Holy Mass - Feria	
Wednesday 21st 09.30am Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Holy Mass - Feria	
Thursday 22nd		
Friday 23rd 9.30am Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Holy Mass - Feria	
Saturday 24th 5.30pm ** Livestreamed Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Sixth Sunday of Easter (C) Vigil Mass	James Grier RIP
Sunday 25th 08.30am St Barnabas, Hawkhurst	Holy Mass	Mantyk Family RIP
Sunday 25th 10.30am **Livestreamed Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Holy Mass	Missa Pro Populo

REFLECTION, FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (C)

The measure of authentic discipleship is love. We cannot genuinely claim to belong to the Lord unless we possess the spirit of love and share his love with others. Perhaps, this is the greatest lesson that Jesus teaches us by the example of his life.

We cannot understand the life and mission of Christ without reference to his love. He himself understood that his vocation was love and love motivated him from start to finish. Not surprisingly, in commissioning his disciples afresh he is not equivocal that their vocation is love as well, for as he says, "a new, commandment I give you, that you love one another even as I have loved you, by this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

If, as he says instructively elsewhere, "a servant is not above his master", then our vocation can be nothing but love, since his life and mission, which we share by virtue of our baptism, is brokered in the crucible of love. His celebrated conversation with Peter after the resurrection makes the point explicit; for, after interrogating him three times consecutively concerning his love, he charged him to feed his sheep. This renewal of Peter's vocation, like all experience of failures when properly utilized, proves to be the tonic that drove Peter to success; for, we know that following his encounter with the risen Lord, Peter found new strength and enthusiasm that drove him to do great things for the Lord.

The same could be said about all the disciples including Paul and Barnabas; for, led by the spirit of God they began to do the very works Jesus did in fulfilment of the master's prophesy that he who believes in me will do the same works that I do, even greater works. They not only worked miracles but like Jesus they suffered a great deal on account of the gospel they preached, but to show they possessed the spirit of Christ they never wavered in the face of persecution but overcame persecution with the energy of love.

Indeed, from what we know from the gospel and the Acts of the Apostles the disciples were true to their mandate and made a success of their vocation. The love that animated their communal life and activity was so evident that people could identify them as followers of Christ, hence they were first called Christians at Antioch. But if they proved so successful in living out their vocation of love it was not because of their power and effort; it was because they were prompted by the spirit and indeed co-operated with the prompting of the spirit; hence the acts of the apostles are correctly designated as the acts of the Holy Spirit.

Like the apostles our vocation too is love. As we receive love and mercy from God we are also expected to offer love and mercy. We must learn to give and share God's love with others without counting the cost. We must learn to release forgiveness to those who hurt us whether they ask it or not. It is by doing this that we prove we are disciples of Christ. Let us open our hearts afresh and ask him to enkindle in us the flame of his love and as he shapes us according to the image of Christ may he transform us into vehicles for transmission of his love and mercy in our milieu and beyond.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Bible Reading: Gospel of Luke 17. If anyone has any questions, please contact Father Damian by email or phone.
2. **Goudhurst Fete & Dog Show 14th June**, We will need cakes, biscuits, jams, pickles etc but also we will have a table for artisan works. Please brush off your hidden talents and be creative!
3. **Volunteers needed** to help cut the grass at St Barnabas: due to parishioners moving away we need an additional couple of volunteers to join the grass cutting rota. You will only be asked to cut the grass 2 - 3 times this season, using the church's mower. Please contact Edward Hutt, on 07919 626921 or in person, if you can help.
4. **2nd Collection, 1st June**, World Communications Sunday which supports the work of the Catholic Communications Network (CCN), the media office of the Bishop's Conference of England and Wales and seeks to develop the public profile of the Church and its teaching. The CCN also provides up to date news releases, features and podcasts and trains spokesmen and women.
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. 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 prayer.
7. Archdiocesan Jubilee Celebration Day at The Friars, Aylesford 7 June 2025. It will be the centre-piece event of the 2025 Jubilee see [Jubilee 2025: Archdiocese of Southwark](#). [Archdiocesan Jubilee](#)
8. Marriage Help - Considering separation or are already divorced? If you are open to try again – Retrouvaille could be the solution. www.retrouvaille.org.uk +44 797 338 0443 / 0788 7296983. Next date: **20-22 June 2025**



Please continue to keep in your daily prayers the sick of our parish family, Rowena Bennett, Jenny Doyle, Chris Davis and Jasmin Cameron.

ANNIVERSARIES

† Please pray for the repose of the Souls of Bridget Codd, Hugh Butt, James Frazer, Brian Young, Eric Brooks, Florence Crouch, Jim Allen, Norman Bennett, Jessie Butterworth, James Grier and Edmund Harris, Eric Baird Smith, Harold Bilson and Mirek Mantyk. *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