



# 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](mailto: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](http://www.catholic-bearsted.org.uk)

### Year A ✠ TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ✠ 11th OCTOBER 2020

**LIVE STREAM** Apologies that this failed most of last week. Although the 'box of tricks' in the sacristy was giving all the indications that we'd gone live on Tuesday and Friday, it appears that we hadn't, and that the live stream only went out on Monday. We are looking into this and hope to be live again soon!

**THIS SUNDAY is PRISONERS' SUNDAY** a chance for us as a parish to pray for all prisoners, their families and all those in the justice sector. A disturbing statistic is that the current prison population in England and Wales is **79,120**. Even more disturbing is that **90,197** children will have a parent in prison tonight. Pact is the national Catholic charity that supports people affected by imprisonment. Pact helps prisoners and their families to make a fresh start and to minimise the harm caused by imprisonment, to offenders, families and communities. Pact works in fifty prisons across England and Wales, runs seven visitor centres and a number of supervised play services for families of prisoners, as well as raising public awareness of the needs of prisoners and their families. We can all help this worthy cause by making a donation; a few envelopes are available. ♦ Please remember prisoners and their families throughout the week, **Prisons Week**.

**CAFOD HARVEST FAST DAY** Please hand in envelopes for your savings, or post them through the presbytery letterbox any time.

#### DIARY for WEEK BEGINNING 11th OCTOBER 2020

**(Masses and Devotions marked (H) are at Harrietsham. Those at St Peter's are also streamed online.)**

**All Masses and Devotions are open to parishioners.**

#### ✠ TWENTY- EIGHTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (A) ✠

Sun 11th	<b>Sunday</b> <i>Prisoners' Sunday</i>	(H) 8.45am	✠ Mass Pro Populo
		10.30am	✠ Mass: Teresa and Wyn Davies
Mon 12th	Feria	10.00am	✠ Mass: Teresa Carrier-Davies
Tue 13th	St Edward the Confessor	10.00am	✠ Mass: Anne Restighine
		10.30am	Adoration, until 11.30am
Wed 14th	Feria	(H) 10.00am	✠ Mass: Florence Waters RIP
Thu 15th	St Teresa of Jesus (of Ávila)	<b>No Mass</b>	
Fri 16th	Feria	10.00am	✠ Mass: Fr Denis Lynch O.Carm RIP
Sat 17th	St Ignatius of Antioch	10.00am	✠ Mass: Peter Conan RIP
		10.30 – 11am	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions)

#### ✠ TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (A) ✠

Sun 18th	<b>Sunday</b> <i>World Mission Sunday</i>	(H) 8.45am	✠ Mass: Pro Populo
		10.30am	✠ Mass: Margaret Dring

**HARVEST FESTIVAL** In conjunction with our friends from the Bearsted Methodist Church we are collecting for a local food bank, and a box has been left out at St Peter's for donations of non-perishable food items throughout October. Thank you to those who have already donated.

**MASS COUNT** This weekend sees the final counting of heads at all Masses. ☺ Good to welcome back some familiar faces last week!

**NEXT SUNDAY** is World Mission Sunday.



**OCTOBER, MONTH of the ROSARY** Pope Francis calls the rosary a “simple contemplative prayer, accessible to all, great and small, the educated and those with little education. In the Rosary we turn to the Virgin Mary so that she may guide us to an ever closer union with her Son Jesus to bring us into conformity with him, to have his sentiments and to behave like him. Indeed, in the Rosary while we repeat the Hail Mary we meditate on the Mysteries, on the events of Christ’s life, so as to know and love him ever better. The Rosary is an effective means for opening ourselves to God.” Each time we pray the Rosary, he said, “we are taking a step forward, towards the great destination of life”—heaven.

**SPIRITUAL COMMUNION** *For those at home. Prayer of St Alphonsus*

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar.  
I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul.  
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul  
so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen.

**PLEASE PRAY...**

- **With the Holy Father for October:** *that by the virtue of baptism, the laity, especially women, may participate more in areas of responsibility in the Church.*
- **For all prisoners and their families** on this Prisoners’ Sunday and throughout this Prisons Week.
- **For those who have asked prayers;** and for all those troubled in heart, mind and body.
- **Anniversaries (St Peter’s Chapel memorial):** ✠ Elizabeth Browne, Alice Brown, Stephanie O’Neill, Alec Paris, Lilian Lavender and Richard Ryan. ✠

**CHURCHES’ WEEK of ACTION on FOOD: 11th – 17th October** An opportunity for Christians all over the world to act and speak out together on food justice issues. • Impacted by Covid-19, the number of people facing acute food insecurity is expected to nearly double to 265 million in 2020, from 135 million in 2019. • We recall the episode of Jesus feeding the multitude (Matthew 14:13-21). “We have no excuses but to respond to this crisis together, sharing what we have, in faith, to ensure that all are fed, leaving nobody behind, and with no food being wasted.”



**To do:-**

- Support one of our aid agencies regularly, CAFOD, Trocaire, SCIAF or Christian Aid.
- Support an aid agency that focuses on children’s nutrition e.g. Mary’s Meals.
- At a local level, remember to pick up 2 for 1 promotions in the supermarket on a daily basis and add the ‘free’ item to the foodbank. The week in October incorporates the International Day for Rural Women (15th October), World Food Day (16th) and the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (17th).

**OCTOBER is ‘ENERGY SAVING MONTH’** *Together We Can Make A Greener Future.*

Top Tips:-

- Turn your thermostat down. Reducing your room temperature by 1°C could cut your heating bills by up to 10%. If you have a programmer, set your heating and hot water to come on only when required rather than all the time.
- If possible, fill the washing machine, tumble dryer or dishwasher: one full load uses less energy than two half loads.
- Only boil exactly the amount of water that you actually need for your tea or coffee.

**WEEK of PRAYER for WORLD PEACE** *11th-18th October:* an inter-faith activity. The first Chairman, the late Dr Edward Carpenter, former Dean of Westminster, established the guiding principle of the Week in the words “The peace of the world must be prayed for by all the faiths of the world.” The Week of Prayer for World Peace Annual Gathering will be online this year. It will be held on Sunday, 11 October at 3:30 pm London time. You can find the link to the Zoom meeting at [www.weekofprayerforworldpeace.co.uk](http://www.weekofprayerforworldpeace.co.uk).



**SECOND COLLECTIONS** The programme of Second Collections has been rescheduled: **11th October** Home Mission, World Communications, Day for Life : **18th October** Missio. *Apologies for any inconvenience.* • It was agreed by the finance committee to make donations to these cause from available funds, but for those who are able, a small consideration in your weekly planned giving would be much appreciated.

**HELP PROTECT BABIES** with cleft lip, cleft palate and club foot. Sadly abortion is currently available in the UK, right up to birth, for babies with cleft lip, cleft palate and club foot. All of these conditions can be corrected. A cross-party group of MPs from the three largest parties in the UK Parliament have come together to bring forward the Abortion (Cleft lip, cleft palate and club foot) Bill. The Bill will change the law to clarify that cleft palate, cleft lip, and club foot are not grounds for abortion in the UK. Can you help with getting your MP to support the Bill? Please visit [www.standupandsmile.org.uk](http://www.standupandsmile.org.uk) to email your MP asking them to support the Bill. It only takes 30 seconds.

**Bitesize** In all human affairs there are efforts, and there are results, and the strength of effort is the measure of the results.  
*James Allen*