

GOUDHURST and HAWKHURST PARISH

Parish Priest, Father Vic McClean

The Presbytery, Beresford Road, Goudhurst, Kent TN17 1DN. Tel: 01580-211268.

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11th December- Third Sunday in Advent- Ordinary time- Year A

MASS: Saturday 5.30pm Sacred Heart Church, Goudhurst

**Sunday 8.30am St Barnabas, Hawkhurst Monday to Friday 9.30am Goudhurst
10.30am Goudhurst**

Baptisms and Confessions: By arrangement.

Holy Days of Obligation: Mass 9.30am and 8.00pm at Goudhurst, 11.00am at Hawkhurst.

Exposition of the Holy Eucharist: Every Tuesday morning 8.30 to 9.30am and on Friday morning 9.00am to 9.30am at the Sacred Heart Church, Goudhurst.

Anniversaries: The following anniversaries occur at this time

Ada Tate, Anthony Berkeley, Reggie Gordon, Jack Brady and Margaret Murphy.

May they all rest in peace.

Please pray for the sick in the parish:

Daisy and Helen Fletcher, Nuala Manwaring, Marjorie and John Dumbleton, Shirley Brady, Shirley Dore, Cynthia Raza and Philip Sheridan.

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Parish Collections: 3/4 December £369.36 of this £196.50 was Gift Aided. Thank you.

TUESDAY 13th DECEMBER Icons of Advent and Reflection 7.30pm at the Sacred Heart Church

As part of Churches Together in Goudhurst, Fr Vic will lead an evening of meditative prayer focusing on icons of Advent and Christmas. Refreshments will be served. All welcome.

Sunday 18th December Village Carol Service of nine lessons and Carols

Organised by Churches Together in Hawkhurst at 6.00pm in St Laurence Church, The Moor Hawkhurst

Parents who wish their children to make their First Holy Communion in 2017 Instruction classes start on 21st January for children who have been baptised, and are in Year 3 or above. Father Vic needs to speak to the parents of all First Communion Candidates prior to their enrolment. Then, please phone Annie Vagg: on 01622- 831216 for an enrolment form, or email: davidvagg123@btinternet.com . So far we have 2 candidates, please speak to Father Vic as soon as possible so we can make plans.

Christmas Services 2016

Wednesday 21st December Service of Reconciliation 7.30 to 8.30pm: Sacred Heart Church, Beresford Rd, Goudhurst TN171DN. A short service, followed by an opportunity for confessions.

Christmas Eve Saturday 24th December Midnight Mass: Sacred Heart Church, Beresford Road, Goudhurst TN17 1DN. The service starts at 10.30pm with carols & readings, Mass begins at 11.00pm.

Christmas Day Sunday 25th December

8.30 am mass - St Barnabas Church, High Street, Hawkhurst TN18 4AH.

10.30 am mass - Sacred Heart Church, Beresford Road, Goudhurst TN17 1DN.

St Augustine's Church Food Bank: TINS still needed urgently: **The Food Bank needs** items such as Irish stew, Minced Beef & Onion, Stewed Steak, Meat Balls, Frankfurters, carrots, Peas, potatoes. Tinned fruit; rice pudding, breakfast cereal & biscuits. **No** pasta, rice, baked beans or soup please. Our Collection box is at Goudhurst. Thank you. Fr Vic.

Maidstone and Hastings Day Centres for homeless people We need warm, clean clothes for the men & women who use the centres; Fleeces, anoraks, sleeping bags, jogging pants, jumpers, hats, scarves, gloves & socks. Please bring them to the presbytery by 11th Dec. Thank You Jean Shill

THE FOUR WEEKS OF ADVENT

This week the Third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday. On this day we celebrate that our waiting for the birth of Jesus on Christmas day is almost over. Rose is a liturgical colour that is used to signify joy, so we light the single pink candle on the third Sunday of Advent. Then on the fourth Sunday of Advent, the final purple candle is lit to mark the final week of prayer and penance as we wait expectantly for the soon-coming birth of the King of Kings.

3rd Sunday of Advent symbolizes Joy with the "Shepherd's Candle" reminding us of the Joy the world experienced at the coming birth of Jesus.

4th Sunday of Advent symbolizes Peace with the "Angel's Candle" reminding us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will toward Men."