



# 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



### FOURTH WEEK OF LENT

### 10TH MARCH 2024

**Please contact us:**

The Presbytery  
 Old Mill Lane  
 Marnhull  
 Dorset  
 DT10 1JX

Tel: 01258 820388  
[marnhull@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:marnhull@prcdtr.org.uk)

**Fr Joseph**  
[Joseph.nwiboko@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:Joseph.nwiboko@prcdtr.org.uk)

**Deacon James Mackain-Bremner :**  
[james.mackain-bremner@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:james.mackain-bremner@prcdtr.org.uk)

**Deacon Michael Turnbull:**  
[michael.turnbull@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:michael.turnbull@prcdtr.org.uk)

**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

[www.stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk](http://www.stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk)  
[office@stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk)

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

Day	Place	Time	Celebrating
Sun 10th March	Marnhull	9am Mass	Fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday)
	Gillingham	11am Mass	
	Marnhull	6pm Mass	
Mon 11th March	Marnhull	9.30 Mass <i>followed by Rosary</i>	
Tues 12th March		NO MASS	
Weds 13th March	Gillingham	10am Mass <i>followed by Rosary</i>	
Thurs 14th March	Marnhull	NO MASS	
Fri 15th March	Marnhull	3pm: Stations of the Cross	
	Gillingham	5pm Confession 5pm Stations of the Cross 6pm Mass	
Sat 16th March	Marnhull	10am Mass <i>followed by Confession</i>	
<p><b>Sunday Readers</b> Our Lady's 9am: Charles &amp; Pam; St Benedict's: Rupert; Our Lady's 6pm: Jacintha</p>			

**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

✠

Please pray for the repose of the soul of

**Michael Hirons**

Who died on 24th February 2024

*Michael's funeral Mass will take place on 12th March at 11.30am in Our Lady's Church, Marnhull*

**May he rest in peace**

**Stations of the Cross continue on Fridays throughout Lent:**

**3pm at Our Lady's, Marnhull**

**5pm at St Benedict's, Gillingham**

*St Alphonsus Liguori booklets are provided.*

**Please do come and take part in this beautiful Lenten devotion.**

**On Mothering Sunday & Laetare Sunday 10th March**

*Let us pray for new parents and grandparents, that they may manifest the love and mercy of God to their children and grandchildren. Lord hear us.*

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

## Update on the New Church

We have now taken possession of the new church in Gillingham High Street. Renovation and conversion, taking approximately 6 months, will prepare the building for Catholic worship and community uses (within the mission of the Church). We have appointed a project manager, Philip Hughes Associates of Wincanton who will be responsible for all the internal and external works, and he will be supervised by Plymouth Diocese Property Commission and Father Joseph. Planning permission is being sought to convert a portion of the ancillary church facilities into priests' residential accommodation (a presbytery), and to form a new vehicular access and parking area off Barnaby Mead. We have had positive feedback from Dorset County Council for our initial planning enquiry. We will be creating a beautiful Sanctuary, installing a Confessional, creating a Sacristy, Vestry and Parish Office. The dedication (name) of the church will be decided in due course by the Bishop of Plymouth.

From a redundant Army church, we have acquired, a beautiful altar, font and ambo made from Portland Stone, and they are stored with the stonemason. Some repair works to the building will start very soon.

The intention is to enable this building to be converted, repaired and strengthened to sustainably meet the spiritual and pastoral needs of the community for many years to come.

Once up and running this means that within our parish we will have the oldest and the newest churches in the diocese. Our Lady's Marnhull is an historical and spiritual gem and it will remain the parish church and Mass will continue to be celebrated there. The new church will meet the varied and growing needs of our parish.

**Praise be to God.**

## New Church Inventory - Volunteers Needed!

We will be conducting a full inventory of the contents of the new church on **Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> March starting at 9.30am.** This is a considerable amount of work and any help would be most welcome, please volunteer if you can and let Deacon James know.



## Our Parish School's Lenten journey...

Mrs Betts writes "During half term, Ash Wednesday started our Lenten observance. On their return to school, the children took part in our first liturgy of Lent and

were given a gift of a little activity booklet for Lent. Please do look over this with your children. In our classes, we have reflected on the meaning of Lent; that it's a time to get ourselves ready to meet Jesus Risen from the dead at Easter and so to prepare, we can do something extra or give something up – this demonstrates that we have a change of heart so that we can live in the right relationship with God and each other.

**We have also agreed on the date for our next Day of Faith – Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March. This will start with a Whole School Mass in the church with Fr Joseph** and followed by different activities which Mrs Myatt and the GIFT team will plan for the day. This day is always very thought provoking and gives the children a chance to pray and reflect. I can't think of a better way to start Holy Week.

## Plymouth Diocese Lenten Offerings

Here is the link to the latest Lenten Offering:  
<https://email.workwithgusto.co.uk/t/t-0655178B860C7B022540EF23F30FEDED>

**PRO-LIFE OPPORTUNITY** – This is a timely pro-life opportunity for us to support an amendment to our abortion law which would reduce the time limit for legal abortion from 24 weeks to 22 weeks. Babies born prematurely at 22 weeks are thriving so there is a contradiction in our abortion law. Please collect a postcard today from the back of the church and post it to your MP in support of the amendment. And SPUC ACT NOW to end the deadly pills-by-post DIY abortion policy - please take a postcard at the back of the church.

## Penitential Services of Reconciliation

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm (St Benedict's) & Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> 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.

## PARISH FUNDRAISING SWEEPSTAKE 2024

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

## The Churches Together Lent Lunches and Talks

Methodist Church Marnhull, Pilwell at 12 noon, followed by lunch: **March 15<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>: Charity** talk by Methodists

## A Zoom Lent Course 2024 on Fridays at 7pm

**Zoom open from 6.30pm, Talk starts at 7pm**

15 March The Man born blind Fr Ignatius Raj SDM  
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 on Care for Creation on 20<sup>th</sup> March from 6pm

at Catherine's Catholic Church, Wimborne BH21 1LE  
Would you like to hear what actions Diocese of Plymouth is taking and to share your thoughts about what more we can do to fulfil our obligation as stewards of creation? Numbers are limited so people are invited to register here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/XtkJe1eeGq>

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

## National Board of Catholic Women Webinars

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2024** The National Board of Catholic Women invites you to a WEBINAR, organised by the Women in the Church Committee 11.00am- 12.45pm . Entitled Women and Synodality it will be given by the Diocese of Northampton's pastoral ministry advisor, Avril Baigent, and Helen Burgess, who is a a NBCW Diocesan link for the Northampton Diocese and Lead Chaplain at the University of Bedfordshire. **Zoom meeting ID: 837 4601 1046**

**Passcode: 860417**

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2024, 11am- 12.30. PRAYING WITH ICONS**, the talk will be given by Patricia Stoat from Nottingham Diocese. Patricia is an experienced speaker on theology and spirituality and has been praying with icons for many years. **Zoom Meeting ID : Meeting ID: 812 6225 3037**

**Passcode: 927726**