



OUR LADY'S, MARNHULL & ST BENEDICT'S, GILLINGHAM

PARISH PRIEST: FR ONEYBUCHI CLETUS IBEKA

DEACONS: Rev Deacon James Mackain-Bremner & Rev. Deacon Michael Turnbull

Marnhull RC Parish is part of the Plymouth RC Diocese, Registered Charity No. 213227



26th Week in Ordinary Time

27th September 2026

Day	Place	Time	Celebrating	Intention
Sunday 27 th Sept	Marnhull	9.00 a.m.	26 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	
	Gillingham	11.00 a.m.		
	Marnhull	6 p.m.		
Monday 28 th Sept	Marnhull	No Mass Morning Prayer & Rosary		
Tuesday 29 th Sept		No Mass Morning Prayer & Rosary	Ss Michael, Gabriel, Raphael – Archangels - FEAST	
Wednesday 30 th Sept	Gillingham	No Mass	St Jerome - Memorial	
Thursday 1 st Oct		No Mass	St Therese of the Child Jesus Memorial	
Friday 2 nd Oct	Gillingham	No Mass Rosary & Benediction	The Holy Guardian Angels Memorial	
Saturday 3 rd Oct		No Mass	Blessed Virgin Mary Memorial	
Sunday 4 th Oct	Marnhull	9.00 a.m.	27 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	
	Gillingham	11.00 a.m.		
	Marnhull	6 p.m.		

Please pray for the sick of our Parish

David Parish, Joyce West, Thony White, Hilary Drake, Sarah Mackay, Brian White, John Graham, Jane Rqw, Rory Herbert, Kay White, Frances Mobray, Joyce Mitchell, Chris Williams, Petronella Sellick, Timoth Harris, Mary George.

Contact Information

Our Lady's RC Church, Marnhull, Old Mill Lane, DT10 1JX
St Benedict's RC Church, High Street, Gillingham SP8 4AG
Marnhull Parish Website:

<https://www.marnhullandgillinghamrc.org.uk/>

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Presbytery, St Benedict's, High Street, Gillingham, SP8 4AG

Deacon James: james.mackain-bremner@prcdtr.org.uk
07906 599389 & Deacon Michael:
michael.turnbull@prcdtr.org.uk
07504 821558

Parish Secretary: Harriet Cornwall: marnhull@prcdtr.org.uk
01258 820388 or 07432 404358 (during office hours)

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>

St Mary's RC Primary School, Marnhull:
office@stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk 01258 820417

Please note that Morning Prayer & Rosary will take place on TUESDAY this week and not Wednesday.

October is the month of the Holy Rosary – a time of focussed devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Please make an effort to say the Rosary every day throughout October – especially the Family Rosary: As Padre Pio says: "If there were one million families praying the Rosary every day, the entire world would be saved."

There will be a retiring collection for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC)

On 29th April, the Crime and Policing Bill – containing the clause decriminalising abortion – received Royal Assent and passed into law. The provisions of the decriminalisation clause came into effect immediately. This is a devastating outcome. Unborn babies have been stripped of nearly all legal protection. There is now no law under which a woman can be prosecuted for aborting her own baby, at whatever gestation, for whatever reason. Self-induced abortion is now legal up to birth. We failed to prevent this becoming law. But just because one battle is lost, the war is not. We must fight harder than ever to build a true culture of life, where unborn babies and their mothers are protected. Will you join us? Please complete a form to defend life at this critical time for our country.

****New** Harvest Quiz Event last Saturday**

A big thank you to all those who organised the Harvest Quiz event last Saturday. And thank you also to all those parishioners who turned up to support our Parish – we raised £222 for our church and £86 for Let the Children Live.

Marnhull Churches Together Harvest Lunch is 14th October 12.00-14.30pm at the Methodist Church Hall in Marnhull It will be a wonderful celebration of thanksgiving for God's creation and its gifts. Parishioners of our three churches, Catholic, Anglican and Methodist will celebrate with food, poetry readings and songs in the true spirit of ecumenism. You are invited to bring a seasonal poem/reading on the theme of Harvest. As it is the 150th anniversary of Thomas Hardy, you may even like to bring a short extract of his work relating to the area of Marnhull. We are looking for volunteers to make quiches, cakes, and apple crumble. The rest of the Ploughman's lunch will be sourced locally. The ticket price is £7, available from Jennie or Jacintha. All proceeds will go to Gillingham Food Bank.

Holy Communion and Confirmation Candidates for 2026-2027

If your child is 7 years old or over and would like to make their 1st Holy Communion, please speak to one of the Clergy after Sunday Mass - it is obligatory for parents to bring their children to Sunday Mass as part of the preparation for Holy Communion. If your child is 13 years or over and is ready to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, please speak to a member of Clergy.

****New** Session 9 of the Sycamore Course "Finding True Freedom"** takes place on **Monday 28th Sept at 7.00pm in St Benedict's Parish Hall**. All are welcome for stimulating discussion and refreshments even if you haven't attended the other sessions. Any questions please speak to Deacon James - 07906 599389.

****New** The 'Small Book' Club** will meet at 2.30 pm at St. Benedict's in October, on Thursdays **1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th**. Our subject for October is "St. Padre Pio". The booklets will be distributed at tomorrow's meeting at Our Lady. The reading recommendation for this week, from the CTS booklet "100 Books You Really Should Read" comes from the section on History and is entitled "Hiroshima", by John Hersey.

****New** On 9th October at 12 noon, Our Lady's Marnhull will host the Marnhull Village prayer.**

***New* Rosary for Unborn Children in Shaftesbury - Thursdays at 7pm. Everyone Welcome!**

Please remember that there is a Rosary every fortnight on Thursdays at 7pm outside Shaftesbury Abbey gates - the next Rosary will be on Thursday 8th October at 7pm.

****New** Have you ever asked the question, 'Is God calling me to Priesthood or to the Religious life?'** This 'Day of Reflection' for men will be held on Saturday 17th October from 10:00 to 15:00 at St Mary's Parish Centre, St Mary's Road, Bodmin PL31 1HF. The day will include Mass, a time of Adoration, a short conference, an opportunity for Confession and 'One to One talks' with serving Priests from our Diocese; and sharing food together (this will be provided – please let us know of special dietary requirements). Under 18s are welcome to attend with parents' permission. If travelling by train, we can collect you from Bodmin Parkway Station with prior notice. For more information and to register your interest please contact Fr. Jacek Kostuch on jacek.kostuch@prcdtr.org.uk or Fr. Ralph Candy on vocation@prcdtr.org.uk

****New** Prayer Conference. Buckfast Abbey, Saturday Oct 31 & Sunday Nov 1. 2026 (weekend event)**

UNBOUND Freedom in Christ. A safe, gentle and non-confrontational freedom and inner healing ministry model which helps people reclaim their true identity in Christ. Come and join us as we unpack each of the key themes of the ministry; Repentance & Faith, Forgiveness, Renunciation, Authority, and the Father's Blessing. Weekend tickets from £65. To book [UNBOUND Freedom in Christ Prayer Retreat. Buckfast Abbey. Devon – Fill in form](#) Call or email Michele Thompson for more information 07940 453607 michele.thompson@prcdtr.org.uk For more information on Unbound Ministry please follow the link: <https://www.unboundprayer.com/>

****New** Youth Volunteers Newsletter**

Here's the link; <https://email.workwithgusto.co.uk/t/t-FD9D3738248EC9822540EF23F30FEDED> for the new E-Newsletter for those working with youth in the Diocese. Please contact Saskia, youth@prcdtr.org.uk if you would like to be added to the mailing list. **Chocolate Making workshop, Truro Parish Church. Saturday 17th October (ages 10 - 16)** To book: [Chocolate Making Day, 17th October 2026 – Fill in form](#) Cost: £10 per person.

A message from Fr Chris Findlay-Wilson: "We are planning a day-return coach for the **Eucharistic Congress** in London 10th October. It would leave Plymouth at 5am and pick up at Exeter Services - and possibly Taunton or Wincanton" There are currently 32 places available - please contact Fr Chris if you're interested in going 01202 746539 www.catholicparkstone.org

St Benedict's Maintenance fund: www.marnhullandgillinghamrc.org.uk/new-church-in-gillingham.

Please note that there will be a retiring collection on 4th Oct for CAFOD Fast day collection