



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: bearsted@rcaos.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 C

✠ SEVENTH SUNDAY of EASTER ✠

2nd JUNE 2019

World Communications Day

FAITH IN FOCUS: OVER TO US In these final chapters of John's Gospel, Jesus is trying to sum up what his life and mission is all about. He speaks at length of the bond between him and his Father and it is from this bond of love that he is 'sent'.

Jesus tells us that we too are 'sent' to continue his mission. Friendship with Jesus is being with him and being sent in his name. Our mission is to place his love and message at the centre of the world. In following him in mission and love, we too are 'being sent'.

On this Sunday we celebrate World Communication Day, and it feels a timely opportunity to consider the task we have been set. The first disciples continued Jesus' mission without planes, trains, without a postal service, without TV or radio and without the internet. Yet thanks to these early disciples we know Jesus' name throughout the entire globe two thousand years down the line. We have a much easier job than the early disciples had. Now all we need is a little bit of their sense of mission.

How should it feel to be entrusted with such an important job? Well for most of us, it is something we don't think about nearly enough. We are told not to let the world tie us down, but that's most definitely easier said than done. In truth we are very much of this world. We spend most of our lives worrying about work, money, illness, relationships and commitments. It's very hard to rise above worldly concerns. In fact for most of us it just seems impossible.

Today's gospel reminds us that Jesus' love for his disciples does not fade. It endures eternally. He asks the Father to protect and guide. He entrusts us, his friends and companions, to the loving care of his Father. If we are really to believe this, we should leave the house every morning with a lot more on our minds than simply catching the early bus or answering our emails on the tube. Today is an invitation not to think of ourselves on the outside looking in, but to be as much a part as we can in impacting the world as much as those early disciples did.

(Chapel Bell)



WORLD COMMUNICATIONS DAY Today, Catholics are encouraged to pray for all those professionals who work in Communications, and particularly for those who are responsible for communicating on behalf of the Catholic Church in this country. Our Catholic Communication offices support the Church more widely in promoting the Gospel through digital, social, print and broadcast media. These offices are the central point for media enquiries and are a key resource for national and international media professionals.

FINANCE COMMITTEE Meeting this **Monday** in the presbytery after evening Mass.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed after the 10.00am Mass, until mid-day, each Tuesday beginning this week (**4th June**) for a trial period (probably mid-July). ✠ For those unable to attend St Peter's on a Tuesday, adoration takes place at St Francis' Church in Maidstone town centre on Fridays (7am - 10pm).

JUSTICE & PEACE Meeting this **Tuesday** evening.

EASTER DUTIES The last day for fulfilling the precept of Easter Communion is the feast of the Most Holy Trinity, **16th June**. Canon 2042 of *The Catechism* states: The third precept ('You shall humbly receive your Creator in Holy Communion at least during the Easter season') guarantees as a minimum the reception of the Lord's Body and Blood in connection with the Paschal feasts, the origin and centre of the Christian liturgy.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS of the EUCHARIST Customarily, at Mass on Corpus Christi, ministers renew the commitment to their ministry. Ministers are therefore asked to renew their commitment at whatever Mass they attend on Corpus Christi, Sunday, **23rd June** (or the Saturday evening).

It's BARBECUE TIME AGAIN! It's summertime and it's also time for our annual parish barbecue! This will take place on **Sunday 30th June** in St Peter's Hall after Sunday Mass. Family tickets (2 adults plus 2 children) will cost £15, adult tickets £6 and only £3.50 for children not included in the family ticket. Please bring your own drinks with you. If you can help out by bringing a salad or dessert, please will you sign up on the list on the noticeboard or speak to Jenny Lovelock or Anne Hayden. Tickets will be available from **this Sunday**, 2nd June, or ring Ian on 736811. We can't guarantee the weather, but we can guarantee delicious food, a sing-along (courtesy of Bob Piggott) and plenty of good company!

DIARY for WEEK BEGINNING 2nd JUNE 2019
(Masses and Devotions marked '(H)' are at Harrietsham)

✕ SEVENTH SUNDAY of EASTER (C) ✕

Sun 2nd	Saturday	6.00pm	✕ Vigil Mass: Robert Dick RIP
	Sunday	(H) 8.45am	✕ Mass: Anthony & Kathleen McParland RIP
		10.30am	✕ Mass: Pro Populo
Mon 3rd	St Charles Lwanga and Companions	7.00pm	✕ Mass
Tue 4th	Feria	10.00am	✕ Mass, followed by Adoration until 12noon.
Wed 5th	St Boniface	(H) 10.00am	✕ Mass
Thu 6th	Feria	7.00am	✕ Mass
Fri 7th	Feria	10.00am	✕ Mass: Brooke Schumman
Sat 8th	Feria	<i>5-5.30pm</i>	<i>Confessions</i>

✕ PENTECOST SUNDAY (C) ✕

Sun 9th	Saturday	6.00pm	✕ Vigil Mass: Brooke Schumman
	Sunday	(H) 8.45am	✕ Mass: Pro Populo
		10.30am	✕ Mass

CONFIRMATIONS If you are in school year 9 or above, and would like to be confirmed, please speak to Fr Geoffrey or Deacon Cyril. Deanery confirmations are on Sunday **13th October**; the programme, beginning on Sunday **9th June**, will be run in conjunction with St Francis' parish. Application forms are available.

GIFT-AIDERS Pick up an envelope in the porch addressed to you.

BEARSTED PRAYER VISITING *A message from Andrew Haines, our local organizer.* This valuable outreach takes place once again in the week commencing **1st July**. Those wishing to participate are asked to complete the Doodle poll: <https://doodle.com/poll/d4fveuygsdxcgfnp>. Thank you.

PLEASE PRAY...

- **With the Holy Father for June:** *for the mode of life for priests, that through the modesty and humility of their lives, they may commit themselves actively to a solidarity with those who are most poor.*
- **On World Communications Day,** *for all those who work to spread the good news of Jesus in the media, that they will use online opportunities for good and so help to create "a network not of wires but of people".*
- **For all the sick and for all who are unwell at home or in our care homes;** *for those who have died recently, especially Elaine Robertson and for all those whose anniversaries occur about now (see below); for all our relatives and friends; for the intentions on the notice board; and for those baptized and received into the Church at Easter.*
- **Anniversaries (St Peter's Chapel memorial):** ✕ *Bridget Ryan, Ron Duerden, Mary Mccafferty, Vera Seager, Lillian Vale, Virginia Kitchin and Catherine Wickham.* ✕

Thank you for your offerings last week to help run our parish: **£469.28** (of which, **£161.00** was **Gift Aided**; in addition, weekly standing orders paid direct into our bank, amount to **£158.00**). ♦ This **Sunday** there is a retiring collection to support the world of the Catholic Communications Network, the media office of our Bishops' Conference.

MASS for NEW CATHOLICS The Cathedral will host the annual Diocesan Mass for New Catholics on Saturday **8th June** at 12.30pm. Archbishop Peter Smith will preside. All who recently entered the Church are warmly invited to attend with their friends and family.

ANNUAL MARTYRS' WALK The annual walk which commemorates the heroes of the faith who witnessed even to death follows the route they took from Newgate to the place of their execution at Tyburn. This year it's on **Sunday 23rd June**, meeting at 1.30pm for a 2pm start. For full details, please see the poster.

MASS in CELEBRATION of the SACRAMENT of MARRIAGE at St George's Cathedral, Saturday **13th July**. If you are celebrating a significant wedding anniversary this year, get in touch direct at mflse@rcaos.org.uk so you can receive an invitation. Please let them have the location of your parish in the title of your email.

CAFOD, OUR COMMON HOME We are proud of the UK's commitment to endeavour to limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C. This will limit the worst effects of climate change on our health, homes and communities and people living in poverty around the world. To support a *by 2045 net zero greenhouse gas emissions reduction target* please sign the petition in church.

GAP YEAR VOLUNTEERS The Diocesan Youth Service are looking for talented and committed gap year volunteers to live in Christian community and work with young people. The Youth Service team will help them to develop their gifts, gain new skills and enjoy an experience that will stay with them for life. The gap year team works with residential groups at St Vincent's and day retreats at Aylesford Priory. This opportunity is open to those aged 18-25 (September 2019 - July 2020). Potential Gap Year Volunteers can email: scys@rcaos.org.uk for details or to arrange an informal chat.

THE PILGRIM The **June** edition of the diocesan newspaper is now available.