



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

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY ✕ ORDINARY TIME

14th October 2018

FAITH IN FOCUS: HOW TO BE REALLY HAPPY If we take a close look at the man in day's gospel, who asks Jesus how to get eternal life and happiness, then we can glean a lot. He was humble; he actually ran up and knelt at Jesus' feet before speaking to him. clearly had good motives because he wanted to know how to inherit eternal life. And he good sense; enough to know that from what he heard of him Jesus was the right person to him with this. So he was nobody's fool. What we usually remember about him is that he rich. But it's clear that his riches couldn't satisfy his deep down needs. That's why he came Jesus looking for something that went beyond the grave. His wealth couldn't give meaning life. He was restless and seeking something more than the trappings that money can bring. of course it's not as if he were some sort of villain who would find it hard to accept religion. He already was a religious person and a morally upright character. He said that he had kept all the commandments from his earliest days, so he had probably also fasted from food and tithed some of his wealth.



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When the other gospel writers recall this episode they tell us that the man was young and that he came from one of the leading families. So by anybody's reckoning he's got a lot going for him: young, rich, reputable, religious, moral, thoughtful, common-sensed and humble. Yet he went away sad because the demands that Jesus made of him were more than he was prepared to accept. The incredible happened: God in Jesus told him exactly what to do in order to have eternal life. He had to give up all his wealth and give it to the poor. But this would affect his status, his reputation and his lifestyle. What gives meaning to your life? What do you consider the point of living is? Where do you look for what makes real sense of your days? Where have you put your treasure? Is it invested in the here and now or have you got your sights on something that will outlast this mortal existence? Being young, rich and even religious cannot get you into heaven. And when Jesus tells you how to inherit eternal life do you go away sad or do you start rejoicing? (Author unknown)

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS 2019 Thank you to those who attended our meeting last week. All will be contacted by email. The first session for the children, and the only one before Christmas, will be at 4pm on **23rd November** at St Peter's.

FAITH CLUB Meets this Sunday afternoon at St Peter's.

RED BOXES Would holders please bring their Missio Red Boxes in to church to be emptied. (Please remember to fill in your name on the label so we know whom to return them to.) Thank you.

ABORTION 'REFORM' Please contact your MP to vote against a law that would decriminalize abortion. Pick up a card. The vote is on **23rd October**. See notice.

THE ROSARY in OCTOBER (from the directory) Those who recite five decades of the Rosary in church, or as a family, a religious community, or as a group of the faithful, may gain a plenary or a partial indulgence. A partial indulgence may be obtained daily by reciting the Litany of Loreto and the Prayer to Saint Joseph.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY Please continue to hand in your envelopes. ☐ Countering Consumerism a CAFOD retreat: CAFOD Southwark Volunteer Centre, Bishop Challoner School, 228 Bromley Road, Shortlands, BR2 0AB on Saturday **24th November** from 10am to 4pm. Book at cafod.org.uk/retreat or call 0303 303 3030.

OPEN EVENING St Simon Stock Catholic School has an opening evening on Tuesday **16th October** from 5.45-8pm. Open mornings and a Sixth Form open evening are also coming up. For full details, see the noticeboard.

THIS SUNDAY The fourth and final National Mass Count is to be taken. **Collectors, please note.**

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY Next Sunday, the Holy Father invites all Catholics to contribute to a special collection for Missio, his official charity for overseas mission. Your support on World Mission Sunday will help brave missionaries in building a future of hope both in Ethiopia and around the world. Please join in this special day that unites Catholics all over the world in prayer, celebration and care for our mission of the Church. You will be able to Gift Aid all donations by using envelopes provided by Missio. Thank you.

DIARY for WEEK BEGINNING 14th OCTOBER 2018
(Masses and Devotions marked '(H)' are at Harrietsham)

✕ **TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (B)** ✕

Sun 14th <i>Prisoners' Sunday</i>	Saturday	6.00pm	✕ Vigil Mass: Pro Populo
	Sunday	(H) 8.45am	✕ Mass: John Welchman RIP
		10.30am	✕ Mass
		<i>4.00pm</i>	✕ <i>Confirmation Mass at St Francis'</i>
Mon 15th	St Teresa of Jesus	7.00pm	✕ Mass
Tue 16th	Feria	10.00am	<i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion</i>
Wed 17th	St Ignatius of Antioch	(H) 10.00am	<i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion</i>
Thu 18th	St Luke	7.00am	✕ Mass
Fri 19th	Feria	10.00am	✕ Mass
Sat 20th	Our Lady	<i>5-5.30pm</i>	<i>Confessions</i>

✕ **TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME (B)** ✕

Sun 21st <i>World Mission Day</i>	Saturday	6.00pm	✕ Vigil Mass
	Sunday	(H) 8.45am	✕ Mass: Elsie Hampshire RIP
		10.30am	✕ Mass: Pro Populo

COMING UP:

- **Deanery Confirmations:** This Sunday, **14th October**, at St Francis' with the Archbishop.
- **Prisoners' Sunday:** Sunday **14th October**; a day of prayer and action in support of prisoners and their families: <https://www.prisonadvice.org.uk/>. This will also mark the beginning of [Prisons Week](#) (14th - 20th October). Archbishop Peter asks all parishes to pray for all those in prison and their families.
- **Recollection Day for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Ministers of the Word (Readers):** Saturday **20th October** at St Peter's from 9.30 to 1pm.
- **World Mission Sunday: 21st October.**

PLEASE PRAY...

- **With the Holy Father for October – The mission of Religious men and women:** that consecrated religious men and women may actively seek to be present among the poor, the marginalised, and those who have no voice.
- **For all the sick and for all who are unwell at home or in our care homes,** especially Peter Kinsman; for those who have died recently, especially Joseph Carolann; and for all those whose anniversaries occur about now (see below); for members of the deanery being confirmed this Sunday; for all our relatives and friends; and for the intentions on the notice board.
- **For those who are prisoners:** through reflection and understanding may they go beyond their sentence to bring about a future free from crime. Let us follow Christ by reaching out to them in mercy, lending our support to them on their process of rehabilitation.
- **Anniversaries (St Peter's Chapel memorial):** ✕ Alice Brown, Stephanie O'Neill, Alec Paris, Gerald Alcock, Lilian Lavender, Richard Ryan, Elizabeth Smith, Michael Gillam, James Stevens and Thomas McCready. ✕

Thank you for your offerings last week to help run our parish: **£325.07** (Gift Aided, **£135.00**; in addition, weekly standing orders paid direct into our bank, amount to **£158.00**). ♦ Our CAFOD savings amounted to **£244.90**. ♦ Our third Mass count indicated that there were **158** people at Mass last weekend (down 9 from last week). ♦ **Next Sunday**, World Mission Sunday, there will be a retiring collection for **Missio**, the Church's official charity for overseas mission (see above). Envelopes are available.

A DAY WITH MARY For those who would like to know more about the message given in Fátima over 100 years ago, there is a Day With Mary at Westminster Cathedral on **Saturday 20th October** including Mass, exposition, processions, sermons and meditations. For full details, see poster on the parish noticeboard.

CCF EVENTS This term, the Centre for Catholic Formation is offering courses aimed at catechists, those involved in faith formation, members of pastoral councils and evangelization teams and the clergy. For full details including dates and locations, see the *On Offer* guide, or visit www.ccfootingbec.org.uk.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Father Geoff celebrates his birthday this month, and we would like to join him in a short gathering after Sunday Mass at St Peter's next Sunday, **21st October**: a glass of wine and a piece of cake together, in our church hall (approximately 11.20am). All St Peter's and Good Shepherd parishioners are encouraged to join us if you can. But this should also be a celebration for all in our parish who have a 'significant' birthday this year - if you have a birthday and would like to be part of this celebration please let me know in advance. - Terry Kinsman 01622 730119 or kinsman@macrolevel.co.uk.