



# 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

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)

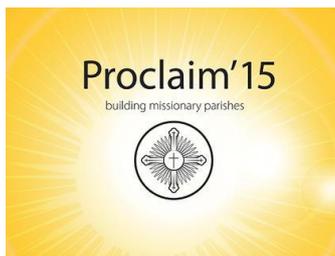
**The Holy Family Primary**, Bicknor Road, Park Wood, Maidstone ME15 9PS (Telephone: 756778)

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

**Year B**

**ELEVENTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME**

**14th June 2015**



### **THE MAIDSTONE DEANERY: PROCLAIMING THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD'S MERCY – BUILDING MISSIONARY PARISHES**

On 24th November 2013, Pope Francis issued a document which is having a very great effect on the Church throughout the world. It was called THE JOY OF THE GOSPEL (Evangelii Gaudium) and in it the Pope sets out his vision for the Church. It is a Church in which we are all aware that in baptism we were called to be missionaries; all called to share the joy of the Gospel of Jesus with our world today. The Pope tells us: *'In virtue of their Baptism, all the members of the People of God have become missionary disciples.'* We are all members of the People of God, and the Pope goes on to explain just what

that means: *'Every Christian is challenged here and now, to be actively engaged in evangelization; indeed, anyone who has truly experienced God's saving love does not need much time or lengthy training to go out and proclaim that love. Every Christian is a missionary to the extent that he or she has encountered the love of God in Christ Jesus; we no longer say that we are 'disciples' and 'missionaries' but that we are 'missionary disciples.'*

The Church in England and Wales has taken up the challenge and on **Saturday 11th July**, 850 Catholics from every diocese will meet to for a conference called *PROCLAIM 15 – Building Missionary Parishes*. This will bring together laymen and women, religious, bishops, priests and deacons, to work together on the themes of *The Joy of the Gospel* and look at ways of creating parishes which are truly missionary. Before 11th July it would be good if the parishes of the deanery could hold meetings to prepare for the conference. The deanery has already held a study morning on this theme and it will give us a programme of renewal across the parishes of the deanery in the months to come. We do ask all parishes to pray for the success of the conference, and on **11th July** each parish is encouraged to hold a special prayer session, linking all the parishes of the country with the Birmingham conference. Our deanery is being represented by Deacon Tom Coyle who will be on workshops dealing with prayer, youth and family. One of the problems faced by all conferences at local or national levels, is that the enthusiasm of the conference is not transmitted back to the parishes and nothing seems to happen. We hope that this will not happen this time. It is hoped that in the autumn, each diocese, deanery and parish will have their own PROCLAIM 15 gatherings, and resources will be provided.

*To be continued.*

\* **PRAYER VIGIL** There will be a prayer vigil before the Blessed Sacrament exposed at St Peter's from 5pm until Mass, on Saturday **11th July** to pray for the success of the National Catholic Evangelization Conference beginning at the same time. **Please put this date in your timetable and join us.**

**MISSING MISSIO RED BOX ROUND UP!** Many of you have a Red Box in your homes. It's a way we support the Pope's official charity for overseas missions and the Mill Hill missionaries. Thank you to everyone who is a Red Box member. Over the next two weekends, 20th - 28th June, Missio would like to round up all the Red Boxes from those of you who have forgotten you have one and which therefore have not been opened for some time! Please search high and low for these elusive boxes and then bring them to Mass over the next two weeks. All the funds we donate go towards the training of missionaries, to building churches, schools and hospitals in impoverished areas and towards supporting religious and lay people working in these communities. Thank you for your invaluable support.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to our children who celebrated their First Communion Day last weekend. Our thanks to Shelagh and Eileen, our catechists, and to the parents.

DIARY for WEEK BEGINNING 14th JUNE 2015 (Masses marked '(H)' are at Harrietsham)			
✕ ELEVENTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (B) ✕			
Sun 14th	Saturday	6.00pm	✕ Vigil Mass: Pro Populo
	Sunday	(H) 8.45am	✕ Mass: Fr Joe O'Connor, ruby jubilee
		10.30am	✕ Mass: Anna McCarthy RIP
Mon 15th	Feria	7.00pm	✕ Mass
Tues 16th	Feria	10.00am	✕ Mass
Wed 17th	Feria	(H) 10.00am	✕ Mass
Thu 18th	Feria	7.00am	✕ Mass: Margaret Sanders RIP
Fri 19th	Feria	10.00am	✕ Mass: George Albert and Calerine Aileen Weedon RIP
Sat 20th	St Alban	5.00-5.30pm	Confessions
✕ TWELFTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (B) ✕			
Sun 21st	Saturday	6.00pm	✕ Vigil Mass: Pro Populo
	Sunday	(H) 8.45am	✕ Mass: Gilbert Monckton RIP
		10.30am	✕ Mass: Craig McGuire RIP

**CHOIR NEWS** Rehearsal **today** after 10.30 Mass.

**PARISH BARBECUE** Make a note of the date: **12th July** at St Peter's. Please see attached. **Tickets available this weekend.**

**CONFIRMATIONS** Maidstone area Confirmations will take place on Sunday **11th October**, with a retreat at Whitstable on **11th** and **12th July**. The preparation day will be on Sunday **4th October**.

**PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY** A day focusing on people with disability at the heart of the Church: Aylesford Priory, Sunday **5th July**, 12 till 4.

**PLEASE PRAY...**

- **With the Holy Father for June:** that the personal encounter with Jesus may give rise to the desire in many young people to offer their lives in the priesthood or the consecrated life.
- **For all the sick** especially Barbara Casey and Elsie Hampshire and all who are unwell at home or in our care homes; for those recently dead especially Malcolm Channing and Barbara Samson (funeral at Vinters, Friday 19th, 2.45pm); for all those whose anniversaries occur about now; for all our relatives and friends and the intentions on the notice board.
- **For a growing trust in the presence of the Lord** and his call among men and women being chosen to serve him and his Church as priests, deacons and in the consecrated life.
- **For the Mediterranean migrants** that they may find a compassionate welcome, a speedy solution be found for all of these desperate people, and that trafficking may come to an end.

**Thank you** for your offerings last week to help run our parish: **£483.21** (Gift Aided, **£227.41**). ♦ This Sunday there is a retiring collection for the **Catholic Trust for England and Wales** which supplies our bishops with the revenue necessary for the central administration of the Church in this country.

**25th ANNIVERSARY** St Thomas of Canterbury Church, Headcorn will be celebrating its 25th anniversary on **25th June** at 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend. ♣ Pick up a copy of Fr Michael Woodgate's book *A Rabbit's Eye View*. £4.50 – funds to Aid to the Church in Need.

**CATECHISTS** The Diocesan Day for Catechists is Saturday **27th June** at St George's Cathedral and runs from 11am till Mass at 4pm. Registration forms are available.

**CAFOD EVENTS THIS SUMMER** ♦ *Speak Up for Climate Change* - Lobby of Parliament: **Wednesday 17th June**, 12.00noon – 5.00pm, Palace of Westminster, London SW1A 2PW. ♦ *CAFOD Southwark Summer pilgrimage*: **Saturday 27th June**, 12.00noon – 4pm. St Francis de Sales Church, Church Road, Hartley, DA3 8DW. ♦ *Campaign workshop and talk* from CAFOD partner Fr Edwin Gariguez about Typhoons and Climate Change in The Philippines: **Saturday 11th July**, 11.00am – 4pm (provisional timings), Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, SE1 7JB. If you would like any further information, or want to book a place at any of these events, please get in touch at the CAFOD Southwark Office on **020 8466 9901** or email [southwark@cafod.org.uk](mailto:southwark@cafod.org.uk). Many thanks for your continued support of CAFOD.

**GRANDPARENTS' PILGRIMAGE** Aylesford Priory, **11th July**. See poster.

**ADVISER for DISABILITY, CATECHESIS & ADULT FORMATION** Applications are invited from for this vacant post from practising Catholics with suitable experience and qualifications in the fields of evangelization, lay formation, and adult faith formation as well as disability inclusion. Salary: £31,749.20 pa. Closing date: Sunday **28th June**. Further details on the CCF website ([www.ccftootingbec.org.uk](http://www.ccftootingbec.org.uk)).