



OUR LADY'S, MARNHULL & ST BENEDICT'S, GILLINGHAM

PARISH PRIEST: FATHER ONYEBUCHI CLETUS IBEKA

Deacons: Rev. Deacon James Mackain-Bremner

Rev. Deacon Michael Turnbull

Marnhull RC Parish is part of Plymouth Roman Catholic Diocese, Registered Charity No. 213227



17TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

26TH JULY 2026

Day	Place	Time	Celebrating	Intention
Sunday 26th July	Our Lady	9am Holy Mass	SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	
	St Benedict	11am Holy Mass		For Volunteers in the Parish
	Our Lady	6pm Holy Mass		
Monday 27th July	Our Lady	9.30am Holy Mass, followed by Rosary		
Tuesday 28th July		NO MASS		
Wednesday 29th July	St Benedict	10am Holy Mass followed by Rosary	SS Martha, Mary & Lazarus - Memoria	Francis & Diana Porteous, RiP
Thursday 30th July	Our Lady	9.30am Holy Mass followed by Benediction		.
Friday 31st July	St Benedict	5pm Confession, Benediction, Evening Prayer 6pm Holy Mass	St Ignatius of Loyola, Pr. Memoria	Private Intention
Saturday 1st August	Our Lady	10am Mass followed by Confession	St Alphonsus Liguori, Bp., Dr. - Memoria	

Please pray for those who are ill

David Paris, Joyce West, Tony White, Hilary Drake, Sarah Mackay, Brian White, John Graham, Jane Raw, Rory Herbert, Kay White, Frances Mowbray, Joyce Mitchell, Chris Williams, Petronella Sellick.

Our Lady's RC Church, Marnhull, Old Mill Lane, DT10 1JX
St Benedict's RC Church, High Street, Gillingham SP8 4AG

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Parish Secretary: Harriet Cornwall: marnhull@prcdtr.org.uk
01258 820388 or 07432 404358 (during office hours)

Parish Treasurer: Pam Snell: marnhull-treasurer@prcdtr.org.uk

Gift Aid Organiser: Paul Bowe marnhull-giftaid@prcdtr.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Barbara Turnbull 07910 663392
<https://www.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk/parish-resources>

Marnhull Parish Website: <https://www.marnhullandgillinghamrc.org.uk/>

St Mary's RC Primary School, Marnhull:
office@stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk 01258 820417

Sunday Readers: 9am: Pam; 11am: Barbara; 6pm: Tony

Please remember to turn off your mobile phone before you enter the Church.

Congratulations to Chloe & Ryan who were married in St Benedict's Church on Saturday 25th July.



Please pray for the soul of

Fr Jon Bielawski
who died on 22nd July

RiP

"Our prayers are with his family and friends, especially the parishioners of Crownhill, Southway and Yelverton and all the many parishes in which he served so generously across the Diocese these last 36 years. Details of the funeral arrangements and an obituary will be published in due course on the Diocesan website."

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord; and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

Rt Rev. Nicholas Hudson

****New** What does it mean to be a Catholic ? In our next Sycamore Session, we will be discussing "The Holy Spirit and the Church" on Monday 27th July at 7pm in St Benedict's Parish Hall**

Sycamore is a programme of teaching in St Benedict's covering all aspects of being a Catholic. It is intended for any of us who could do with a 'brush up', those who have been away from the Church for a while and for anyone who is interested in learning more. All are welcome for stimulating discussion and refreshments! Please speak to one of the clergy if you are interested in joining.

****New** Inauguration of the Legion of Mary in our Parish**

You are invited to the inaugural meeting of the Legion of Mary in St Benedict's parish hall, on the Friday 7th August at 7pm. The Legion of Mary is a lay association of Catholics which through their prayerful action serve the parish by way of any apostolic and missionary activity such as the visiting the sick and housebound. Founded in 1921 it has spread worldwide. Please click on the link attached for further information on the Legion [Legion of Mary](#).

****New** 50:50 Club July Draw**

1st Prize £ 70	No. 1	Maria Baker
2nd Prize £50	No. 66	Rita Nardone
3rd Prize £40	No. 34	Maggie Foster

****New** Our parish 'Small Book' Club** will resume on 3rd September at Our Lady's. Our recommendation this week is: **"He and I" by Gabrielle Bossis (1874-1950)**, known by friends and acquaintances for her vivacious personality and infectious laughter, her journals revealed a rich spiritual life. "In this timeless spiritual classic, readers share in the profound and touching experience of Gabrielle Bossis, a French nurse and playwright, as she hears the inner voice of Jesus in the core of her being. Recorded in her diary from 1936

to 1950, their tender exchanges capture Jesus' enduring presence in our daily lives, his insistence on serving others with kindness, and his encompassing love for humanity – and show that ordinary men, women, and children can experience an intimacy with Christ. Happy summer reading! Please speak to Tony Moore 07967 592849 if you have any questions about the book club.

****New** Please contact your MP to oppose assisted suicide**

In April 2026, the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill fell at the end of the Parliamentary session having failed to complete its passage through Parliament. However, Lauren Edwards MP has now reintroduced essentially the same Bill, with **Second Reading scheduled for Friday 11th September**. It appears that the assisted suicide lobby is intending to invoke the Parliament Acts, whereby if the House of Lords rejects the same Bill in two consecutive Parliamentary sessions, it can be passed without their consent. **If MPs reject the Bill at Second Reading, it will not progress further. That is why the next few weeks are so important.** We have **just a small window of time to persuade MPs to reject the Bill**. Much of this time falls over the summer recess, which means MPs are spending more time in their constituencies. That makes the summer one of the best opportunities to **meet** or **write** to your MP before the September vote. **Here are some SPUC links to help you:**

[How-to-defeat-the-Terminally-Ill-Adults-End-of-Life-Bill-A-guide-to-lobbying-your-MP-in-person-JULY-2026.pdf](#)

[WEB-TERMINALLY-ILL-ADULTS-END-OF-LIFE-Bill-JULY-2026.pdf](#)

[Who-says-the-Bill-is-unsafe-JULY-2026.pdf](#)

Hand written letters carry more impact but If you prefer to send your letter online, the charity Right to Life UK has a simple online mechanism to do this. It takes little more than a few minutes to enter your postcode, make sure the suggested text suits your viewpoint and submit your message to ask your MP to stop this flawed Bill progressing through parliament. For more information and resources, visit: cbcew.org.uk/opposing-assisted-suiciderighttolife.org.uk/Sept11vote.

Choir at Our Lady's during August

During the month of August, the 9.00am choir at Our Lady's will be having a little rest. There will be no sung Psalm/Mass parts and usually no organist. Could the Sunday reader please read the Responsorial Psalm and Gospel Acclamation. There will still be the usual four hymns and we would like to give the congregation the chance to request a hymn of their choosing. The hymn must be in the Celebration Hymnal that we use and should be one which most people know (even better if it can be matched to the readings for the day). Members of the choir will start off the hymns. Clipboards will be available in the porch and the side chapel for those who would like to make a request and will be collected after morning mass on Sunday 26th July. We hope that this opportunity will be welcomed by the congregation.

New SPUC Branch for Shaftesbury and North Dorset

There is now a new SPUC branch for North Dorset which will meet regularly to understand and enable us to engage with others regarding pro-life issues. For more information talk to Annette on 07986 301357 or email Sam Peters on secretary.spuc.shaftesbury@gmail.com. **There will be a Rosary every fortnight on Thursday at 7pm outside Shaftesbury Abbey gates - the next Rosary will be on Thursday 30th July.**

A message from Fr Chris Findlay-Wilson: "We are planning a day-return coach for the Eucharistic Congress in London 10th October. It would leave Plymouth at 5am and pick up at Exeter Services - and possibly Taunton or Wincanton" There are currently 32 places available - please contact Fr Chris if you're interested in going 01202 746539

www.catholicparkstone.org

Catechetical Summer Camp 2026, 27th - 31st July, Buckfast Abbey

At this years Summer Camp young people **aged 9-12** will explore Pope Francis and Pope Leo's Dilexi Te - 'I love you'. Summer camp has been enjoyed by many generations and it is a great way for young people to meet other from across the Diocese and gain a sense of belonging to the Diocesan and Catholic family. Cost £150 per person. To book: [Summer Camp 2026 - Fill in form](#) For further information please contact: summercamps@procdtr.org.uk NB: If you want to go but are worried to go on your own, you are welcome to bring a friend - they don't need to be a Catholic.

****New** Plymouth Diocese Newsletter**

<https://email.workwithgusto.co.uk/t/t-47E6F88D98A22DCD2540EF23F30FEDED>



Cashless Giving machine at Our Lady's Please do consider using it as it's a very convenient way to support the Parish if you don't carry cash to Mass.

St Benedict's Maintenance fund; www.marnhullandgillinghamrc.org.uk/new-church-in-gillingham - **Thank you.**