



# 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 B**

**TENTH SUNDAY ✕ ORDINARY TIME**

**10th June 2018**

**FAITH IN FOCUS: The Winning Side** Is Satan real, or is Satan a name we give to personify evil? Is sin real, or is sin a name the teachers of yester-year gave to the mistakes and poor choices we make in our weaker moments?

In today's gospel, Jesus asks us to confront Satan and take a long hard look at sin. There is one thing about Satan that is fairly certain. He probably won't ever turn up wearing a red cloak and carrying a pitchfork. Satan will meet us with attractive choices in our weakest moments. Satan will play down our sins and help us justify our poor choices. At our poorest and most desperate it might become easy to steal, especially if we dress it up as 'borrowing'. In our loneliest moments it might become easy to give in to an affair, especially if we dress it up as a 'harmless fling' or an 'open relationship'. In our most insecure moments it becomes easy to give in to gossip and malice, after all, what harm can words do? We might be able to make excuses for our poor decisions, but that doesn't make those decisions any less sinful.

The consequences of sin are far reaching. Selling one's soul to the devil might be the stuff of Hollywood films, but sin really does change us. Once we have justified a sin, it becomes easier to sin again. Once we have justified a poor decision our conscience grows mute. Before we know it, we are not the people we once were. We really have sold out to the devil.

The good news is, that by being on Jesus' side, we can overcome Satan's power. Sin doesn't have to define us. The past does not have to equal the future. In fact, remembering how low sin made us feel can give us that all important focus in resisting sin in the future. One day Satan's defeat will be final. In the meantime we need to ask forgiveness for our sins and make sure we are firmly on the winning side. *Chapel Bell*

**FATIMA PILGRIMAGE MEETING** This Sunday, **10th June**, coffee will be served in the hall after Mass at St Peter's, where we will be having a short meeting about our parish pilgrimage to Fatima and Santiago de Compostela in September. All are welcome to the meeting.

**OLIVE PARKER RIP** Olive's funeral will be at Good Shepherd on Tuesday **19th June** at 12midday.

**IT'S BARBECUE TIME AGAIN!** Tickets are now on sale for our parish barbecue, which will take place on **Sunday 1st July** after Mass at St Peter's. Tickets are priced at £5 for adults, £3.50 for children and £12 for a family ticket. You can get your tickets after Sunday Mass at St Peter's, or ring Ian on 736811. Please bring your own drinks. We would be grateful for any contributions of a salad or a dessert and, if you can help with the catering in this way, please will you put your name on the list in the parish room. Thank you.

**WELCOMERS** Pick up a new rota for those involved in this valuable ministry at St Peter's.

**SOCIAL COMMITTEE** Meeting this **Wednesday** evening.

**CAFOD** Coming soon: **Refugee week, 16th – 24th June**; a chance to celebrate and promote understanding of why people seek sanctuary. See <https://cafod.org.uk/Campaign/Share-the-Journey>.

**NATIONAL JUSTICE & PEACE NETWORK** This year celebrates forty years of working together for justice and peace. Joan Brown established a group at St Peter's and over the years the group has become ecumenical.

**PRAYER VISITING** See the displayed list of prayer intentions following this recent event in Bearsted. ♦ Another such event is to take place next month. If anyone is interested in taking part please let Fr Geoffrey or Deacon Cyril know. ★ **Ecumenical prayer group**: It has been suggested that as churches together we should meet to look at and learn about various troubled areas in the world and then pray about them. If you are interested contact Margaret Doak 01622 738508.



**DIARY for the WEEK BEGINNING 10th JUNE 2018**  
**(Masses and Devotions marked '(H)' are at Harrietsham)**

✕ **TENTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (B)** ✕

Sun 10th	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	✕ Vigil Mass: Fr Sean Harty RIP
	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>(H) 8.45am</b>	✕ Mass: John Welchman RIP
		<b>10.30am</b>	✕ Mass: Pro Populo
Mon 11th	St Barnabas	<b>7.00pm</b>	✕ Mass: Holy Souls
Tues 12th	Feria	<b>10.00am</b>	✕ Mass
Wed 13th	St Anthony of Padua	<b>(H) 10.00am</b>	✕ Mass
Thu 14th	Feria	<b>7.00am</b>	✕ Mass
Fri 15th	Feria	<b>10.00am</b>	✕ Mass
Sat 16th	Our Lady	<i>5-5.30pm</i>	<i>Confessions</i>
✕ <b>ELEVENTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (B)</b> ✕			
Sun 17th	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>6.00pm</b>	✕ Vigil Mass: Brian Stanford RIP
	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>(H) 8.45am</b>	✕ Mass: Pro Populo
		<b>10.30am</b>	✕ Mass: Tom Lawson RIP
		12noon	Baptism: Oliver Simon Friend

**PLEASE PRAY...**

- **With the Holy Father for June – Social Networks:** *that social networks may work towards that inclusiveness which respects others for their differences.*
- **For all the sick and for all who are unwell at home or in our care homes,** *especially Cyril Adam; for those who have died recently, especially Shirley Taylor and Fr Sean Harty; and for all those whose anniversaries occur about now (see below); for all our relatives and friends; and for the intentions on the notice board.*
- **For Guatemala following the eruption of the Fuego volcano.** *We ask the Lord to comfort those who have lost loved ones; and that emergency services and aid agencies have the resources that they need and are not impeded in their efforts..*
- **Anniversaries this week (St Peter's Lady Chapel memorial):** ✕ *Elizabeth Weedon, Clifford Diaper, Horace Coulter and Joan Hopkins.* ✕

**Thank you** for your offerings last week to help run our parish: **£338.46** (Gift Aided, **£148.00**; weekly standing orders, paid direct into our bank, amount to **£190.00**). ♦ 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. ♦ Next Sunday, the Day for Life, there will be a **retiring collection to support Life** (see <http://www.dayforlife.org/>). The proceeds of the collection will go to the Anscombe Bioethics Centre and other life-related activities supported by the Church

**VACANCY** St Simon Stock Secondary School is looking for a clerk to the governors: this is a paid part-time position requiring good organizational and minuting skills. Foundation governors: voluntary roles for people who want to help in the education of the next generation within a catholic ethos. Further information from the Chair of Governors: [mike.powis@btinternet.com](mailto:mike.powis@btinternet.com).

**SAMARA'S AID APPEAL** A big thank you to everyone who donated and to the volunteers who helped in various ways.

**CATHOLIC SINGLES** Helps single Catholics of all ages (over 18 years) meet other single Catholics, either one to one or through social events. For further information visit [www.catholicssingles.org.uk](http://www.catholicssingles.org.uk) or tel. 0161 941 3498.

**SUMMER YOUTH DAY** Aylesford Priory **Saturday 23rd June**. Southwark Catholic Youth Service will once again be hosting a Summer Youth Day with the Carmelites at Aylesford Priory. You'll need to book places for catering purposes. Be part of a day of music, drama, art workshops and a barbecue. The day will culminate with Mass on the Shrine. Visit [www.scys.org.uk/events](http://www.scys.org.uk/events) for more details. To book contact 01227 272900 or [info@scys.org.uk](mailto:info@scys.org.uk).

**COME AND SEE: SISTERS of MERCY** Vocations Day **Saturday 30th June** 10am - 4pm. Single Catholic women are invited to explore a vocation with the Sisters of Mercy. Anyone interested in attending should contact Sr Helen at [helen.furness@iolmercy.org.uk](mailto:helen.furness@iolmercy.org.uk) or telephone 020 8850 1877 by Friday 22nd June.

**SOUTHWARK BRETHERN CHARITY** *A note from the secretary, Father Paul Hough:* 'The Southwark Brethren is a longstanding charity which helps sick and retired priests who are in need. We thank you for your continuous generosity in the past and ask your help again this year. Please send donations to Rev. Paul Hough, St Elphege's Presbytery, 120 Stafford Road, Wallington, Surrey, SM6 9AY.'