



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

Contact : The Presbytery, Beresford Road, Goudhurst, Kent TN17 1DN
 Tel : 01580211268 E-Mail: goudhurst@rcaos.org.uk
 Livestreaming : Kentchurches.com **
 Website: <https://rcgh.hubb.church>
 Priest in Charge : Fr Ethelbert Ukpabi
 Parish Secretary: Lizzi Payne
 Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday – 10:30am – 2:00pm

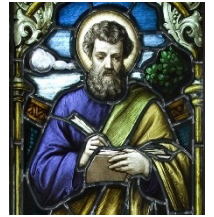


ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

TUESDAY 5:30pm – 6:00pm
WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY 9:00am – 9:30am
SATURDAY 9:00am – 9:30am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY 5:00pm before Mass



TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY
Week commencing 8th September 2024

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: Isaiah 35:4-7

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 145: 7-10 Response: My soul, give praise to the Lord.

Second Reading: James 2: 1-5

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 7: 31-37

Saturday 7th September 5:30pm Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Education Day Vigil Mass	Missa Pro Populo
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY (B)		
Sunday 8th 8:30am St Barnabas, Hawkhurst	Education Day Holy Mass	Peggy Morris - Anniversary
Sunday 8th 10:30am ** <i>Livestreamed</i> Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Education Day Holy Mass	David Nichol RIP
Monday 9th	FATHER'S DAY OFF	
Tuesday 10th 6.00pm Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Holy Mass - Feria	Anthony Thakerar-Thanksgiving and Wellbeing
Wednesday 11th 9:30am Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Holy Mass - Feria	David Nichol RIP
Thursday 12th	No Mass	
Friday 13th 9:30am Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church, Memorial Holy Mass	Alex – for successful surgery
Saturday 14th 10.30am 11.00am 5.30pm Sacred Heart, Goudhurst	Exaltation of the Cross (Feast) Stations of the Cross Holy Mass Vigil Mass	David Nichol RIP
<p>Saturday 14th September is the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross. Please join us for Stations of the Cross at 10.30am and Holy Mass at 11.00am.</p>		

REFLECTION for Twenty-Third Sunday (B)

Today the Church celebrates the birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary, mother of our Lord Jesus Christ. Though the earth did not know her at her birth, heaven knew her. Heaven knew she was chosen before her conception to be the mother of the Son of God.

Heaven must have rejoiced exceedingly on the day the Blessed Virgin Mary was born. It was the beginning of the fulfilment of the promise of God to send us a redeemer; it was the beginning of the restoration of the broken link between heaven and earth. It was the beginning of the end of the reign of Satan on earth. The darkness which covered the entire world started receding as the eternal light was coming into the world.

The celebration of Mary's birth started in Syria or Palestine in the 6th century and began in Rome about a hundred years later. The actual date or place are not known. But it does not matter. What matters to us is that the Blessed Virgin Mary was born into the world, and whatever day it was, we celebrate her birth. What we are thanking God for is her birth and not the day. It could be any day, but it could not be any person.

Reflecting on the birth of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Alphonsus de Liguori wrote, "Having been destined to become the mother of the Eternal Word, this child was enshrined with so great a grace that even at the moment of her Immaculate Conception she exceeded all the saints and angels in sanctity, for she was given a higher order of grace, which corresponds to her dignity of mother of God." She was born a great saint! Mary's soul was the most beautiful soul that God ever created.' It was the most perfect of all God's creatures and creation. Not only her soul, but Mary is also the most beautiful, the most blessed, the most perfect, the most noble, the most 'graced', (full of grace) the most loving and the most lovable, the most excellent of all God's creatures.

Alphonsus de Liguori continued, 'How delightful a sight to heaven and earth must have been the beautiful soul of this happy child! Let us rejoice with our beloved mother Mary who was born so holy, so pure, so beautiful, so loving, so lovable, so clear to God, and so full of grace! Next to the infant Jesus, Mary is the most beautiful and the loveliest child ever born on earth.

What birthday gift do you have for Mother Mary today? The rosary! Offer her the rosary. Say one for Mother Mary today. And if you can, say the 20 decades for her today. It's her birthday. Nothing is too much for a mother who loves us and cares so much for us.

Don't ask her for anything today, it is ours to give her. But don't worry, whether you ask her or not, Mother Mary is a mother who knows our hearts and needs. She is always ready and willing to take our prayers and intentions to her Son; and Jesus does not say no to her.

Happy birthday dearest mother. Accept the thanks, praises, and prayers of your dear children here on earth. May Your Son our Lord Jesus Christ be gloried and praised in you and through you. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Sunday 8th September is The Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary.** Please sign the card at the back of the church, which will be placed next to the Statue of Our Mother. At the end of Mass please collect a small cake at the back of the church to celebrate the birthday of our Mother Mary. Please find time during the day to say The Rosary to share your day with Our Mother Mary most Holy.
2. **2nd Collection, Sunday 8th September, Education Sunday.** The Catholic Education Service acts on behalf of the Bishop's Conference to support Catholic Education. There are over 2,000 Catholic schools, academies and colleges in England and Wales educating 800,000 students. The CES is the chief negotiating and advisory body on matters affecting all aspects of Catholic education as well as providing financial assistance for school transport in rural areas.
3. **2nd Collection Sunday 15th September, Evangelii Gadium Sunday.** "We cannot forget that evangelisation is first and foremost about preaching the Gospel to those who do not know Jesus Christ or who have always rejected him. Many of these are quietly seeking God, led by a yearning to see his face... Christians have the duty to proclaim the Gospel without excluding anyone." Pope Francis.
4. **September 14th is the feast of the Exaltation/Triumph of the Cross.** We invite everyone to come to Sacred Heart, Goudhurst and honour the Most Holy Cross on which our Saviour won our salvation.
We adore you O Christ and we praise you because by your Holy Cross You have redeemed the World. God Bless you.
5. **Ride and Stride on 14th September.** Cycle or walk around Kent Churches and raise money for our Church and Friends of Kent Churches. Sponsorship forms and details of all participating Churches can be found at the back of the church

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK



Please continue to keep in your daily prayers the sick of our parish family,

ANNIVERSARIES

† Please pray for the repose of the Souls of Gilbert Smith, Doris Coleman, Maud Stodart, Maud Micaloff, Anthony Stoneman, Gerard and Hilda Woolfe, Grace Hosking and Pat Tucker. *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, Sort Code: 60 06 18 Account No: 59004576