

OUR LADY'S MARNHULL AND ST BENEDICT'S GILLINGHAM

Marnhull RC Parish is part of Plymouth Roman Catholic Diocese – Registered Charity No. 213227 www.plymouth-diocese.org.uk
Safeguarding: Barbara Turnbull 01747 822779/07971 338339. The Catholic Safeguarding Folder located at <http://www.csas.uk.net/resource-area>

7TH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME. 20TH FEBRUARY, 2022

Parish website: www.marnhullandgillinghamrc.org.uk admin@marnhullandgillinghamrc.org.uk	St Mary's Primary School, Old Mill Lane, Marnhull, Dorset. DT10 1JX www.stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk office@stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk
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Day	Place	Time	Celebrating	Intention
Sunday Masses:				
	Marnhull	9.30 a.m.	Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time	
	Gillingham	11.00 a.m.		
	Marnhull	6 p.m.		
Monday	Marnhull	No Mass		
Tuesday		No Mass		
Wednesday	Gillingham	No Mass		
Thursday		No Mass		
Friday	Gillingham	Adoration only, 5.00 – 5.45 p.m		
Saturday		No Mass		

From Thursday 17th February until Saturday 26th February inclusive there will not be Holy Mass in this parish except at the usual times on Sunday 20th February. Normal services resume on Sunday 27th February.

Please pray for those who are ill: Ellen and David Paris, Brendan Colohan, Coral Harrow, Betty Walford, Joyce West, Sarah Mackay, Barbara Frost, Tony Timoney-White, Bob Horton, Robert Carson, Hilary & Clive Drake, Eileen Chimes, Jeremy Cusden.



World Day of Prayer (A Women led, global, ecumenical movement)
This year, composed by the women of England, Wales and Northern Ireland.
Friday 4th March, 2022

Sturminster Newton: 2.30 p.m. in the Methodist Church
Gillingham: 2.30 p.m. in St. Mary's Anglican Church

“What is God saying to the Church?”
Everyone is welcome to gather in Our Lady's chapel room on **Tuesday 1st March at 6 p.m.** to join in the online event organized by Divine Renovation. To find out about the event, please visit:
<https://www.divinerenovation.org/what-is-god-saying-event/>
As it is Shrove Tuesday, we hope to follow this with something of a **Mardi Gras Party**, each bringing some food to share. Tony Moore is coordinating this for us, so please contact him for further details. If you don't have his contacts, get in touch with Fr. Francis



Secondhand book sale in aid of CAFOD (Walk Against Hunger Campaign) I am holding a secondhand book sale on Friday and Saturday 11/12 March. Venue: Dunsar Fold, Hawkesdene Lane, Shaftesbury SP7 8NU I am collecting unwanted adult and childrens books: paperback/ hardback. Please bring to church and mark for my attention or message me to collect. Many thanks. Steve Carrivick. mob: 07887988123. Please support this event.

It was gratifying to see about twenty people attend the Parish meeting to prepare our response to the Synod process on Saturday 12th February. We began by thinking about St. Luke's Gospel Chapter 8 verses 11 – 18 and then said the synod prayer. Fr. Francis asked us to think for a few minutes about what we do well in the parish and what we would like to do even better. Very much appreciation was voiced for the efforts of everyone to be a united, friendly, welcoming community with beautiful, well-kept churches and a notable enthusiasm for learning more about our faith and sharing it with others. We also came up with many ideas of things we'd like to do even better. In no particular order, they were:

- Drawing in the people on the margins. One way of encouraging this would be to restrict attendance at parish events to those who bring a 'stranger' with them.
- Attending funerals of parishioners we don't know, as well as baptisms and other sacramental initiation
- Being ready to talk to people, just a friendly word, and ready to 'give a reason for the hope we have'
- Create opportunities for people to come into church when they are upset

- Taking more seriously Jesus' command to spread the Gospel; accept that it's not an optional extra to our Christian life.
- Building on our neighbourliness
- Develop St. Vincent de Paul links, reaching out to those who are alone, in care homes, in prison
- Provide facilities in Gillingham for meetings and social events
- Encourage more people to stay for coffee after the 0930 Sunday Mass in Marnhull
- Drawing all the parishioners more into a sense of being a community
- Involving the young people, perhaps by having a young peoples' choir in Gillingham
- "To live is to change; to be perfect is to have changed often." We must guard against complacency.
- Help for young Mums while their children are being prepared for the sacraments
- Help newcomers to have a sense of belonging in our church.
- Engage in life-long formation

Welcome newcomers and visitors. You can find out more about our parish on our website – address at top of this page.

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News from our parish school

Mrs. Betts, our headteacher, writes:



The whole school community took part in this year's Place2be children's mental health week. St Anthony's were reminded that we grow both emotionally and physically, as we get older we learn how to manage our different emotions.

The children created their own 'Support Balloons' and considered the people in their lives who help them to grow. These were the people they turn to when things get tough or they need support. They included their parent, siblings, pets and teachers.

In science the children have been learning about materials, they are able to name different materials and talk about their properties.

As a challenge they were tasked to create paper bridges seeing if paper could be strong. They discovered that folding paper in different ways could create a strong bridge. Some of our children are definitely engineers of the future!

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Celebration in Gillingham.

Our church has been invited to nominate two representatives to take part in a Civic Parade and Civic Service on Friday 3rd June 2022. The parade will leave School Road at 11 a.m. and proceed along the High Street to the Anglican church. The Service will conclude at noon and the parade will reform and return to the Town Hall.

Please speak to Fr. Francis if you would like to represent us.

All are welcome to join in the Church Service.



Covid 19—a very challenging time for many marriages.

So much uncertainty around, health, income, employment, vulnerable family members, children, housing. Different ways of seeing things, coping with change, managing fears can be a source of conflict and stress. It can be difficult to talk, to listen to support and comfort when there is so much uncertainty. Being together all the time, brings different challenges. You wonder would we be better apart?

Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples, it brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage ...and you don't need to leave home, it comes to you! For confidential information about Retrouvaille, or to register for the next programme, a Virtual weekend commencing **3rd – 6th March 2022** Call or text +44 788 729 6983.

Email: retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.org – or visit www.retrouvaille.uk



There may be those, who need to explore, make sense or reflect on the presence of God in their everyday lives, during the present challenging times, or perhaps in the more painful moments experienced recently. These retreats provide opportunities to do so.

Residential - Ignatian Individually Guided Retreats organised by the Plymouth Diocesan Ignatian Spirituality Group Members of the Ignatian Spirituality Group are experienced guides, who have received training in relation to Ignatian spirituality and include priests, deacons and lay people.

LENTEN- RESIDENTIAL SILENT RETREATS - Honiton

4th - 6th March (Fri – Sun) Weekend Retreat (£150)

7th - 11th March (Mon – Fri) Midweek Retreat (£240)

4th - 11th March (Fri to Fri) 6 day Retreat (£450)

The Group continues to offer one-to-one days of accompanied prayer i.e. online or by phone, to suit people's individual circumstances.

For further information, or to book those who are interested can contact the Diocesan Ignatian Spirituality Group by email diocesan-ignatian-retreats@prcdtr.org.uk or telephone: 01752 769164 or 07823447637.



PARISH SWEEPSTAKE 2022 To continue with this fun method of raising parish funds the **SWEEPSTAKE 2022** applications are available in both of our churches, to download from the bottom of Parish [Website](#) Newsletter, or email by contacting Pam Snell on marnhull-treasurer@prcdtr.org.uk Costs £20 for the whole year. Prizes £10-£40

Plant a Tree for the Jubilee

There is a great opportunity to take action during the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II. All schools and parishes can participate in a national tree planting project - the Queen's Green Canopy (QGC). The project aims "to create a legacy in honour of The Queen's leadership of the Nation, which will benefit future generations." The Queen's Green Canopy is a country-wide tree planting initiative. You can find out more about how to get involved here <https://www.plymouth-diocese.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Plant-a-Tree-for-the-Jubilee.pdf>

Be ready to help stop assisted suicide amendment

Right To Life UK has had a challenging and busy month, with the assisted suicide lobby attempting to hijack the Government's Health and Care Bill and force them to lay an assisted suicide bill before Parliament within a year of the Bill passing into law.

We are asking parishioners to sign up to our Action Alerts, so they can effectively participate in our efforts to stop this amendment passing, and others like it.

You can do so by visiting the following link:

www.righttolife.org.uk/#action-alerts

'Stay Awake' is taking place for the fourth year on **Saturday 23rd April, 2022** - in-person - at The Thomas Hardye School, Dorchester, from 10:00 – 19:00. It will be a day of inspiring and encouraging talks, Mass, praise and worship, kids' activities, fellowship - all of this will allow ourselves to go deeper with Jesus and build Christian discipleship! There will be pizza in the evening for dinner (and garlic bread and dips)! This is an event for everyone and anyone. **Tickets are free for those in Year 9 and under and only £10 for everyone else!** Please see www.stayawakejc.com for more information and to **book tickets!**

Welcome newcomers and visitors. You can find out more about our parish on our website – address at top of this page.