



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

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

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** Livestreaming : Kentchurches.com

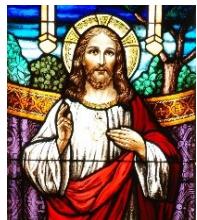
Website: <https://sacredheartgoudhurst.org.uk>

Parochial Administrator : Fr Damian Iodigwe

Parish Secretary: Lizzi Payne (Emergency no 07831252314)

Office Hours: Tuesday and Friday 10.30 – 2.00pm

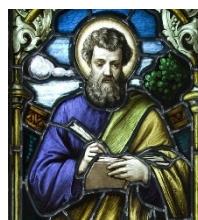
Registered Incorporated Charity Number 1173050



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 after the Nativity (A)

Week commencing 4th January 2026

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading : Sirach 24:1-2,8-12

Responsorial Psalm:147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 Response: The word became flesh and dwelt among us.

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-18

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia, Glory to you, O Christ, proclaimed among the nations. Glory to you, O Christ, believed in throughout the world. Alleluia

Gospel: John 1:1-18

Saturday 3rd 5.30pm ** Livestreamed Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Second Sunday after the Nativity Vigil Mass	Missa Pro Populo
Sunday 4th 08.30am St Barnabas, Hawkhurst	Second Sunday after the Nativity Holy Mass	
Sunday 4th 10.30am **Livestreamed Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Second Sunday after the Nativity Holy Mass	
Monday 5th	Father's day off	
Tuesday 6th 9.30am Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	The Epiphany of the Lord, Solemnity. Holyday of Obligation Holy Mass	Brian & Michael Conn RIP
Wednesday 7th	No Mass	
Thursday 8th	No Mass	
Friday 9th	No Mass	
Saturday 10th 5.30pm **Livestreamed Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	The Baptism of the Lord, Feast (A) Vigil Mass	
Sunday 11th 8.30am St Barnabas, Hawkhurst	The Baptism of the Lord, Feast (A) Holy Mass	Missa Pro Populo
Sunday 11th 10.30am **Livestreamed Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	The Baptism of the Lord, Feast (A) Holy Mass	

REFLECTION, Second Sunday after the Nativity (A)

Everything with a beginning also has an end. This is the very lot of contingent realities. Nothing finite exists always but, in its finitude, it has its moment of coming to being as well as moment of ceasing to be. The contingency of finite realities announces the fact that, for all finite realities, time is a borrowed commodity and so should be well utilized, knowing that it is running out all the time and diminishing in its availability.

One thing is certain as we start another year, namely, that God is with us. We enjoy by his grace the light of Christ and the enlightenment and empowerment it brings. He who is in Christ is a new creation. If we live and move in him, we walk in the light of his righteousness and light dispels the darkness of our milieu. Christ never forces himself upon us but waits at the door of our heart and asks to be let in, if we want to.

Of course, he is eager to make his home in us but he will not force his way through. Yet when he comes in, he does not delay in asserting his influence. When he comes in, we know that darkness takes flight while our lives become illumined by his light. The basic challenge we have to face, therefore, is opening our lives to his presence more and more and allowing the light of Christ to dispel the darkness of our lives.

There is no limit to which we can open up to the light of Christ for the truth is, there will always be something in us that needs to be overcome. As we allow the light of Christ to permeate our lives, we are gradually drawn into him and begin to reflect him in our manners and ways. The light of Christ and the need to allow it to dominate our lives must then become an important factor in terms of how we review each day, each month and indeed, each year. It is one point of reference in terms of which we can assess the outgone year and preview the current year.

The basic question is how far we have allowed the light of Christ to come into our domain? This question in turn is crucial for the focusing of the New Year. The manner in which we answer the question will determine what adjustment needs to be made in the Year and how to make such adjustment. A life lived in Christ is a life that is richly blessed. A life lived in Christ is one in which light triumphs over darkness. As we review the outgone year and pre-view the current year there is a dialectic of darkness and light as it concerns our whole effort to make the best of the New Year, such as to overcome the liabilities of the past year and consolidate the gains of the past year as well. One who is intent in making the best of life cannot afford to neglect the demand of review and preview at it pertains to our reception of the outgone year and the start of the New Year. May the Lord help us, Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Father Damian will take a short break from 6th January to 23rd January 2026. While he is away there will be no weekday Masses at Sacred Heart, Goudhurst. They will resume on Tuesday 27th January. Arrangements have been made for weekend Masses to be covered as follows: Bishop Paul Henricks will cover 10th/11th and Sunday 18th January at both churches. Fr Stephen Trafford will cover the Vigil Mass on Saturday 17th January. While Father Damian is away all urgent matters should be referred to the Parish Secretary, Lizzi Payne, who is in the Office on Tuesday's and Friday's from 10.30am to 2.00pm. In case of emergencies please call 07831252314.
2. Mary's Meals is looking for volunteers. Could you spare a few hours during the year to help? We are looking for parish reps, volunteer speakers (training and support provided!) and volunteers who can help at events. We are very much a volunteer-led movement, so any little you can offer will make a huge difference to the children we serve in some of the world's poorest communities. Please contact Roy Peachey (roy.peachey@marysmeals.org or 07593 447297) if you can help. To find out more about Mary's Meals, please visit marysmeals.org.uk. Thank you for your support.
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 prayer.
4. **If you need to contact Father urgently, 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, Graft Weeks, Jenny Doyle, Chris Davis, Jasmin Cameron and Vilma Fernandez

ANNIVERSARIES

† Please pray for the repose of the Souls of May Roberts, Edward Martin, Michael McRory, Desmond Cluley, Arthur Nutt, Mike Taylor, Norah Hudson, Betty Bennett, Martin Jackson, Maxine Hayes, Maria Roberts, Jean D'Arcy and Timothy Noel Sheehan. *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