



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



FIFTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME SUNDAY 8TH FEBRUARY 2026

Day	Place	Time	Celebrating	Intention
Sunday 8th Feb	Marnhull	9am Holy Mass	FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Mary Lacon, RIP
	Gillingham	11am Holy Mass		
Monday 9th Feb	Marnhull	9.30am Holy Mass followed by Rosary		The Holy Souls
Tuesday 10th Feb		NO MASS	St Scholastica Memoria	
Weds 11th Feb	Gillingham	10am Holy Mass followed by Rosary		
Thurs 12th Feb	Marnhull	9.30am Holy Mass followed by Adoration		
Friday 13th Feb	Gillingham	5pm Confession, Exposition, Evening Prayer & Benediction 6pm Holy Mass		
Saturday 14th Feb	Marnhull	10am Holy Mass Confession	St Cyril, Monk & St Methodius - Feast	

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, Rui Rui Gassmann, Vicki McHugh, Joyce Mitchell, Chris Williams.

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 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: Eileen; 11am: Joanna

It was hoped that 6pm Mass at Our Lady's would start on February 8th but this is not possible. Therefore the next 6pm Mass will be on **15th February**.

There will be a 2nd Collection next Sunday for the Charity LEPRA: Leprosy can affect the skin, peripheral nerves, upper respiratory tract, and the eyes. According to the [WHO](#), it is a 'neglected tropical disease' (NTD) which still occurs in more than 120 countries, with more than 200,000 new cases reported every year. Due to health inequalities and prejudice surrounding the disease, many people affected delay seeking treatment. Sadly, because of fear and misinformation, many people affected are shunned by their families and communities, and subsequently withdraw from their social activities as their emotional health declines.

It costs Lepra £25 to change a life - please be as generous as you can - any amount will help to change the lives of people with leprosy giving them a brighter future full of hope. Please remember those affected in your prayers as well as those who care for them.

New 50:50 Club Membership 2026 Now open

Entry forms are now available in the narthex of both Churches, and downloadable on the Parish website. The 1st Draw will be at Easter - 5th April!

Brass Plaques in St Benedict's Church

The "Please pray for" plaques for the benches in St Benedict's church will be installed as soon as possible. Please note that at present the cost for a plaque is £25 which will remain so until Easter, after which the cost will increase considerably. Please contact Harriet in the office on marnhull@prcdtr.org.uk if you would like to order a plaque.

Churches Together in Marnhull Lent Talks and Lunches 20th February until 27th March

Firstly, thank you to all those who attended the Week of Prayerful Christian Unity. Although the building was very cold, we had a beautiful service for about 15 people. Thank you. The next big Christian Unity event from CTiM is the annual Lent Talks and Lunches. Our Lady's has been asked to cover the talks and the lunches on February 27 and March 20th. The reflections should last approximately 30 minutes followed by a soup and cheese lunch, the proceeds of which will go to a local charity. The event is quite well attended with approximately 20 /25 people in attendance. Once again, I am looking for volunteers to help, and if you can make a pan of soup and offer to wash up, I would be forever grateful. The theme for this year is: *Our Treasured Hymns: Origins and Meaning*. If you could help, please contact me on the following email jacinthabowe@gmail.com . Thank you.

Small Book Club

Our parish "Small Book" club (everyone welcome) will continue, with February seeing the study of the CTS booklet on **St Carlo Acutis**. January saw us meet in St Benedict's, but February will see us at Our Lady's and we plan to alternate locations like this going forward. As usual, we'll meet on Thursdays at 2.30pm. Please ask Tony Moore (07967 592849) for a booklet if you'd like to join in. Present attenders will be supplied with a copy. If you haven't yet made a Lenten resolution, this could fit nicely! Tony Moore.

New St Benedict's H&S support needed

We are looking for at least two people to act as Fire Marshalls, the role is very straightforward and very important as well - full guidance will be provided to anyone who is interested. **Please call Charles on 01258 821463.**

New Confirmation Classes 2026

The next Confirmation class will now be held on Thursday 12th February at 4pm (instead of 19th Feb) in St Benedict's Church hall and A list of the dates can be viewed on our website: <https://www.marnhullandgillinghamrc.org.uk/newsletter>

New Holy Communion Class Dates 2026

Please note that there will be NO Holy Communion classes on Saturday 14th or 21st February as it is Half Term. The next class will be held on Saturday 28th February at 12 Noon in St Benedict's Parish Hall.

Volunteers to be Sacristans

Please consider joining the existing teams and if you so wish, speak to one of the Deacons. All training and induction will be taken with great care and you will be fully supported. Thank you, Deacon James.

The Plymouth Diocesan Newsletter for January 2026

<https://email.workwithgusto.co.uk/t/t-562C2F808AB4C5622540EF23F30FEDED>

Dilexi Te - The Burning Heart of the Church's Mission

A day of reflection with Bishop Nicholas Hudson 21st February 2026, 11am-4pm, Buckfast Abbey Conference Centre. Join Caritas and CAFOD this Lent for a diocesan day to reflect on Pope Leo XIV's powerful Apostolic Exhortation Dilexi Te, which calls us to return to the Gospel and reminds us that love of the poorest of our sisters and brothers is part of the "burning heart of the Church's mission". Hear from our inspirational Speakers: Rt Rev Nicholas Hudson, Bishop of Plymouth; Christine Allen, CAFOD Director; Raymond Friel OBE, CSAN Chief Executive Officer; Fr. Richard Finn OP, University of Oxford.

[Click here to register](#) or email: caritas@prcdtr.org.uk

New National Marriage Week, February 7-14.

Please pray for married couples, those discerning or preparing for marriage, those who are suffering in their marriages and those who are grieving, especially in the coming week. There are resources for prayer, a novena for marriage, and reflections from the Bishops Conference on this link <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/marriage-week/> And further resources at: [Marriage Week Campaign - SmartLoving](#).

New GATHER conference 20th-22nd March

We look forward to welcoming you to our annual GATHER conference 20th-22nd March at Livermead Cliff Hotel, Torquay.

Booking forms are available from the parish office or by emailing plymouthgathering@yahoo.com

Average Weekly Collections for December 2025			Average weekly donations
Collections in church	Other/Online	Standing Orders	New Church AP-PEAL
Loose Plate	Gift Aid		Gift Aid
355.39	76.25	132.75	674.5
		SUB-TOTAL	£1,238.99
PLUS Average WEEKLY CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS		561.32	£1,411.25
		TOTAL	£1,800.31
ACTUAL CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS Total	£2,255.31		

St Benedict's Fundraising Appeal



www.marnhullandgillinghamrc.org.uk/new-church-in-gillingham **Thank you for your generosity.**