



# Parish of St Peter & The Good Shepherd Bearsted & Harrietsham

*A Member of Bearsted Area Churches Together*



## Newsletter

**St Peter's Church, Button Lane, Bearsted, Maidstone, ME15 8NJ**

**Church of The Good Shepherd, Rectory Lane (off East Street), Harrietsham, ME17 1HS**

### Contact us:

**Parish Priest:** Father Geoffrey Pointer: 01622 736100, email: parishpriest@catholic-bearsted.org.uk

**Parish Deacon:** Reverend Cyril Durbin: 01622 630055, email: cyrildurbin@btinternet.com

St Peter's Hall Bookings: 07919 084730

### More information:

**Parish Website:** [www.catholic-bearsted.org.uk](http://www.catholic-bearsted.org.uk)

**Diocesan Website:** [www.rcsouthwark.co.uk](http://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk)

**The Catholic Church in England and Wales:** [www.catholicchurch.org.uk](http://www.catholicchurch.org.uk)

**Prayer:** [www.life4seekers.co.uk](http://www.life4seekers.co.uk); [www.holyspiritinteractive.net](http://www.holyspiritinteractive.net)

### Catholic Schools in our local area:

**St Francis' Primary**, Queen's Road, Maidstone ME16 0LB (Telephone: 771540)

**The Holy Family Primary**, Bicknor Road, Park Wood, Maidstone ME15 9PS (Telephone: 756778)

**St Simon Stock Catholic Secondary**, Oakwood Park, Maidstone ME16 0JP (Telephone: 754551)

**Year B The HOLY FAMILY of JESUS, MARY and JOSEPH (B) 28th December 2014**

**WELCOME** to Fr Joseph Aduse from Ghana who is paying his first visit to this country for Christmas and the New Year. He is curious to know what snow is like! Whatever, we hope he enjoys his stay with us.

**NEWSLETTER** There is no newsletter this week (except online) so Fr Geoff and Deacon Cyril send best wishes for a Holy and Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. Thank you so much to all those who have contributed to the music, the liturgy and the decorations in our two churches at Bearsted and Harrietsham over the Christmas period. Mass will be offered for you all, as well as for those who give so much of their time and love to our parishioners and our property over the year.

**MARY TATE** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Mary Ursula Tate who died 10th December. Her funeral will be at St Peter's Wednesday 7th January at 11am. Her body will rest in church overnight Tuesday 6th January following a short service of reception at 6pm.

**READERS at GOOD SHEPHERD** Will readers please now introduce the entry antiphon at the beginning of Mass, and also the communion antiphon. Ted Holland will be speaking at Mass this Sunday about this and a parish readers' day in the new year.

**ADVENT APPEAL 2014** The Advent Appeal this year is for the **Maidstone Churches' Winter Shelter**. They are aiming to provide shelter for homeless people in Maidstone right now until 1st March. They are using seven churches in Maidstone between 7pm and 8am. They hope to support homeless people to move on to appropriate accommodation. This is a continuation of the successful project from last year. Please collect an envelope and return at one of the Christmas Masses.

**GRAND CHRISTMAS DRAW** List of winners on notice board. Thank you to all our supporters.

**CHRISTMAS GREETINGS** Fr Geoff and Deacon Cyril would like to thank all those who have sent Christmas cards and gifts.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS 2015** Preparations begin in January. Application forms are **now available**. Parents who live in the parish with children who are baptized and in school Year 3 or above are invited to apply. A meeting will be called once we have received back the applications.

<b>DIARY for the WEEK BEGINNING 28th DECEMBER 2014</b> (Masses marked '(H)' are at Harrietsham)			
Sat 27th	St John	5:00-5:30pm	Confessions
<b>✕ The HOLY FAMILY of JESUS, MARY and JOSEPH (B) ✕</b>			
Sun 28th	Saturday	<b>6.00pm</b>	✕ Vigil Mass: Bob and Winifred Dring RIP
	Sunday	<b>(H) 8.45am</b>	✕ Mass: Pro Populo
		<b>10.30am</b>	✕ Mass: Margaret and Len Richardson RIP
Mon 29th	St Thomas of Canterbury	<b>7.00pm</b>	✕ Mass
Tues 30th	Christmas Octave	<b>10.00am</b>	✕ Mass: David and Nancy Mendes RIP
Wed 31st	Christmas Octave	<b>(H) 10.00am</b>	✕ Mass
Thu 1st Jan 2015	<b>MARY the HOLY MOTHER of GOD</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	✕ Mass: For all parishioners for God's blessing in the New Year
Fri 2nd	SS Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen	<b>10.00am</b>	✕ Mass
Sat 3rd	The Most Holy Name of Jesus	5:00-5:30pm	Confessions
<b>✕ THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD ✕</b>			
Sun 4th	Saturday	<b>6.00pm</b>	✕ Vigil Mass: Molly and David McCafferty RIP
	Sunday	<b>(H) 8.45am</b>	✕ Mass: Ray Smith RIP
		<b>10.30am</b>	✕ Mass: Pro Populo
		<b>12.30</b>	Baptism: Charles Harris

**CRIB COLLECTION** Following the Archbishop's suggestion it has been agreed to designate the Crib Collection at Christmas to help the work of the "Friends of the Holy Land" in supporting individual families in Bethlehem. The Friends offer help to the poorest families in Bethlehem, contributing to their medical costs and paying for school and university fees.

**THANK YOU** Fr Geoff thanks everyone for their customary generous offering at Christmas.