



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

Diocesan Website: www.rcsouthwark.co.uk

The Catholic Church in England and Wales: www.catholicchurch.org.uk

Prayer: www.life4seekers.co.uk; 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

SECOND SUNDAY of EASTER (or of Divine Mercy)

12th April 2015

RESURRECTION AND REVOLUTION It is said that the Brazilian Archbishop Helder Camara was once accused by a heckler of being a communist revolutionary. He replied, "No, madam, I am not a communist. I am a Christian, and that means much more revolution!"

If we are supporters of a society where it's "everyone for himself", of a market economy in which those with money flourish, and those without money depend on the trickle-down effect, then the New Testament can come as something of a shock. St Luke writes in Acts that the early Christian community held everything in common, with no one claiming for his own use anything he had. None of their members was ever in want, he says.

No doubt sociologists and economists today would tell us that modern conditions are too complex for such a way of life, apart from those who want to live in the religious communities of convents and monasteries.

They may be right. And, of course, we shouldn't fall into the trap of thinking that we have to imitate exactly the social lifestyle of people 2,000 years ago.

Perhaps, though, we can learn one thing from the Easter experience of those early Christians. The resurrection made such an impact on them, that it radically altered the way they lived. Their faith in Jesus' promises was so strong that their possessions and money, even their houses, were all put in second place to the service of the gospel.

The resurrection was revolutionary. It fired their imagination and sharpened their commitment. It turned their priorities in life upside down. If the resurrection has taken hold of us at our roots, how does it show? Maybe we haven't sold everything we own. In many cases family responsibilities would make this foolish. But what have we done? Has the resurrection revolutionized us?

The resurrection is such an earth-shattering event, that if we can take it in our stride without getting worked up, then we surely have missed its point. *Author unknown*

HEALTH AND SAFETY We had our annual inspection last week and received a good report.

PARISH FINANCES Our parish treasurer, Mr Ian Fraser, is presenting our parish accounts at all Masses **this weekend**. Summary attached.

THE PILGRIM This month's edition of the diocesan newspaper is now available.

BEARSTED CHURCHES TOGETHER Prayer Visiting in Bearsted: There will be a meeting this **Tuesday, 14th April**, 8pm at St Peter's, to discuss the future organization of Prayer Visiting in Bearsted.

MISSIO RED BOXES Boxes are once again due in for counting; thank you.

PARISH SOCIAL St Peter's Hall, Saturday **2nd May**.

DEANERY MASS of HEALING The annual Deanery Mass for Healing will take place at Aylesford Priory on Sunday **3rd May** at 3pm.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS Sunday **7th June** (Corpus Christi), 10.30am.



**DIARY for WEEK BEGINNING 12th APRIL 2015
(Masses marked '(H)' are at Harrietsham)**

✕ **SECOND SUNDAY of EASTER** (or of Divine Mercy) **(B)** ✕

Sun 12th	Saturday	6.00pm	✕ Vigil Mass: Alex Anderson's welfare
	Sunday	(H) 8.45am	✕ Mass: Pro Populo
		10.30am	✕ Mass: Reg Meunier RIP
Mon 13th	Feria	7.00pm	✕ Mass
Tues 14th	Feria	10.00am	✕ Mass
Wed 15th	Feria	(H) 10.00am	✕ Mass: John Kilby RIP
Thu 16th	Feria	7.00am	✕ Mass
Fri 17th	Feria	10.00am	✕ Mass: Pamela McVeigh RIP
Sat 18th	Feria	5.00-5.30pm	Confessions

✕ **THIRD SUNDAY of EASTER (B)** ✕

Sun 19th	Saturday	6.00pm	✕ Vigil Mass: Pro Populo
	Sunday	(H) 8.45am	✕ Mass
		10.30am	✕ Mass: Tom Lawson RIP

PLEASE PRAY...

- **With the Holy Father for April:** that persecuted Christians may feel the consoling presence of the Risen Lord and the solidarity of all the Church.
- **For all the sick** especially Alan Flynn and Graham Gibson and all who are unwell at home or in our care homes; for those recently dead especially John Kilby and Pamela McVeigh (funeral on Friday at Vinters Park); for all those whose anniversaries occur about now; for all our relatives and friends and the intentions on the notice board. For those who were received into the Church this Easter.
- **For the holiness of all those sent in Jesus' name** as priests, deacons and consecrated religious to proclaim the victory over the world through faith in the Lord.
- **For those who have lost the gift of faith** or are unaware of it. May the presence of the living Lord bring them understanding and hope.

Thank you for your offerings on Good Friday week towards the Holy Places in Jerusalem: **£220.08** (Gift Aided, **£60.00**). ♦ Our Lent Appeal brought in a further **£178.80**. • The **Easter Collection** last weekend amounted to **£1,624.79**. Thank you very much indeed! ♦ There will be a retiring collection next weekend for the **maintenance of St George's Cathedral**, the mother church of the diocese. This collection helps with the upkeep of the cathedral.

COMING UP:

SOUTHWARK JUSTICE & PEACE *From prayer to action and back again.* The Southwark Justice, Peace & Integrity of Creation Commission will be holding their Spring Assembly on Saturday **25th April** in the New Barn, Aylesford Priory from 10.30am until 4.00pm. Group facilitators will include Susan Kambalu (CAFOD), Louise Zanre (JRS), Barbara Wilson (London Citizens), James Trewby (Columbans) and Daniel Hale. FairTrade Tea & Coffee available from 10am. Bring lunch or use the café next door. Free - all welcome

MARRIAGE 'MoT' Saturday **25th April**, 9.45am – 4.30pm, Holy Cross School, New Malden, Surrey. For couples to explore their relationship more deeply. Details: marriage2014@virginmedia.com.

ALTAR SERVERS' RALLY At Aylesford Priory, Spring Bank Holiday, Monday **4th May**. See poster.

PAX CHRISTI AGM Saturday **6th June**, Holy Apostles Church Hall, Pimlico. See notice.

MARRIAGE MASS at St GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL Saturday **20th June**, 3pm. If you are celebrating your 1st / 10th / 25th / 40th / 50th / 60th + wedding anniversary this year, please give in your names to the parish priest by **30th April** so you can receive an invitation from the Archbishop (booking is essential). This annual event fills the cathedral and is a great affirmation of the value of marriage. All are welcome to attend.

YOUTH FESTIVAL Aylesford Priory, years 7 – 11, **20th June**.

GRANDPARENTS' PILGRIMAGE Saturday **11th July**, 11am - 4.30pm, Aylesford Priory.