



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

Webmaster: webmaster@catholic-bearsted.org.uk

Parish Website and YouTube:
www.catholic-bearsted.org.uk

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)

Year B

✠ THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST ✠
Corpus Christi

6th JUNE 2021

FAITH IN FOCUS: Living Memory What if we forgot the sacrifices people have made for us? What if we forgot all about the martyrs who died so that we could have religious freedom? What if we forgot all about the soldiers who fought and died so that we could enjoy political freedom? What if we forgot the grandparents and parents who have sacrificed their own comforts to make our lives better? The answer is obvious: if we forgot the sacrifices others have made for us, we would have little or no appreciation of what is important in our world. We would have no understanding of what has made us who we are.



At the Last Supper Jesus charges us to keep his memory alive. We must break bread and drink wine in his name. In celebrating the Eucharist we celebrate the memory of his passion and death. As we break bread and drink wine in his name we recall Jesus' opposition to religious sham, his commitment to forgiveness and inner healing, his determination to overcome sin, his promise to feed us, and his ultimate sacrifice.

When we remember the soldiers who have died for our freedom we remember how important it is to fight against oppression and injustice. When we remember the sacrifices our parents have made for us we remember to do them credit in everything we achieve. When we come together to share in Holy Communion, we remember that we are offered the sustenance to step out of church and live Christ's memory in everything we do.

Chapel Bell



MONTH of the SACRED HEART Since the 16th century Catholic piety has assigned entire months to special devotions. The month of June is set apart for devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Devotion to the Sacred Heart is the celebration of God's love for us. The Sacred Heart is the symbol of the eternal love by which "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son" (Jn 3:16).

BRENDA SANDERS ✠ Brenda's funeral Mass will be at St Peter's on Tuesday 15th June at 11am.

WELCOME BACK to MASS It is good to see so many returning to Mass as the lockdown eases. We have studied the latest recommendations from the diocese on how to get the best use of space, and we now have a new seating plan in place. You will see that on Sundays we will have to separate people into groups [as in Mark 6:39-40] in order to achieve our best capacity. It means that you will see that sections of St Peter's will be allocated to **a)** individuals on their own, **b)** couples, or **c)** families. Please bear with us while people get used to it, but ushers will help direct you. It is important that you sit directly behind the numbers indicating seats, as they are measured to give full Covid distancing protection. Please also note we are now again leaving the church by the main doors.

DIARY for WEEK BEGINNING 6th JUNE 2021 (Masses and Devotions marked '(H)' are at Harrietsham)			
✠ THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST (B) ✠ <i>Corpus Christi</i>			
Sun 6th	Saturday	6.00pm	✠ Vigil Mass: Fr Kevin Alban RIP
	Sunday	(H) 8.45am	✠ Mass: Pro Populo
		10.30am	✠ Mass: Vera Seager RIP
Mon 7th	Feria	10.00am	✠ Mass
Tue 8th	Feria	10.00am	✠ Mass (followed by Adoration until 11.30am)
Wed 9th	Feria	(H) 10.00am	✠ Mass
Thu 10th	Feria	No Mass	
Fri 11th	The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus (B)	10.00am	✠ Mass Followed by the Litany of the Sacred Heart.
Sat 12th	The Immaculate Heart of the B.V.M.	10.30am	✠ Mass: First Communion Children and families
		<i>5-5.30pm</i>	<i>Confessions</i>
✠ ELEVENTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (B) ✠			
Sun 13th	Saturday	6.00pm	✠ Vigil Mass
	Sunday	(H) 8.45am	✠ Mass: Brenda Sanders RIP
		10.30am	✠ Mass: Pro Populo

'WELCOME BACK' BARBECUE! We are proposing to celebrate our return to near-normality with a parish barbecue on Sunday **4th July**, which by happy coincidence is also Independence Day, so expect an American theme! Because we would like as many parishioners as possible to come and celebrate, **tickets will be free!** We can guarantee good food, good company and a sing-along with Bob and Pete. However, for catering purposes we do need to know if you will be coming, so booking is essential, either by booking on the website, www.catholic-bearsted.org.uk or in person after Mass. If you can bring a salad or dessert, please see Anne, Jenny or Dan after Mass, and if you can make a small donation to parish funds on the day, this would be gratefully received. Fr Geoffrey is praying for fine weather, so how could this not be a brilliant occasion? We're looking forward to seeing you on 4th July.

PARISH PILGRIMAGE After having survived Covid, we are thinking of organizing a parish pilgrimage, both to give thanks for our own good health, and to pray for those who have suffered or died during the epidemic - sadly we probably all know of someone. We can't run one this year (no sign of flights yet), but we are planning to go next year if we have your support. We are thinking of Rome or Lourdes, but we would like those who wish to come to help us with the decision. It will most likely be in late May 2022. We will introduce more detail when we ask you to choose, probably in early July (i.e. after the Covid restrictions are lifted) - so watch this space! But if you want to know more ask Terry Kinsman 01622 730119.

THE FRIARS Aylesford Priory are holding their 'Summer Fayre' on Sunday 27th June, 11am – 4.30pm. Adults £4.50, under 16s free: <https://www.thefriars.org.uk/Whats%20On/Events>.

GIVE THANKS FOR YOUR VACCINE A Christian Aid Appeal As more of our family, friends and neighbours receive their COVID vaccinations, we rejoice and are glad that our loved ones are protected. We give thanks for all the NHS staff and key workers who continue to save lives across the UK. For the poorest and most vulnerable communities across the world, there is little hope of a vaccine rollout. These people already face a lack of water, food and healthcare. Some are homeless. Some are living with underlying health issues such as HIV. Christian Aid is already on the ground, helping keep people safe from coronavirus with practical support – but with your gift of thanks Christian Aid can do more. Consider making a donation to help protect our global neighbours while the vaccine is out of reach. You can make a donation at www.christianaid.org.uk/give/ways-donate/give-thanks-your-coronavirus-vaccine.

CHRISTIAN AID WEEK (A note from Holy Cross.) Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Bearsted Area Churches Christian Aid Week collection. We have so far raised over £1,100 to help the world's poorest communities. Although the week is over, if anyone has not yet donated and would like to, the online envelope will remain live for several weeks and can be accessed here: <https://envelope.christianaid.org.uk/envelope/bearsted-churches-together?channel=copy>. Thanks again for your support.

PLEASE PRAY...

- **With the Holy Father for June:** for young people who are preparing for marriage with the support of the Christian community: may they grow in love, generosity, faithfulness and patience.
- **For the final group of 4 children from our parish** preparing to make their delayed First Holy Communion this Saturday: **Isabella, Lilly, Nadia and Zosia.**
- **For those who have asked prayers;** for Mike Alexander and Chloe Plumb, who married in Malta on Friday; for the sick; for those who have died recently; and for all those troubled in heart, mind and body.
- **Anniversaries** (St Peter's Chapel memorial): ✠ Lillian Vale, Elizabeth Weedon and Horace Coulter. ✠

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.

STANDING ORDER / BANK TRANSFER If you would like to donate to the parish by BACS bank transfer or standing order the details are:

Account name:	RCAS ST PETER CHRC
Bank:	NatWest
Account number:	03138925
Sort code:	51-70-55
IBAN (for international transfers):	GB22 NWBK 5170 5503 1389 25

Please include a hint in the transfer "reference" so it's easy to know what your donation is for (e.g. Mass offering, weekly collection, Easter offering). • **PayPal giving is now available [here](#)** (online edition only!). Please include a reference so it's clear how to allocate the funds you have donated.

SECOND COLLECTION Next Sunday (13th June) there is scheduled a retiring collection in support of The **Catholic Trust for England and Wales** (CaTEW). This collection helps supply the Bishops of England and Wales with the revenue necessary for the central administration of the Church in this country. If you would like to be associated with this collection, please mark your donation accordingly. Thank you.

PAX CHRISTI: JUNE ACTIONS FOR PEACE

- World Refugee Day is on 20th June. A day for us to consider how we welcome refugees in our communities.
- Remember in your prayers all those who suffer in prison for their beliefs, and support what your local Amnesty International group is doing for such prisoners of conscience (22nd June is the feast of Saints John Fisher and Thomas More).
- Pray for the Pope and all those who work in the Vatican (29th June is the feast of Saints Peter and Paul).

Bitesize

The patriot's blood is the seed of Freedom's tree.

Thomas Campbell

SUNDAY MASS

The following will be used:

Preface: I or II of the Most Holy Eucharist

Eucharistic Prayer: I

Mystery of Faith: When we eat this bread . . .