



Sacred Heart Goudhurst & Saint Barnabas Hawkhurst Parish Newsletter

11 July 2021, Fifteenth Sunday, Year B

Mass Times

Saturday 17:30 Goudhurst
Sunday 08:30 Hawkhurst 10:30 Goudhurst

Book as usual through: thechurchisopen@gmail.com

Please be considerate to others: wear a mask, social distance, keep safe

Anniversaries

Piotr Lesniewka, Roy Hutson, Mary Sharman, Nina Young, Eileen Whiffin, John Rathe, and Marie McGlone.

Pray for the Sick

Bernadette Strange, Helen Fletcher, Cynthia Raza, Eileen Collett, and Elaine Martin.

Pope Francis

Prayer of Intention for July, Social Friendship:

We pray that in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship.

Lord may we be firm in all that involves any encounters and relationships with others. May we grow in our awareness of your presence when we all seek justice and truth and all that contributes to a more human world where everyone's dignity is respected. Amen

Good News at Last

The following is the text from an announcement that was made at all Masses last week:

"At the beginning of this year Fr Vic announced his intention to retire at Easter, but delays in the availability of a retirement flat have caused him to put this off for several months. A suitable flat is now likely to be ready in the next month or two and Fr Vic will soon be able to take his well-earned retirement.

In parallel with the efforts to find a retirement home we are pleased to let you know that the diocese has identified a replacement for Fr Vic as parish priest. Fr Patrice Anyanwu, a member of the Congregation of the Holy Spirit, a 'Holy Ghost Father', has been one of the parish priests at St Mary Magdalen, Brockley, south London, for the last couple of years. A talented footballer and tennis player, before coming to London Fr Patrice was in charge of the formation of the postulants to the Spiritans in his Nigerian Province. He will be taking over from Fr Vic on the first of August and they will share the Presbytery until Fr Vic moves to his retirement flat. We look forward to giving Fr Patrice a tremendous welcome.

We are enormously grateful to Fr Vic for the 35 years of service that he has given to our community, for his warm-hearted generosity and deeply lived leadership in the Catholic faith. We will be organising a retirement party during the summer and will be taking collections for a retirement present. We will share details once arrangements are in place".

Sea Sunday

This week is Sea Sunday and there is a second collection for Stella Maris, previously known as the Apostleship of the Sea. Here is an insight into the work they do and why technology is not always a good thing!

Stella Maris is the Catholic Church's maritime agency that provides spiritual and welfare support to seafarers arriving in Great Britain and ports around the world.

Its extensive network of port chaplains and ship visitors offer pastoral and practical assistance to seafarers who work far from home, separated from their families, and in sometimes harsh working conditions.

Nearly 95% of what we consume in Britain arrives by ship crewed by seafarers and we are dependent upon them to bring us what we need.

Due to advances in technology, modern ships no longer spend weeks in port but these days unload and load their cargoes within days or hours.

Seafarers, many of whom come from Catholic countries such as the Philippines, Poland and India, spend up to nine months at a time at sea, away from their families.

Port chaplains and ship visitors offer seafarers practical assistance such as providing phone calls and internet access so they can communicate with their loved ones back home, and spiritual and emotional support including arranging for Mass and prayer services on board ships and being a friend to them. www.stellamaris.org.uk

Quote Unquote

"When I fed the poor, they called me a saint. When I asked why the poor had no food, they called me a Communist." —Archbishop Dom Hélder Câmara

Fossil Hunting

Recently, 36 faith institutions from 11 countries announced their divestment from fossil fuels. It came from institutions in Brazil, Argentina, India, the Philippines, Uganda, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, Ireland, the UK and the United States. These commitments highlight the urgent need to divest from fossil fuels and invest in clean alternatives in response to the growing climate crisis.

Among those announcing their divestment were the Diocese of Hallam, which becomes the fourth Catholic diocese in England and Wales to divest, as well as six Catholic dioceses in Ireland. Rt Revd Ralph Heskett, Bishop of Hallam said: "The Diocese of Hallam divested of the most damaging fossil fuel companies many years ago. In recent months, we have decided to divest of the remainder of our investments with fossil fuel companies and instructed brokers to actively seek opportunities for investing in companies involved in renewable forms of energy. The Diocese continues to review our actions and investments to care for our common home."

Let us Pray

Mary, Star of the Sea, light of every ocean, guide seafarers across all dark and stormy seas that they may reach the haven of peace and light prepared in Him who calmed the sea. As we set forth upon the oceans of the world and cross the deserts of our time, show us, O Mary, the fruit of your womb, for without your Son we are lost.

Contact

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