



# 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:** Reverend Father Geoffrey Pointer: **01622 736100**, email: [parishpriest@catholic-bearsted.org.uk](mailto:parishpriest@catholic-bearsted.org.uk)

**Parish Deacon:** Reverend Cyril Durbin: **01622 630055**

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 A**

**TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME**

**5th October 2014**

### **FAITH IN FOCUS: HENRY'S FARM**

People who saw Henry Jenkins's farm would murmur to themselves. It was set in one of the most beautiful valleys in the area, with rolling fields that lolled into the distance and disappeared over the gentle inclines of the hills and mountains. Although the farm was quite productive since Henry had a good herd of prize cattle and a flock of hardy sheep, there were one or two things that stood out as being rather bizarre. The farmhouse was only just habitable. The rumour was that Henry had had a row with his family and when his father died Henry had been passed over and all the property had been bequeathed to Edward Jenkins, his younger brother with whom he didn't get on. Henry was allowed to stay in it until he died. But knowing that Edward would inherit the house and land, he had deliberately spent nothing on it and let it go to wrack and ruin. The roof leaked, the window frames were rotten and the wall was on the verge of toppling down.



The arable fields that once were vast swathes of corn and barley had been left to grow into brambles and briars. There was plenty of opportunity for the land to be productive, but this was yet another way for Henry to get back at Edward. Henry didn't mind living in the place. He earned more than enough to live on from the animals and he couldn't be bothered to put himself out. A few buyers came and tried to offer him a large amount for the property, given its potential. But Henry wasn't interested and of course never mentioned it to Edward. The sting in the tail came one November's evening. News arrived that his younger brother had died. And when the will was read, Edward had left the farmhouse and all the property to Henry. (Author unknown)

**FLOWER FESTIVAL** We had some wonderful comments from our visitors to our first ever flower festival last weekend! Our thanks to all the organizers and those who welcomed our visitors and provided the refreshments. See *this week's Kent Messenger* for a short article. ✱ The 30th Anniversary Mass is **Tuesday 4th November** at 7pm followed by refreshments. Bishop John Hine, our first parish priest, will celebrate the Mass.

**CHURCH WEBSITE** Please take the opportunity to look at our parish website. We have included some picture of our recent successful pilgrimage to Lourdes as well as views of last week's flower festival: [www.catholic-bearsted.org.uk](http://www.catholic-bearsted.org.uk). See **October's Bearsted and Thurnham magazine for a Lourdes write-up.**

◆ **LOURDES REUNION:** Benediction and tea, Sunday 19th October, 3pm.

**CONFIRMATION** There is a deanery event **today** at Holy Family, Park Wood in preparation for Confirmation. Emily Jones from our parish is to be confirmed. Please remember all the candidates from the deanery. Confirmation Mass, which we always jointly celebrate with West Malling, St Francis and Holy Family parishes, is next **Sunday 12th October at 3pm at St Thomas More, West Malling.**

**YOUTH GROUP** is back again this Monday 6th October, 7 - 8.30pm in the church hall. *Cooking pancakes!* Open to young people aged 10 - 15; new members welcome. Older teenagers are welcome to help as young leaders.

**MISSIO RED BOXES** Please bring in yours so that they can be counted by our promoter.

**DIARY for WEEK BEGINNING 5th OCTOBER 2014**  
**(Masses marked '(H)' are at Harrietsham)**

✧ TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY (A) ✧

Sun 5th <i>Rosary Sunday</i>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	✧ Vigil Mass: Pro Populo
	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>(H) 8.45am</b>	✧ Mass: Cenwein Cannavina
		<b>10.30am</b>	✧ Mass: Henry and Margaret Pinto RIP
		<b>3.00pm</b>	Baptism: Thomas Emery
Mon 6th	Feria	<b>7.00pm</b>	✧ Mass
Tues 7th	Our Lady of the Rosary	<b>10.00am</b>	✧ Mass: For our benefactors
Wed 8th	Feria	<b>(H) 10.00am</b>	✧ Mass: David and Nancy Mendes RIP
Thu 9th	Blessed John Henry Newman	<b>7.00am</b>	✧ Mass
Fri 10th	Feria	<b>10.00am</b>	✧ Mass
Sat 11th	Our Lady	<i>5.00-5.30pm</i>	<i>Confessions</i>

✧ TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY (A) ✧

Sun 12th <i>Prisoners' Sunday</i>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	✧ Vigil Mass: Robert Poole RIP
	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>(H) 8.45am</b>	✧ Mass: Pro Populo
		<b>10.30am</b>	✧ Mass: Colin Otterson RIP
		<b>12noon</b>	Baptism: Jacob Watts
		<b>3.00pm</b>	Confirmation Mass at West Malling

**ROSARY SUNDAY** Today: the first of four national Mass counts is to be taken. **Collectors, please note.**

**CHOIR NEWS** Rehearsal: Tuesday **14th October**, 8 - 9pm. Please come and help get our music ready for our anniversary Mass on **4th November**. Thank you - all are very welcome!

**CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY** Last Friday's CAFOD Harvest Fast Day appeal focused on raising funds to enable CAFOD's partners to work with communities living in poverty. Even if you didn't remember to fast please be generous to those in need by using the envelopes available to contribute. ✧ *We pray for CAFOD and other agencies who work to support those in need; and we pray for all who go hungry because of poverty and injustice, that through God's grace we may be moved to bring about change, so that each and every person has good food and clean water.*

**PLEASE PRAY...**

- **With the Holy Father for October:** *That the Lord may grant peace to those parts of the world most battered by war and violence; and that World Mission Day may rekindle in every believer zeal for carrying the Gospel into all the world.*
- **For all the sick** and for all who are unwell at home or in our care homes, especially Pierre Niebergall, Cyril Adam and Barbara Casey; for those recently dead; for all those whose anniversaries occur about now; and for all our relatives and friends.
- **That Our Lady's 'Yes' to God** may be echoed in the hearts of young people as they discern God's plan for their lives.
- **For the members of the Extraordinary Synod on the Family**, as they begin their meeting in Rome this week: *may their discussions and decisions be guided by the Holy Spirit, and reflect the mercy and compassion of God.*
- **For Alan Hemming**, murdered by 'Islamic State'.

**Thank you:** the sum received last weekend at Mass was **£445.31** (£206.56 was Gift Aided). ♦ Yours savings from last **Friday's** CAFOD Harvest Fast Day may be placed in this week's collection. ♦ Next Sunday there will be a collection for the **Needs of the Diocese.**

**CANON LUKE SMITH** Canon Luke's induction as parish priest of St Francis' is at 7pm on Friday **17th October**.

**SAFEGUARDING OFFICER REQUIRED** The diocese seeks an experienced administrator to join their Safeguarding Team on a fixed term contract of up to 6 months. *See the notice.* If you would like to apply for this role please send your CV to [sarah.wood@finance-rcdsouthwark.org](mailto:sarah.wood@finance-rcdsouthwark.org). Closing date for applications is 24th October. More details are available on the website [www.rcsouthwark.co.uk](http://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk).

**DIARY DATE for READERS** There is to be a deanery day for readers at St Andrew's, Tenterden, on **Saturday 29th November**. It will start at 10.30am and finish at 1.30pm. The day will be lead by Fr David Gibbons, the Director of the Southwark Diocese Centre for Catholic Formation. It is planned as a day of reflection and guidance and whilst it is aimed specifically for parish readers - it is open to everyone.