

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

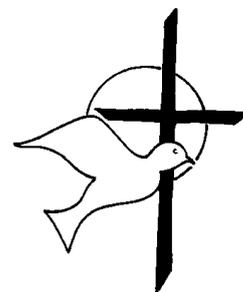
Year C

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

16th JUNE 2019

FAITH IN FOCUS: MYSTERIES OF FAITH In Jesus' farewell to his disciples he says, "I have much more to tell you, but you cannot bear it now. But when he comes, the Spirit of truth, he will guide you to all truth." It is clear that Jesus is teaching his disciples in stages. Like every good teacher, Jesus knows that we can only digest so much information at a time. The original disciples had to learn to walk before they could run, and that goes for us too.

We are all at different stages in our journey of faith, but that journey should never become static. "I have much more to tell you, but you cannot bear it now." Jesus implies that we will be ready to learn more at some future date and he is leaving us the Spirit of truth to guide us towards revelation. In the face of great mysteries, it is tempting to give up and leave theology to the great academics; but we are reminded that God has revealed truth to all sorts of people from small children to acclaimed philosophers, and from simple fishermen to learned theologians. God is a sympathetic teacher, but we have to play our part and be willing students. As adults it isn't good enough to rely on the faith we developed at school. There was nothing wrong with the faith were given as youngsters of course, but it's time to develop our thinking and stretch our understanding. In an age of improved communications, discussion groups, television, competitive publishing and the internet, there's not much excuse for us to cease growing in intellect or spirituality. *(Chapel Bell)*



POPE FRANCIS APPOINTS NEW ARCHBISHOP of SOUTHWARK It was announced on 10th June, the Feast of Mary, Mother of the Church, that Pope Francis has accepted the resignation from office of Archbishop Peter Smith and duly appointed **Bishop John Wilson** as his successor and Eleventh Archbishop of Southwark. For more information see the diocesan website: <http://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/>. Bishop John is currently assistant Bishop in Westminster diocese. He will be installed at St George's Cathedral on Thursday **25th July**.

DAY FOR LIFE The Catholic bishops of England and Wales, Ireland and Scotland have agreed that the theme for this year will tackle the shocking reality of **domestic abuse**. One in four women and about one in six men suffer from domestic abuse in their lifetime. Two women are killed every week in England by a partner or ex-partner. Bishop John Sherrington, the bishop responsible for Day for Life in England and Wales, said: 'These shocking statistics call us to fight against the scourge of domestic abuse. For those who are experiencing domestic abuse, the home is far from being a place of security and self-fulfilment. Too often it is a place of suffering, fear, degradation and isolation. Domestic abuse is often a hidden problem, and our aim is for anyone experiencing domestic abuse to feel able to have confidence to seek help within the Church setting. We want to raise awareness in our churches which would be a step towards addressing this serious moral and social problem.' **Pick up a prayer and information card.**

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, next 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 16th JUNE 2019
(Masses and Devotions marked '(H)' are at Harrietsham)

✕ **The MOST HOLY TRINITY (C)** ✕

Sun 16th	Saturday	6.00pm	✕ Vigil Mass: Pro Populo
	Sunday	(H) 8.45am	✕ Mass: For fathers on Fathers' Day
		10.30am	✕ Mass: Tom and Joan Lawson RIP
Mon 17th	Feria	7.00pm	✕ Mass: The Springett Family
Tue 18th	Feria (Adoration until 12noon)	10.00am	✕ Mass: George Albert and Calerine Aline Weedon RIP
Wed 19th	Feria	(H) 10.00am	✕ Mass: Elaine Marie Robinson RIP
		12noon	Funeral Service: Elaine Marie Robinson
Thu 20th	St Alban	7.00am	✕ Mass: Brigid Monks RIP
Fri 21st	St Aloysius Gonzaga	10.00am	✕ Mass
Sat 22nd	SS John Fisher & Thomas More	5-5.30pm	<i>Confessions</i>

✕ **The MOST HOLY BODY and BLOOD of CHRIST (C)** ✕

Sun 23rd	Saturday	6.00pm	✕ Vigil Mass: Margaret Sanders RIP
	Sunday	(H) 8.45am	✕ Mass: Pro Populo
		10.30am	✕ Mass

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION The Blessed Sacrament is exposed **each Tuesday** after the 10.00am Mass at St Peter's until midday, 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).

BARBECUE + SUN = GAZEBO? We are hoping lots of you will join us for the above mentioned parish barbecue. One small snag - we had to cut back the trees in the hall garden, so now there is very little shade. If we have a hot day this could be difficult. We already have a promise of two 'pop-up' gazebos, but we really need 2 more. Can anyone lend us one for the day? Contact Terry Kinsman 730119, or Fr Geoff.

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.* ✕ *And for our Archbishop elect John Wilson as well as in thanksgiving for the ministry of our retiring Archbishop Peter Smith.*
- **For those whose lives, homes and livelihoods have been affected by the recent heavy rainfall.** *Where there are flooded homes and workplaces, may they find the courage and hope to repair the damage and face the future.*
- **For all the sick and for all who are unwell at home or in our care homes;** *for Brigitte Hayward and Sidonia Banyard; for all those who have died recently, and for all those whose anniversaries occur about now (see below); for all our relatives and friends; for the intentions on the notice board.*
- **Anniversaries (St Peter's Chapel memorial):** ✕ *Mary Anne Macklin, George Weedon, Bridget Ruffle, Alice Sinott, John Younger, Margaret Sanders and Lord Gilbert Monckton.* ✕

Thank you for your offerings last week to help run our parish: **£360.83** (of which, **£181.52** was **Gift Aided**; in addition, weekly standing orders paid direct into our bank, amount to **£158.00**). ♦ The retiring collection to support the Catholic Trust for England and Wales (CaTEW) amounted to **£127.33**. ♦ **This Sunday** there is a retiring collection **to support Life** (see above and: <http://www.dayforlife.org/>).

DAY for DISABILITY Southwark's annual day of celebration for the disabled will be held on Sunday **7th July** at The Friars, Aylesford from midday onwards. Archbishop Peter Smith will celebrate Mass in memory of Jean Vanier. People with disabilities and their carers from across the archdiocese and beyond are invited for a joyous day of prayer, art, music and fun.

St JOHN BOSCO CHILDREN'S SUMMER CAMP See the poster about this activities camp at Aldham Essex during the school holidays. It is for children aged 8 to 13 and costs £160 per week. See also <http://svpboscocamp.org.uk>.

ALTAR SERVERS' SUMMER BREAK See the poster with information.

PILGRIMAGE to KNOCK 26th August 2019. See poster at back of church.

St JOHN'S SEMINARY See the poster requesting help with the refurbishment of its chapel.