



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

Year B

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY ✕ ORDINARY TIME

1st July 2018

FAITH IN FOCUS: Do Not Fear, Only Believe Most of us struggle to make the most of our lives and often not as successfully as we would like. We worry about finding the right partner, we worry about our children, we worry about illness and we worry about money. We have learned from an early age that it isn't life itself that is important but how we fill our lives. But even having realised this every important fact, we still strive to live longer lives rather than better lives. When we read how Jesus cured and even brought people back from the dead, we notice one very important similarity, Jesus doesn't just add years to people's lives he changes lives. He doesn't change their lives in the way winning the lottery might change one's life. He doesn't grant a fairy tale happy ending with the wave of a magic wand, rather he makes his subjects whole and complete and ready to live life with a new outlook. Both the woman and the family in today's story must have felt that life had slipped through their fingers. The woman who had suffered haemorrhaging for twelve years had reached the depths of despair. Jesus was her last and only hope. The young girl seemed beyond any help, she had already been declared dead. Jesus gave them both their lives back. Is it likely that they would have gone on living exactly as before? Probably not! There's nothing like a second chance, especially at death's door to make us re-evaluate.



The gospel call to change our lives is part and parcel of the call to faith, a faith in a God who saves lives and changes lives. Whether it be the very public faith shown today by Jairus the synagogue leader, or the very private display of faith shown by the destitute woman who touched Jesus' cloak, faith and how we make the best of life goes hand in hand. Today Jesus tells us not to fear, but only to believe.

Chapel Bell

SEA SUNDAY Next week is Sea Sunday, when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. There will be a second collection for Apostleship of the Sea, the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church. It provides practical and spiritual support to seafarers visiting our ports. As it is dependent on voluntary donations, please give generously. For more information about its work visit the website: www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk.

MISSIONAL APPEAL Each year the archbishop asks us to host a missionary society to give an appeal. This year, on **14th and 15th July**, we will be welcoming a sister from the Daughters of Divine Love who will be appealing on behalf of the Missionary Sisters of England and Wales. They write: "The Daughters of Divine Love Sisters were founded in Nigeria by a late Nigerian bishop in 1969. Part of the work they do is to educate, care and add value to the lives of less privileged children, which includes orphans, motherless, abandoned children, street children/teenagers and children with special needs."

PRAYER VISITING 'Bearsted Area Churches Together appeal for volunteers. We are collecting prayers in the Monday – Wednesday, **16th-18th July**. If you can offer between 60-90 minutes from 6.30pm on one of these days, please give your name and contact details to Fr Geoff who will pass them on to me. The last time we organised this I was the only Catholic participating so I am hoping for one of two more.' - *Bob Piggott*. ★ **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.

FATIMA PILGRIMAGE Our next gathering will be for Benediction at 3.30pm on Sunday, **22nd July**. (You don't have to be going on the pilgrimage to attend the Benediction.)

DIARY for WEEK BEGINNING 1st JULY 2018
(Masses and Devotions marked '(H)' are at Harrietsham)

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

Sun 1st July	Saturday	6.00pm	✕ Vigil Mass: Shirley Taylor RIP
	Sunday	(H) 8.45am	✕ Mass: Kay Glenn RIP
		10.30am	✕ Mass: Pro Populo
		12noon	Baptism: Carlos and Oghenemaro Egbedi
Mon 2nd	Feria	7.00pm	✕ Mass
Tues 3rd	St Thomas	10.00am	✕ Mass
Wed 4th	Feria	(H) 10.00am	✕ Mass
Thu 5th	Feria	7.00am	✕ Mass: Celebrant's Intention
Fri 6th	Feria	10.00am	✕ Mass: Holy Souls
Sat 7th	Our Lady	5-5.30pm	Confessions

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

Sun 8th	Saturday	6.00pm	✕ Vigil Mass: Pro Populo
	Sunday	(H) 8.45am	✕ Mass: Deacon Peter Smith
		10.30am	✕ Mass: Jim Kelly RIP

MASS ONLINE Apologies that our webcasting has been failing lately. We are still working on it.

DEANERY PASTORAL COUNCIL Meeting this **Tuesday** evening at Goudhurst.

JUSTICE & PEACE Meeting this **Tuesday** evening at St Peter's.

PLEASE PRAY...

- **With the Holy Father for July – Priests and their pastoral ministry:** that priests who experience fatigue and loneliness in their pastoral work, may find help and comfort in their intimacy with the Lord and in their friendship with their brother priests.
- **For all the sick and for all who are unwell at home or in our care homes,** especially Cyril Adam; for Carlos and Oghenemaro being baptized this Sunday and for their parents and godparents; for those who have died recently especially Philomena Woodger; 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 the victims of natural and man-made tragedies:** for their families and for the emergency services and aid workers, that they will have the support they need and the courage to come to terms with their experiences. We pray especially for refugees, that they will find security and hope for the future.
- **Anniversaries this week (St Peter's Chapel memorial):** ✕ Agnes O'Brien, Don Armstrong, Leonard Stewart-Day, James Sinott, Phyllis Russell, Phillip Ranner, Bridget Ledger, Raymond Blake, Michael Yorke-Miller, Giovanna Bartoni and Patrick Lavender. ✕

Thank you for your offerings last week to help run our parish: **£404.93** (Gift Aided, **£215.08**; weekly standing orders, paid direct into our bank, amount to **£190.00**). ♦ The collection total for **Peter's Pence**, came to **£92.23** (£7 was gift-aided). ♦ Next week there will be a retiring collection for **Sea Sunday** (see above).

60th ANNIVERSARY MASS for St GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL On Saturday **14th July** at 12.30 there will be a Mass to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the re-opening of St George's Cathedral following its closure after significant bomb damage during the second world war. All are welcome to attend.

YOUNG CATHOLIC ADULTS' WEEKEND "Tell others the truth that sets you free" (Pope Benedict XVI). During the weekend of the **7-9th September**, young catholic adults will be running a retreat at Douai Abbey. It will feature Fr Lawrence Lew O.P. and Canon Poucin. More information: <http://youngcatholicadults-latestnews.blogspot.co.uk/>.

SOCIAL JUSTICE From time to time people meet to discuss progress upon issues such as reducing poverty, persecution, conflict, discrimination and environmental degradation - all dear to the heart of the Pope. The next such meeting will be from 2.00 to 4.00pm Sunday next, **8th July**, at the Area Bishop's house (More Park, West Malling ME19 6HN - near the Catholic Church and school). All are welcome.