



# 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**

**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

**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)

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

**Year C**

**FIFTEENTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME**

**10th July 2016**

**FAITH IN FOCUS: A TALE OF THREE PITIES** It was late on Sunday evening when Paddy Walsh was knocked into the gutter by a hit and run driver. It happened on Baker Row and there weren't many people about. But perhaps help was at hand when Wayne Thompson came down the road and saw Paddy lying in a pool of blood. Wayne had recently been made redundant and was off to his weekly drinking session with his mates in the Rose and Crown. As he approached Paddy, he noticed his wallet in the inside pocket of his jacket. It contained more than enough for a good night's drinking and a few extras during the week. Wayne took it and left Paddy lying there, unconscious. On the opposite side of the road was St Luke's Church and Canon Smith had just put on his slippers after the last service of the day and was looking forward to a relaxing evening by the fire with a good book. As he glanced out of the window he noticed Paddy on the other side of the street. He did nothing because he knew someone else would be along soon and, after all, Sunday was his most tiring day and he was entitled to a bit of rest after looking after people for the other six days of the week. Yes, someone would be along soon. Baker Row Shelter for the Homeless would shortly be opening its doors for the night, and John Grime was hoping to be first in the queue and get one of the beds closest to the radiators and a bowl of soup while it was still hot. He saw Paddy, by now groaning in the gutter, and was moved to pity. Opposite was a public phone box and John went and called 999. Within a short time, the ambulance arrived and took Paddy off to hospital. He wanted to go with the ambulance but the police needed to interview him and take a statement from him down at the Police Station. It meant that he ended up last in the queue for the shelter. For Wayne Thompson, Paddy was prey, fair game. For Canon Smith he was a nuisance and an inconvenience. For John Grime he was not only someone in need but someone who offered him a chance to serve and minister to his needs. When you are faced with vulnerable people, which of the three attitudes do you take? But, more importantly, why? *(Author unknown.)*



**PARISH BARBECUE** Our thanks to those who organized the catering and the barbecuing last Sunday: if you weren't there you missed a treat! Thank you too to those who donated prizes for the raffle; we made **£191** profit for *Dandelion Time*, Kent's charity, based at West Farleigh, for children and their families fragmented by trauma, abuse and neglect (<http://dandeliontime.org.uk/>).

**TODAY is SEA SUNDAY** when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Without them we would not have most of the items we buy in the shops. Today's second collection is for **Apostleship of the Sea** (AoS), the Church's official maritime welfare agency. It supports seafarers both practically and spiritually. This annual collection is absolutely vital to enable it to continue its work, so please give generously and remember seafarers in your prayers. Thank you. For more information on the work of AoS, please visit [www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk](http://www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk).

**CYRIL DURBIN: 25 YEARS OUR DEACON** Cyril was ordained deacon 25 years ago. Parishioners and friends are all invited to join us at St Peter's this **Sunday** (immediately after the 10.30 Mass) for a glass of wine and 'finger buffet' to celebrate the 25th anniversary of his ordination on 27th July.

**St PETER'S CHOIR PRACTICE** Second Tuesday of each month, 8pm to 9pm, at St Peter's. The next practice is this week, **12th July**: last one before the summer break. All are welcome.

**DIARY for WEEK BEGINNING 10th JULY 2016**  
(Masses marked '(H)' are at Harrietsham)

✕ **FIFTEENTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (C)** ✕

Sun 10th July	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	✕ Vigil Mass: Jim Kelly RIP
	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>(H) 8.45am</b>	✕ Mass: Pro Populo
		<b>10.30am</b>	✕ Mass: Tom Lawson RIP
Mon 11th	St Benedict	<b>7.00pm</b>	✕ Mass
Tues 12th	Feria	<b>10.00am</b>	✕ Mass
Wed 13th	Feria	<b>(H) 10.00am</b>	✕ Mass: Truda and Joseph Ryans RIP
Thu 14th	Feria	<b>7.00am</b>	✕ Mass
Fri 15th	St Bonaventure	<b>10.00am</b>	✕ Mass
Sat 16th	Our Lady of Mount Carmel	<i>5.00-5.30pm</i>	<i>Confessions</i>

✕ **SIXTEENTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (C)** ✕

Sun 17th July	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	✕ Vigil Mass: John Iloenyosi and Christine Udeze RIP
	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>(H) 8.45am</b>	✕ Mass: Pro Populo
		<b>10.30am</b>	✕ Mass: Aloysius De Souza RIP

**WE WILL REMEMBER THEM** ✕ Please see the notice at St Peter's about short services of remembrance around Bearsted for those from the village who died during the Great War. ✕ **This Wednesday** at midday we will be paying our respects to David Andrew Cathcart at White Lodge, opposite Rickwood's. Assemble in drive of house. ✕ Please share too in the intercessions attached from those who were visited in Bearsted during last week's *Prayer Visiting*.

**MISSION APPEAL** This year's appeal will be given by the Verona Fathers over the weekend **6th and 7th August**.

**PLEASE PRAY...**

- **With the Holy Father for July:** *that through their mission, the Latin American and Caribbean Church may announce the Gospel with renewed vigour and enthusiasm. For Daniel Weatherley, being ordained to the priesthood at St George's Cathedral next Saturday, 16th July.*
- **For all the sick** and for all who are unwell at home or in our care homes especially Ian Taylor; for those recently dead especially Kay Glenn; for all those whose anniversaries occur about now; for all our relatives and friends and the intentions on the notice board and the attached intercessions.
- **For all seafarers in their daily work:** *for their safety as they face the dangers of their calling, and for their families during long periods of separation, loneliness and anxiety.*
- **For calm in Dallas, USA** following the shootings and acts of reprisal there: *for all those who have died, for those who are traumatized; and for peace.*

**Thank you** for your offerings last week to help run our parish: **£420.46** (gift aided, **£259.00**; weekly standing orders amount to **£149**). ♦ This Sunday is **Sea Sunday** when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. There is a second collection for **Apostleship of the Sea**, the official maritime agency of the Church in Great Britain. It provides practical and spiritual support to seafarers visiting our ports. As it is wholly dependent on voluntary donations, please give generously. For more information about its work visit <http://apostleshipofthesea.org.uk/>.

**SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE to LOURDES 19th-26th August.** See poster.

**CLERGY SUPPORT FUND CAMPAIGN** Archbishop Peter Smith would like every Catholic in the Diocese to have an opportunity to hear about the needs of sick and retired priests and how you can lend your support to this fundraising campaign to raise £4.5m over the next four years. If you completed a Contact Card last week you will receive a personal invitation to a presentation together with details of the times of the presentations, which will take place in September at St Peter's. Cards are being distributed again at all Masses this weekend so that everyone who would like to know more about the needs of our sick and retired priests will have an opportunity to do so. Only one card need be completed per family,

as provision will be made for other family members to attend. Please put your completed card in the box provided in the church porch. Thank you.