

GOUDHURST and HAWKHURST PARISH

Parish Priest, Father Vic McClean

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

Email vic.mcclean@btconnect.com; Website <http://www.rcgoudhurst.org.uk>

18th December- Fourth 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

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. 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, Philip Sheridan & Audrey Martine. .

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Parish Collections: 10/11 December £478.19 of this £319.25 was Gift Aided. Thank you.

CRIB OFFERINGS This year we are supporting **Friends of the Holy Land**, who support the poorest Christian families in the Holy Land, to enable them to maintain a minimum level of quality of life.

www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk

The Christmas Day collection is your personal offering to the priest of the parish; along with the Easter collection it is the main source of their income to cover personal expenses throughout the year.

Sunday 18th December Village Carol Service: 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 .

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.

Saturday 24th December. There is no 5.30pm mass

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.

THANK YOU for all the clothes you donated, the day centre was very extremely grateful for your help.

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, the last purple candle marks the final week of prayer and penance as we wait expectantly for the birth of the King of Kings. This symbolizes Peace, with the "Angel's Candle" reminding us of the angel's message: "Peace on Earth, Good Will toward Men."

GOD KNOWS - BY MINNIE LOUISE HASKINS(1875-1957)

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year: "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown." And he replied: "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way." So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night. And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East. So heart be still: What need our little life, our human life to know, If God hath comprehension? In all the dizzy strife of things both high and low, God hideth His intention. God knows. His will is best. The stretch of years which wind ahead, so dim. To our imperfect vision, are clear to God. Our fears are premature; In Him, All time hath full provision. Then rest: until God moves to lift the veil from our impatient eyes, when, as the sweeter features of Life's stern face we hail, fair beyond all surmise God's thought around His creatures, our minds shall fill.

PARISH DIARIES 2017. Please note the diaries this year will cost £1.00 each. Sorry they are not free.