



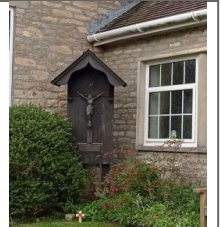
# OUR LADY'S, MARNHULL & ST BENEDICT'S, GILLINGHAM

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



## SECOND WEEK OF LENT

## 16TH MARCH 2025

Day	Place	Time	Celebrating	Intention
Sun 16th March	Marnhull	9am Holy Mass	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT	
	Gillingham	11am Holy Mass		
	Marnhull	6pm Holy Mass		
Mon 17th March	Marnhull	9.30am Holy Mass <i>Followed by Rosary</i>	St Patrick Bp - Missionary FEAST	
Tues 18th March		NO MASS	St Cyril of Jerusalem Comm	
Weds 19th March	Gillingham	10.00am Holy Mass	St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary SOLEMNITY	
Thurs 20th March	Marnhull	9.30am Stations of the Cross 10am Holy Mass		
Fri 21st March	Gillingham	5.30pm Stations of the Cross 6pm Holy Mass		
Sat 22nd March	Marnhull	10am Holy Mass <i>Followed by Confession</i>		

### Please pray for those who are ill

David Paris, Coral Harrow, Betty Walford, Joyce West, Barbara Frost, Tony White, Bob Horton, Hilary Drake, Sarah Mackay, Brian White, John Graham, Jane Raw, Rory Herbert, Norma Wilcox.

Sunday Readers: 9am: Tony; 11am: Meriel; 6pm: Tony Bueno

### A Reflection on the readings for the second Sunday of Lent by Monsignor Robert Draper

Gn 15:5-12, 17-18; Ps 26; Ph 3:17-4:1; Lk 9:28-36

Just as the readings for the first Sunday of Lent always lead us into the wilderness, and just as the wilderness is always the place of the Exodus, where God liberates and accompanies his people, and feeds them with manna, so the readings for the second Sunday of Lent always lead us up a mountain, and the mountain is always a significant theological as well as geographical location. There are many mountains referred to in the scripture, but they always carry a connotation of meeting with God. Mount Ararat where Noah first offers sacrifice to God after the flood, Moriah where Abraham goes to offer Isaac as sacrifice, Sinai where Moses receives the Law, Horeb where Elijah encounters God and is commissioned to carry out God's work, and mount Zion where David establishes Jerusalem and Solomon builds the Temple. So it is noteworthy that on the mount of Transfiguration two of those key figures, Elijah and Moses, join Jesus and they speak of his "passing (passion) which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem".

Moses who received the Law on Sinai and Elijah the great prophet, are presented as representing the Law and the prophets – the whole teaching of the Old Testament. The Sunday readings at the beginning of this calendar year gave us three epiphanies – the revelation of Jesus' identity to the magi, at the baptism in the Jordan and at the wedding in Cana. (Continued over)

### Contacts

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Parish Safeguarding Rep: Barbara Turnbull 07910 663392

<https://www.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk/parish-resources>

Parish Website: [www.marnhullandgillinghamrc.org.uk](http://www.marnhullandgillinghamrc.org.uk)

St Mary's RC Primary School, Marnhull:

[office@stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk) 01258 820417

Our Lady's Church, Marnhull, DT10 1JX

St Benedict's Church, Gillingham, SP8 4AZ

Confession is available by appointment - Please ring

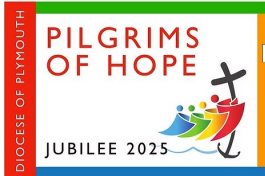
Fr Cletus on 01258 820388

### LENTEN TASK - Called to Call Others

As a missionary church, we start our 40 days' journey with Our Lord in this period of Lent. As we know, Lent is a time of conversion, a turning back to God through the practice of prayer, fasting and almsgiving; whilst still maintaining these practices, I would also encourage you to embrace the task of talking to people about your faith - please make an effort to bring at least one person to the church as part of your Lenten practice.

Fr Cletus

(Cont.) Today's gospel is another epiphany – Jesus is revealed as the fulfilment of Law and the prophets, and the voice from heaven reiterates the words spoken at the Baptism. This incident is unlike any others in the ministry of Jesus, but it is recorded to emphasise the identity of Jesus, and it does so by picking up the scriptural theme that God is encountered on the mountain and when, as disciples, we follow the Lord where he leads, we too will hear the voice of the Father.



### **\*\*New\*\* PARISH PILGRIMAGE OF HOPE - Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

Come on a one-day journey with us to the Holy Doors in our diocese. We will be visiting Buckfast Abbey, Plymouth Cathedral, Launceston and Crediton. A time of prayer, joy and companionship will start at 8.00am and finish in the evening. Coach travel from Marnhull and from Gillingham, Mass at Buckfast - bring a packed lunch. Please sign up as soon as possible on the list at the doors. **Names of those interested are needed by Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March to help keep costs down.** Price per person will depend on numbers but support is available where needed. We are hoping to plan a pilgrimage to Holy Trinity, Dorchester in the Summer - details to be shared later on.

### **CAFOD Lent Appeal Family Fast Day Friday 14 March & 2nd Collection today - 16th March**

Please support our Family Fast Day parish collection today and be a pilgrim of hope with CAFOD this Jubilee Year. You'll be supporting communities suffering the impacts of war, poverty and climate change to find solutions and hope. Use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at [//cafod.org.uk/envelope](https://cafod.org.uk/envelope) or call us on 0303 303 3030. The QR code will take supporters straight to CAFOD's virtual envelope where they can make their donation. Follow the link to our Lent prayer video: <https://youtu.be/BRhixfRAQEs>



**\*\* This Saturday\*\* 'Praying with the Scriptures - An interactive prayer workshop on the theme "Pilgrims of Hope" to tie in with our Jubilee Year.'** Venue: Our Lady's, Marnhull. **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, following 10.00am Mass**, in the Parish Room, till 2.15 pm. Starting with refreshments, then lunch break at midday (please bring something), resuming at 12.45. Closing at 2.15pm. Led by international speaker and Plymouth Diocesan team leader, Michele Thompson, addressing 'How can I go deeper with Jesus?' 'How can prayer help?' These two vital questions are addressed as we prayerfully immerse ourselves in the Word of God, desiring to understand His plan for our lives. Our time together in this workshop will be practical and interactive, as well as contemplative, guided group work in helping people to pray with others. "For the Word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart. (Hebrews 4:12)". Please bring your Bible to this workshop. Tony

**PLEASE SUPPORT THIS PARISH 50:50 CLUB FUNDRAISING ACTIVITY** (formerly Sweepstake). Entry forms will be available in both churches, can be downloaded [here](#), or from the website: <https://www.marnhullandgillinghamrc.org.uk/newsletter>. Payment methods for entries are explained on the application. The more entries we get, the bigger the prizes may be, hence the '50:50' title. Tickets cost £25 for one entry for the whole year, with a Special Offer of £40 for two entries! Please join in this annual fundraiser towards the maintenance of our parish buildings. It would be great to achieve 100+ entries this year and make this a worthwhile project for all concerned. **Please send your entries in by 7th APRIL.** The first draw will be at Easter & periodically until Christmas. Winners will receive prize money by cheque. Pam Snell, Treasurer

**Advance Notice: 24 Hours with the Lord:** a Lenten initiative of prayer and reconciliation introduced by Pope Francis, will be celebrated in dioceses around the world. As with previous editions, the event will take place on the eve of the Fourth Sunday of Lent, from Friday 28 March to Saturday 29 March. In our parish this will take place at St Benedict's Church in Gillingham, starting with th Friday evening Mass, and then having Adoration for 24 hours, culminating with Mass on the Saturday evening. There will be opportunities for the sacrament of reconciliation. More details and a sign up sheet will be available shortly.

### **\*\*New\*\* Parish Lent & Easter programme available at the back of the Church**

#### **\*\*New\*\* "Transformative Lenten Retreat: "Pilgrims of Hope" - April 9th-11th (Wednesday-Friday)**

Join us for a **Transformative Lenten Retreat** led by **Fr. Jon Bielawski**, centred on the theme "**Pilgrims of Hope**" at Holy Trinity, Dorchester. This three-day Retreat offers a time of spiritual renewal, reflection, and preparation as we journey through Lent. **Schedule: 6:30 PM** – Arrival, Silent Prayer, and Reflection; **7:00 PM** – Talk by Fr. Jon Bielawski; **8:00 PM** – Holy Mass "Let this Retreat be a time of grace and deepening faith as we prepare our hearts for Easter. **All are welcome!**"  
Fr. Babu 01305 251976.

**Lent Zoom Talks** organised by Fr Mark Skelton "As we prepare to enter into the wonderful season of Lent I do hope it will be a truly blessed and holy time for you and your parish families" Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84052447850?pwd=MmPzcp911dTsgJWDXR0vH5H9zYS4e6.1>

Meeting ID: 840 5244 7850 Passcode: 043004

20<sup>th</sup> March:- Debt cancellation; 27<sup>th</sup> March:- Recognizing Hope; 3<sup>rd</sup> April:- Peace; 10<sup>th</sup> April:- Jesus's last Pilgrimage.

**Plymouth diocesan newsletter**, which includes a Lenten video message from Canon Paul, stories of hope and a list of upcoming events : <https://email.workwithgusto.co.uk/t/t-1E001CAA7917960D2540EF23F30FEDED>

#### **Jubilee year - short 7-wk course on Sacraments of Initiation and the Bible:**

<https://www.lux-edu.com/sacraments-of-initiation>. Starts on 17th March. Bursaries available!

**\*\*New\*\* Caritas March Newsletter** Caritas news about love in action around the diocese: <https://tinyurl.com/285mneux>

**\*\*New\*\* Jubilee 2025 : Forgiveness** One of the themes of this year's Jubilee is forgiveness. Caritas Diocese of Plymouth have created a sheet with information and resources around the theme which can be read here <https://tinyurl.com/mwmmdm5>