



# OUR LADY'S, MARNHULL AND ST BENEDICT'S, GILLINGHAM

## WELCOME

PARISH PRIEST: FATHER JOSEPH NWIBOKO

Deacons: Rev. Deacon James Mackain-Bremner

Rev. Deacon Michael Turnbull

Marnhull RC Parish is part of Plymouth Roman Catholic Diocese – Registered Charity No. 21322



### FIFTH WEEK OF LENT

### 17TH MARCH 2024

**Please contact us:**

The Presbytery  
Old Mill Lane  
Marnhull  
Dorset  
DT10 1JX

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**Deacon James Mackain-Bremner :**  
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**Deacon Michael Turnbull:**  
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**Parish Secretary**  
Harriet Cornwall  
[marnhull@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:marnhull@prcdtr.org.uk)  
Office hours: Mon/Weds/Fri 9am-1pm

**Parish Website**  
[www.marnhullandgillinghamrc.org.uk](http://www.marnhullandgillinghamrc.org.uk)

**Parish Safeguarding Rep**  
Barbara Turnbull  
07910 663392

The Catholic Safeguarding Resources  
<https://www.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk/parish-resources>

Our Lady's Church  
Old Mill Lane,  
Marnhull  
Dorset DT10 1JX

St Benedict's Church  
Cemetery Rd,  
Gillingham SP8 4AZ

**Parish School**  
St Mary's Primary School,  
Old Mill Lane, Marnhull, Dorset  
DT10 1JX

Day	Place	Time	Celebrating
Sun 17th March	Marnhull	9am Mass	Fifth Sunday of Lent
	Gillingham	11am Mass	
	Marnhull	6pm Mass	
Mon 18th March	Marnhull	9.30 Mass <i>followed by Rosary</i>	St Cyril of Jerusalem - Mem
	Gillingham	7pm Penitential Service	
Tues 19th March	Marnhull	9.30am Mass	St Joseph - Solemnity
	Gillingham	6pm Mass	
Weds 20th March	Gillingham	NO MASS	
Thurs 21st March	Marnhull	9.30am Mass <i>followed by Adoration</i>	
		7pm Penitential Service	
Fri 22nd March	Marnhull	3pm: Stations of the Cross	
	Gillingham	5pm Confession 5pm Stations of the Cross 6pm Mass	
Sat 23rd March	Marnhull	10am Mass <i>followed by Confession</i>	

**Sunday Readers** Our Lady's 9am: Paul & Jacintha; St Benedict's: Jill  
Our Lady's 6pm: Tony Bueno

**Please pray for those who are ill**

David Paris, Coral Harrow, Betty Walford, Joyce West, Barbara Frost, Tony White, Bob Horton, Hilary & Clive Drake, Jan Carson, Nigel & Sarah Mackay, Pippa Turnbull, Brian White, John Graham

**Penitential Services of Reconciliation on Monday 18th March at 7pm (St Benedict's) & Thursday 21st March at 7pm (Our Lady's)**

Father Joseph will be holding special services of Reconciliation. This is not a Mass but a service which involves readings and an examination of conscience read out by one of the Deacons - following the service there is an opportunity for individual confession - if you haven't been to Confession for a while and are perhaps nervous about going, this is a very good opportunity as everything is explained very clearly and written in the special little booklet, so you just need to follow the steps. Please be encouraged to attend this gentle and beautiful service.

**Plymouth Diocese Lenten Reflection** By Abbot David Charlesworth

Saint Augustine said he knew what time was until someone asked him what it was - then time became a mystery! Augustine was not talking about the time we tell from our watches and clocks. That sort of time is not really a mystery or a cause for much reflection. Augustine was concerned with the (cont.on back page)

**Confession:** Please ring Fr Joseph on 01258 820388 to arrange an appointment outside of the times listed above

If anyone knows anyone who is sick or housebound and would like a visit, please let Deacons know.

## Christmas Boxes 2023 - Thank you



If you would like to find out how the Christmas Boxes which we packed last year were distributed click on this link

[House of Opportunity](#)

which takes you to their website and [videos of Christmas box distributions here](#) - the videos are very moving. Once again, God Bless all those who contributed so generously. In advance, can anyone knit cosy scarves (not too bulky), hats & gloves for next Christmas? Annette. P.S: Keep buying shoes!

## Stella Maris Easter Egg Appeal

Please support the local Stella Maris Easter Egg Appeal by donating Easter Egg treats to seafarers in our local ports over Easter.



Stella Maris, the Catholic charity that supports Seafarers, is planning to give chocolate treats to crew aboard ships in port along the south coast over Easter. There will be many hundreds of seafarers passing through our ports and far away from home this Easter. It can be a very lonely time for them. The Port Chaplains are asking for any chocolate Easter Egg donations. **Please try to give your gifts to the parish office by Monday 18 March**, although donations are welcome after this date. The Southampton, Fawley and Portsmouth Port Chaplains will deliver your treats to the ships. Thank you.

## CAFOD Dorset Big Lent Walk



Last Saturday Marnhull and Gillingham parishes walked with Sherborne and Blandford parishes from Sturminster Newton railway to Shillingstone station (pictured above). A wonderful opportunity for our neighbouring parishes to come together and help raise vital funds for communities around the world fighting poverty - so far our parish raised £130 in sponsorship Thank you (Steve).

## PARISH FUNDRAISING SWEEPSTAKE 2024

Application forms are available in both churches from Sunday 3rd March, and also online via the website [here](#) Entries in by 31st March deadline please for inclusion in the April prize draw.

## CAFOD Fast Day collection

A big thank you to all our parishioners for your support of CAFOD. Our Lent Fast Day collection raised £909.83.

## Plymouth Diocese Lenten Reflection - Cont.

... meaning of our material and brief existence. Human beings endure time, so to speak, but we also live in time and want to find a meaning and purpose to our days. I suppose we cannot hope to understand our humanity without some insight into our relationship with time. Also we cannot hope to appreciate God's relationship with us without an understanding that He became one like us in history, that is in time.

Faith reveals that in this mystery, the Incarnation, the Word made flesh, lies the answer to the purpose and meaning of human history. It is revealed that the purpose of time is the movement of the individual and all creation towards the perfection and completeness of sharing Divinity. The cross of suffering and sacrifice, and the empty tomb of amazement and awe, are the symbols by which we are shown how we are to correctly consider the passing of our days. The victory of Christ illuminates our understanding of human history.

In Christ, therefore, we see our true and eternal destiny. Through Him we see the possibility of our re-formation and transfiguration; so that by the power of God's own Spirit we are adopted as His children. In this way we are offered a share in the victory of Jesus over our misdirected efforts and death. Every event in our lives, whether considered a victory or a defeat, takes on a different meaning when understood in the light of God's desire for us. Because of Jesus we cannot applaud or revere our present achievements nor despair over past failures.

Jesus said to them: "Now the hour has come." This is not the time for mundane activities, this is the announcement of the time of God's ultimate revelation. Now the "Son of man will be glorified." The strange and mysterious sign of this is the Cross. The tree of suffering will be the throne and final revelation of who God is. Only faith can approach the truth that in suffering is revealed the enduring love of our Creator. What is weak in human terms is the power and strength of God. Through grace this power and strength is given to us in our weakened state. Through the Cross true love is revealed to be sacrificial and is at the centre of the Divine nature. For more reflections from the Plymouth Diocese Lenten Offering, click the link below:

<https://email.workwithgusto.co.uk/t/0655178B860C7B022540EF23F30FEDED>

## Last Churches Together Lent Lunches and Talks

Methodist Church Marnhull, Pilwell at 12 noon: **March 22nd: Charity**

## Last Zoom Lent Course 2024 Friday's at 7pm

**22 March** The Raising of Lazarus Mr Gerard Gillespie.

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83445840521?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83445840521?pwd=K3IKRFVGBnY0eEMzc3pVMVhOcnFCdz09)

[pwd=K3IKRFVGBnY0eEMzc3pVMVhOcnFCdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83445840521?pwd=K3IKRFVGBnY0eEMzc3pVMVhOcnFCdz09)

**Meeting ID: 834 4584 0521 Passcode: 862737**

## Caritas Plymouth Event - An Evening of Reflection Care for creation on 20th March from 6pm at Catherine's

Catholic Church,,Wimborne BH21 1LE

email: [caritas@proctr.org.uk](mailto:caritas@proctr.org.uk)

## Important Dates coming up

24th March: Palm Sunday; 25th March 9.30am : Mass with

St Mary's School & Parish; 29th March: Good Friday;

31st March: Easter Day

## Walk of Witness Churches Together

Please join us on GOOD FRIDAY MORNING 29th MARCH 2024, 11.00 a.m. Starts outside The Barn Surgery.

**Caritas March Newsletter** upcoming events around our diocese [https:// tinyurl.com/2s3nevuz](https://tinyurl.com/2s3nevuz)

"O God, you are my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting" (Psalm 62)