



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

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY ✕ ORDINARY TIME

22nd July 2018

FAITH IN FOCUS: Time Out The younger generation are very good at telling us to "take a chill pill...." and there's nothing more infuriating. But funnily enough, "taking a chill pill" is something we're extraordinarily bad at. We are surrounded by twenty first century devices to save us time, such as emails, microwaves and disposable nappies, yet somehow we don't end up with hours of free time as a result. Quite the contrary, we work faster, travel faster, eat faster and take on more and more work. We feel that we need to fill every waking moment with an extra job. Yet sitting still for a moment in silence and solitude whilst the world rushes around us is very important.



Today Jesus understands that his disciples are exhausted by the demands of the crowds and suggests escaping by boat to find a quiet place to rest, recharge and presumably take stock. Unfortunately, the crowds worked out where Jesus was off to and beat him to it. Jesus stepped out of the boat to be greeted by the same crowds he had just left behind. If Jesus felt any exasperation he didn't show it. Moved by compassion, because the people are like 'sheep without a shepherd' Jesus sets about putting their needs before his own. It might appear that Jesus was just about as bad at 'taking a chill pill' as the rest of us, but the story simply points to his level of compassion and discernment.

Taking time out to recharge and take stock is often more important than fitting in that extra job. Have you ever got to the end of a very busy day and wondered what you have actually achieved? How much worse to get to the end of one's life and realise that we have achieved little of real importance. Take a chill pill. Remember to retreat from the world from time to time. Remember to regularly ask yourself those all-important life-enhancing questions.

Chapel Bell

NEWSLETTER This is the last printed parish newsletter until **September**. Mass intentions and other updates will be posted on the notice board and the website.

MISSIONAL APPEAL Sister Kosi telephoned to say she returned safely to Leeds (the one in West Yorkshire). She was delighted with the response to her appeal last weekend (see over) and sends her thanks and good wishes.

FATIMA PILGRIMAGE Our next gathering is for Benediction at 3.00pm **this Sunday** at St Peter's followed by a meeting with tea and cakes in the hall. (You don't have to be going on the pilgrimage to attend the Benediction.)

DIOCESAN NEWS Bishop Paul Mason, Auxiliary Bishop in Kent, has been appointed by the Holy Father, as Bishop of the Forces.

HIROSHIMA and NAGASAKI The annual remembrance of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings takes place in the Choir Chapel at Aylesford Priory on **Monday 6th August**, starting at 8.20 pm. All are welcome to attend; *this is not an exclusively Catholics event*.

YOUNG CATHOLIC ADULTS' WEEKEND "Tell others the truth that sets you free" (Pope Benedict XVI). During the weekend of the **7-9th September**, young catholic adults will be running a retreat at Douai Abbey. It will feature Fr Lawrence Lew O.P. and Canon Poucin. More information: <http://youngcatholicadults-latestnews.blogspot.co.uk/>.

DIARY for WEEK BEGINNING 22nd JULY 2018
(Masses and Devotions marked '(H)' are at Harrietsham)

✕ **SIXTEENTH SUNDAY** in ORDINARY TIME (B) ✕

Sun 22nd	Saturday	6.00pm	✕ Vigil Mass: Wellbeing of Redmore family
	Sunday	(H) 8.45am	✕ Mass: Pro Populo
		10.30am	✕ Mass: Trixie Hall RIP
		3.00pm	Rosary and Benediction
Mon 23rd	St Bridget	7.00pm	✕ Mass: Therese Sophie Weedon RIP (FM)
Tues 24th	Feria	10.00am	✕ Mass: James Hamilton RIP (FM)
Wed 25th	St James	(H) 10.00am	<i>Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion</i>
Thu 26th	SS Joachim & Anne	7.00am	✕ Mass: Roseanna Gomez RIP
Fri 27th	Feria	10.00am	✕ Mass
Sat 28th	Our Lady	<i>5-5.30pm</i>	<i>Confessions</i>

✕ **SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY** in ORDINARY TIME (B) ✕

Sun 29th	Saturday	6.00pm	✕ Vigil Mass: In thanksgiving
	Sunday	(H) 8.45am	✕ Mass: Breda Curtin RIP
		10.30am	✕ Mass: Pro Populo

SHRINE of St JUDE Raffle tickets in support of the Carmelites in Great Britain are available at the back of church for anyone interested; closing date **7th August**.

PLEASE PRAY...

- **With the Holy Father for July – Priests and their pastoral ministry:** *that priests who experience fatigue and loneliness in their pastoral work, may find help and comfort in their intimacy with the Lord and in their friendship with their brother priests. For those in the diocese recently ordained to the diaconate.*
- **For all the sick and for all who are unwell at home or in our care homes,** *especially Cyril Adam; for those who have died recently especially Maurice Dring and Deacon David Pease; and for all those whose anniversaries occur about now (see below); for all our relatives and friends; and for the intentions on the notice board.*
- **For the victims of the drowning tragedy in a Missouri lake in the United States,** *and for their grieving families.*
- **Anniversaries this week (St Peter's Chapel memorial):** ✕ *Kathleen Tozer, Henry Ruffle, Frank Hampton, Theresa Schreiber, Margaret (Trixie) Hall, Desmond Baker, Frederick Sanity & Marjorie Poole.* ✕

Thank you for your offerings last week to help run our parish: **£421.28** (Gift Aided, **£215.78**; weekly standing orders, paid direct into our bank, amount to **£190.00**). ♦ The retiring collection for our **Mission Appeal** came to **£457.38**. ♦ Our recent barbecue made a profit of **£304.30** in support of *Slideaway*, a local charity supporting young people who are dealing with tragic bereavement (<http://www.slideaway.org/>).

AYLESFORD PRIORY Coming up this summer:

Saturday 28th July: All Night Vigil, 10.00pm Mass, Adoration, Rosary, Stations of the Cross, Benediction and concluding with Mass of the Sunday. Depart 6.00am.

Sunday 29th July: Caribbean Pilgrimage, 12noon Mass with Bishop Patrick Lynch, 3.30pm Rosary, Adoration and Benediction.

Saturday 11th August: Retreat: Prayer and Poetry - Elizabeth Jennings, an English 20th century Catholic poet, drew from the Scriptures in her religious poetry. During this quiet day we shall read and reflect on her poetry as a stimulus for our own prayer. Led by Sr. Felicity Young ,OSU. To book: retreat@thefriars.org.uk .

Sunday 12th August: Pilgrimage of the Sick with the Society of Our Lady of Lourdes, 11.30am Mass of The Assumption with Sacrament of the Sick, 3.15pm Rosary Procession and Benediction of the Sick.

*For more information on all of these events, telephone the office: **01622 717272** or visit the Aylesford Priory website: <http://www.thefriars.org.uk/>.*