

# 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](http://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>

## FOURTH WEEK OF LENT. 27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2022

<b>Parish website:</b> <a href="http://www.marnhullandgillinghamrc.org.uk">www.marnhullandgillinghamrc.org.uk</a> <a href="mailto:admin@marnhullandgillinghamrc.org.uk">admin@marnhullandgillinghamrc.org.uk</a>		St Mary's Primary School, Old Mill Lane, Marnhull, Dorset. DT10 1JX <a href="http://www.stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk">www.stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk</a> <a href="mailto:office@stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk">office@stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk</a>		
Day	Place	Time	Celebrating	Intention
Sunday Masses:				
	Marnhull	9.30 a.m.	<b>Fourth Sunday of Lent (Laetare Sunday)</b>	<i>Andrew Swann RIP</i>
	Gillingham	11.00 a.m.		
	Marnhull	6 p.m.		
Monday	Marnhull	9.30 a.m. followed by rosary	Lent	<i>Simon Hampson</i>
Tuesday		No Mass		
Wednesday	Gillingham	10 a.m. followed by rosary	Lent	<i>Thanksgiving for marriage of Coral &amp; Johnny Harrow</i>
Thursday	Marnhull	9.30 a.m.	Lent	<i>Brian Straw RIP</i>
Friday	Gillingham	<i>Adoration &amp; opportunity for confession. 5.00 – 5.45 p.m. Mass 6 p.m.</i>	Lent	<i>Kristián &amp; Frank Faktor</i>
Saturday	Marnhull	10 a.m. Mass followed by confessions	Lent	

**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.

The Holy Week Services will take place at St. Benedict's, Gillingham this year:

Maundy Thursday	14 <sup>th</sup> April	6.30 p.m.	Mass of the Lord's Supper
Good Friday	15 <sup>th</sup> April	3 p.m.	Celebration of the Lord's Passion
Holy Saturday	16 <sup>th</sup> April	11 a.m.	Blessing of Food
		8.30 p.m.	The Easter Vigil

**From the end of the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday until the Easter Vigil, the Sacraments of the Church are not celebrated except in extremis. The Sacrament of Confession will therefore not be available on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> or Saturday 16<sup>th</sup>**

Stations of the Cross will be prayed in both of our churches at 3 p.m. on each of the Sundays of Lent and at 7 p.m. on Zoom on Thursdays during Lent. Please contact Fr. Francis by email if you would like to receive the link for the Thursday Zoom

### Churches Together in Marnhull

It's amazing how time flies, isn't it: just two Fridays left before Holy Week, so two more gatherings in the Methodist Church at noon for a reflection, sometimes\* followed by a Lent lunch. All welcome:

1 <sup>st</sup> April	Charity
8 <sup>th</sup> April	The Crucifixion*



*At the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday the liturgy will include the washing of the feet. Fr. Francis asks you to tell him if you would like to take part. Ideally we will have 12 men, women and children to represent the whole parish in this beautiful and moving act of love.*

Mauro Ianicelli, who presented the Bible Timeline webinars, is offering his talk "Prayer as a rule of life," to us all as a fitting encouragement to our Lenten devotions. To watch, please visit [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FLh\\_XbVUIEQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FLh_XbVUIEQ)

Last Friday, Jacinta Bowe gave the reflection. This time it was on the subject of Compassion. She invited us to reflect on the full meaning of compassion as evoked by Jesus in his Sermon on the Plain, especially Luke 6: 37-38: "Do not judge, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn, and you will not be condemned..."

Jesus' notion of compassion goes to the root meaning of the word – sharing suffering – and is thus very challenging. It involves going with people to the place where they are hurting: mourning with the lonely, becoming vulnerable with those who are vulnerable. So sympathy and empathy are not enough; we have to stand in the shoes of the other; suffer with them; set aside any desire for power or dominance. Contrary to those who see such compassion as sadomasochism, Jesus shows us that it is through being compassionate that our humanity grows to its fullest expression.

Jacinta shared the insights of contemporary Christian writers on mental qualities which can lead us to true compassion: Self awareness; trying to be fully present to the other; conscious of our human tendency to label people; not content with good intentions, but prepared to act. The spiritual qualities which bring compassion within our grasp include: Do not judge; be ready to turn the other cheek; forgive; mindfulness.

Jacinta also reminded us that effective Christian action is never a one-person show; we can and should draw strength for deep compassion from prayer and the support of our Christian community.

About 20 people listened to Jacinta and appreciated the work she put into her reflection. The photo shows some of them. Many then shared very tasty soup, cheese and bread, taking the opportunity to get to know our fellow Christians better.



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

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

## News from our parish school

Mrs. Betts, our headteacher, writes:



The children of St. Anthony's class have bounced back this half term full of enthusiasm for learning. In science we are learning all about plants. The children went on a plant hunt around the school grounds. They found a variety of plants noticing the different shaped leaves, the length and thickness of stems and the variety of flowers. They recorded what they found making their own jottings trying to show these differences. In maths the children are really enjoying 'Calculation Fridays'! We have been really impressed with their independence and ability to choose their own methods when calculating.

## CAFOD Update

Our parish has sent £1,858.61 to CAFOD this week. Thank you for your tremendous support of the **CAFOD Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal** and **Lent Fast Day Appeal** to help in the relief of hunger and poverty. CAFOD is supporting its partners:

- **Caritas SPES**, a charity of the Religious Mission of the Roman Catholic Church in Ukraine, is helping children and families to reach safe locations. They are also distributing humanitarian aid in their centres across the country and to people who have fled to the borders.
- **Caritas Poland, Caritas Romania and Caritas Moldova** are all supporting people who have fled Ukraine and are in need of food, water, shelter and means to continue their journeys to safety

Your donations have an immediate effect in supporting the millions of families who have been forced to flee their homes. Thank you and best wishes, Steve Carrivick

At least two Catholic families in the vicinity are preparing to welcome **refugees from the Ukraine** and we congratulate them for their generosity and kindness. I know that our parish will be ready to respond if additional support is needed, just as many have already given money and goods to help those who are struggling in that war-torn country. Caritas Plymouth stands ready to offer training and information (particularly safeguarding, but also other areas of good practice) to any parish group which wishes to support a family moving into the home of a parishioner. <https://www.plymouth-diocese.org.uk/ukraine-crisis/>

With the support and encouragement of our Bishops, Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN) has put together a lot of information and advice for those who are contemplating offering accommodation to Ukrainian refugees in their home or other property. It is available here: <https://www.csan.org.uk/ukraine/> They and Caritas Plymouth can help further with signposting to sources of additional support. However, they make the point that those who offer accommodation are taking on a serious personal responsibility and so must consider carefully whether they are able to do so for a lengthy period of time before making the offer.

CSAN advises: "Potential sponsors should be fully aware of what they are being asked to do, and whether this is something that they are able to commit to. You will need to consider the impact that offering a room in your home could have on your life and what it may take to support someone. We recommend that any potential host researches the support that people fleeing conflict may need and what is available in their area, or build connections locally to offer support prior to sponsoring, for example with a local refugee action group and/or a charity that works with refugees and asylum seekers.

People fleeing from Ukraine have very recently suffered intense trauma. They have fled their homes, livelihoods and likely left family members behind in a situation of extreme uncertainty and danger. You should be prepared for the possibility of the refugee(s) you are hosting experiencing psychological trauma which may require medical attention."

The March Newsletter of the coordinators of the **Synodal Process** in the Diocese is now available as an attachment to all who receive the parish newsletter by email. Please ask Fr. Francis if you would like a copy. Over 700 different contributions have been received and the co-contacts describe the emerging themes in this way:

"A whole host of issues have been discussed – people's views on the structures of the Church, how we walk together as a People of God; how we encounter others and reach out; how we communicate; how we practice our faith; the role of Priests and Laity; the importance of the youth; inclusion and diversity; tradition and modernity; gender issues; LGBTQ+; safeguarding and abuse; leadership and Mission. The listening journey has highlighted many different points of view on all these issues but there has been an almost universal welcome for the process of Synodality and a hope that we can continue to walk together, listening to each other and the Holy Spirit and engaging in dialogue to strengthen the Mission of the Church."

## Stay Awake **Saturday 23rd April**

The new venue is **All Saints Church of England Academy, Sunnyside Road, Weymouth, DT4 9BJ**

Tickets are free for those in Year 9 and under and only £10 for everyone else! Visit [www.stayawakejc.com](http://www.stayawakejc.com) for information and to book tickets

## The Sturminster Choral Society

Presents Rossini - Petite Messe Solennelle St Mary's Church Sturminster Newton 7<sup>th</sup> May 7.30pm. Tickets are £10 each and can be obtained in advance by calling 01258 820755 or, subject to availability, on the door.

## **CONTEMPLATIVE RETREAT Plymouth Diocesan Ignatian Spirituality Group**

**St. Rita's Centre, Honiton, Devon. EX14 1AP. 6<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> May 2022** Donations invited: £400 includes full board. All rooms single & en suite. Contact: Paddy Rylands [paddyrylands@gmail.com](mailto:paddyrylands@gmail.com) or 01492 868616 for further details and application form or visit: <https://www.stritascentre.org/events/contemplative-retreat>

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