

OUR LADY'S MARNHULL AND ST BENEDICT'S GILLINGHAM

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FIRST WEEK OF LENT. 6TH MARCH, 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.	First Sunday of Lent	<i>Fay Baker</i>
	Gillingham	11.00 a.m.		
	Marnhull	6 p.m.		
Monday	Marnhull	9.30 a.m. followed by rosary	Lent	<i>Fr. Martin Budge</i>
Tuesday		No Mass		
Wednesday	Gillingham	10 a.m. followed by rosary	Lent	<i>The Henderson family</i>
Thursday	Marnhull	9.30 a.m.	Lent	<i>Betty Walford</i>
Friday	Gillingham	<i>Adoration & opportunity for confession. 5.00 – 5.45 p.m. Mass 6 p.m.</i>	Lent	
Saturday	Marnhull	10 a.m. Mass followed by confessions	Lent	<i>Jock & Helen Brazier</i>

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.

Churches Together in Marnhull

During Lent, we meet in the Methodist Church on Fridays at noon for a reflection, sometimes* followed by a Lent lunch:
Last Friday, our own Jacinta Bowe gave a very good talk on Forgiveness, contrasting the Christian attitude to virtue with that of the classical philosophers and our present secular culture in the West. It was well received by a sizeable audience drawn from all the Christian Churches in the vicinity.

11 th March	Forgiveness*
18 th March	Compassion*
25 th March	Compassion*
1 st April	Charity
8 th April	The Crucifixion*

Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal

The situation in Ukraine is one we cannot ignore. As Lent begins, we're all shocked by the situation unfolding in Ukraine. People are separating from their loved ones and fleeing the country, simply to survive.

Our sister organisation, **Caritas Ukraine, and other Caritas agencies in neighbouring countries**, are already on the ground helping people affected by this conflict. **Caritas Ukraine** has 19 centres across the country. They are extremely experienced, having been active for 30 years and have been responding to the conflict in eastern Ukraine since 2014. **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.

They are providing food, blankets and warm clothes to families who have been forced to leave everything behind. Whatever you can give today will help us reach more families with urgent assistance. Please continue to pray for our sisters and brothers in Ukraine.



Your support today will have a direct impact on the people of Ukraine. You can donate today directly on the CAFOD website. <https://cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news/Ukraine-crisis>

The Government will match pound for pound donations by the public up to £20 Million

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



Synodal Process

Tony and Mary Moore, together with Deacons Mike and James, represented our parish at the meeting organised by the Diocese in Poole on Saturday 26th February. Tony has kindly written an account of the day. This is attached to the newsletter email and is available on the Parish website.



For a synodal Church
communion | participation | mission

Secondhand book sale in aid of CAFOD

I am holding a secondhand book sale on Friday and Saturday 11/12 March. Venue: Dunscair Fold, Hawkesdene Lane, Shaftesbury SP7 8NU. Thank you for your donations of books; I have all the books I can manage now.
Steve Carrivick

Encountering the Spirit - a five-week journey through Lent, reflecting on the Sunday gospels, starting on Thursday 10th March from 7:30-9:00pm on Zoom. For further information please contact: Deacon Roger and Jackie, jcarrjones@icloud.com or 07948 516854.

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:

With the easing of Covid restrictions, the whole school was able to gather together in the school hall for the blessing and distribution of ashes on Ash Wednesday. It was wonderful to all be together in prayer as we begin our Lenten observance. The children introduced the liturgy, bringing candle, bible and cross to our altar. We then reflected on the meaning of the ashes, that wearing them shows that we want to turn away from anything which keeps us from God, and to have a change of heart so that we can live in right relationship with God and each other. We listened to the Gospel in which Jesus tells us to pray and fast, not to make a show of ourselves, but so that our "Father, who sees all that is done in private, will reward" us. Father Francis talked about the meaning of Lent; that it's a time to get ourselves ready to meet Jesus Risen from the dead at Easter. He then blessed the ashes and asked one of the children to put some on his head before doing the same for all the children and the staff. The children then prayed for those who haven't enough to live on, for their teachers and friends, for people who are sick, for those who are lonely and for people who have died. We ended with a special prayer for all involved in the sad things which are happening in Ukraine.

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.

I'm very grateful to Rogie for volunteering to represent us; I'd be most grateful if someone would come forward to join her
Fr. Francis

Plans are underway for a group of young people from our diocese to attend World Youth Day. It is a fantastic opportunity for those who will be 16 upwards by August 2023. World Youth Day will be held in Lisbon. Further information can be found on their website: <https://www.lisboa2023.org/en/> Some young people have already expressed interest in coming, if you think you would like to join us or know someone who would please email Saskia at youth@prcdtr.org.uk



It was a real delight to see about 20 parishioners answer the call to gather for a live broadcast of a conversation between Bishop Robert Barron, Father James Mallon and Rev. Nicky Gumble which addressed the question: What is God saying to the Church right now? Sadly, Tony Moore, who had been due to deal with the IT, had been 'pinged' so was unable to be with us. This meant a few frantic moments as I battled with wires and laptops and TV screens, but the gremlins were subdued in good time so that we only missed a minute or two of introductions. I have transcribed the main points of what was said and these are circulated with the newsletter email and available on the parish website. At the end we agreed that the webcast had inspired us, given us some ideas of what could be done and that we intend to take action on evangelisation and respond in faith to the current situation. So watch this space! As it was Shrove Tuesday, we continued our lively conversation over some wonderful food and drink. We had a great time, building our friendship and finding unity and support, rejuvenated in our faith and our commitment to share our Good News.

Fr. Francis



This course is a five session group study course which traces the theme of care for those who are homeless and vulnerable through the Bible, from the Law and the prophets of the Old Testament to the life and teaching of Jesus and his first followers. It also provides information that explains the causes, factors and circumstances that lead to people becoming homeless today, and information about how Alabaré is providing support for those who need it. You can access it free of charge on the churches page of our website: <https://www.alabare.co.uk/bible-study-course>

Stay Awake with a 'NEW VENUE' is taking place on **Saturday 23rd April** - just 2 months' time!

Due to unforeseen circumstances, we have had to change venues from The Thomas Hardy School, Dorchester, to a school in **WEYMOUTH**. The new venue address is **All Saints Church of England Academy, Sunnyside Road, Weymouth, Dorset, DT4 9BJ**

We do hope that you are able to come to Stay Awake this year and are so excited to see what the Lord does. There are a few campsites near All Saints Church of England Academy with beautiful seaside views if you are keen to make a weekend of it, in Weymouth! In the meantime, look out for advertising flyers, tell your friends and listen out for verbal announcements at your parish!

A message from Fr. Tony Pennicott who said the Sunday Masses in this parish a couple of weeks ago: "I have just found in the back of my car, a good quality woolly hat, which is not mine, nor does it belong to any of the few people who have travelled recently in the back of my car! It is plain and dark navy with a light cream thermal lining, small/medium size, make: Regatta - Thinsulate. The only plausible explanation is that I inadvertently gathered it up with my bag from the sacristy or church annexe in Marnhull or Gillingham." If this hat belongs to you, please contact Fr. Francis; Fr. Pennicott will be happy to post it to you.

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