



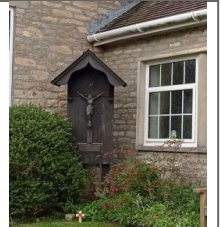
# OUR LADY'S, MARNHULL & ST BENEDICT'S, GILLINGHAM

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



## THIRD WEEK OF LENT

## 23RD MARCH 2025

Day	Place	Time	Celebrating	Intention
Sunday 23rd March	Marnhull	9am Holy Mass	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT	
	Gillingham	11am Holy Mass		
	Marnhull	6pm Holy Mass		
Monday 24th March	Marnhull	9.30am Holy Mass <i>Followed by Rosary</i>		
Tuesday 25th March		NO MASS	The Annunciation of the Lord - Solemnity	
Wednesday 26th March	Gillingham	10.00am Holy Mass		
Thurs 27th March	Marnhull	9.30am Stations of the Cross 10am Holy Mass		Regina & Angelo Emilianus
Fri 28th March - Saturday 29th March	Gillingham	ADORATION 5.30pm Stations of the Cross 6pm Holy Mass 7pm 24 hours Adoration		
Sat 29th March			5pm Penitential Service & individual Confession 6pm Holy Mass	

### 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: Pam; 11am: Barbara; 6pm: Christine

**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.

### Contact Details

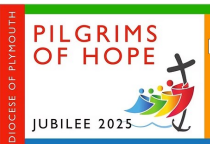
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 Parish Website: [www.marnhullandgillinghamrc.org.uk](http://www.marnhullandgillinghamrc.org.uk)  
 Parish Secretary: Harriet Cornwall: [marnhull@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:marnhull@prcdtr.org.uk)  
 01258 820388 or 07432 404358 (during office hours)  
 Parish Treasurer: Pam Snell: [marnhull-treasurer@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:marnhull-treasurer@prcdtr.org.uk)  
 Parish Safeguarding Rep: Barbara Turnbull 07910 663392  
<https://www.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk/parish-resources>  
 St Mary's RC Primary School, Marnhull:  
[ofice@stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:ofice@stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk) 01258 820417

### A Reflection on the readings for the third Sunday of Lent by Monsignor Robert Draper Ex 3:1-8, 13-15; Ps 18; 1 Cor 10:1-6, 10-12; Lk 13:1-9

"What's in a name? A rose by any name would smell as sweet" asks Juliet all the while knowing that it is precisely Romeo's name that is the problem, and it is his name that will inevitably bring about a tragic result. The reality is that names are very important – that is why we hate the idea of simply being 'a number' in society. The passage from Exodus of Moses at the burning bush is significant precisely because the revelation of God's name changes the relationship between God and his people. Much has been written by scholars about the actual way of understanding the enigmatic name that God shares with Moses, but the importance is that knowing God's name puts the people in a unique relationship with him. All human relationships are different when we know the name of the person we encounter, and often we will adopt nicknames or pet names which express something special about that relationship. In the scriptures Abram, Sarai, Simon, and Saul are all given new names to express their new identity as those entrusted with God's work. So, we should recognise that when we begin Mass or prayer, we begin in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" – something which expresses the very nature of our relationship with the God who comes to us as Trinity. (Cont.)

(Cont.) The gospel is one of the teachings of Jesus in the gospels that is unique to Luke. It is a very appropriate text for Lent as it challenges its hearers to take the call to repentance seriously. At the same time, the parable of the fig tree offers hope that there is still time for that repentance to be effective and produce the fruit required.

### **PARISH PILGRIMAGE OF HOPE - Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2025 - Names needed today!**



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. Pick up your Pilgrim passport or download from the website: <https://www.marnhullandgillinghamrc.org.uk/newsletter>

**\*\*NEW\*\* 24 HOURS BEFORE THE LORD, THIS FRIDAY 28TH MARCH TO SATURDAY 29TH MARCH**  
**Our 24 hours of Adoration will begin after Friday 6pm Mass at St Benedict's and finish on Saturday evening with a penitential service and individual Confession, followed by Mass. A unique opportunity to spend some time with Jesus in a profound way. As you are aware, someone needs to be present in the church when the Blessed Sacrament is exposed, so please sign up (sheets at the back of the Church). Ideally we would have a minimum of two people, during the night hours.**

From the Dicastery for Evangelisation: "Pope Francis has chosen for the twelfth edition of 24 Hours for the Lord a particularly significant motto in this year of the Ordinary Jubilee of 2025: "You are my hope" (Ps. 71:5) ...The love of God who always wants to come toward us and give us the grace of his forgiveness and mercy gives rise to hope in us as a gift of the Holy Spirit. In fact, forgiveness is the sign of love, its culmination, because it is offered to us as a free gift that allows us to live a new, "merciful" life, as Pope Francis says. 24 Hours for the Lord bears witness to precisely that. The purpose of the event is to put the sacrament of reconciliation back at the centre of the pastoral life of the Church, and therefore of our communities, our parishes, and all ecclesial realities. This is the core of the Gospel message: the Mercy of God, which gives us the certainty that before the Lord no one will find a judge, but rather will find a father who welcomes him, consoles him and also shows him the way to renewal. Therefore, as Pope Francis stated, "Mercy gives rise to joy, because our hearts are opened to the hope of a new life" (Misericordia et misera, No. 3)." To read more, please click [here](#)

**\*\*New\*\* Daily Missals are available to pre-order now and will be available on 30th April.**

You can order through the office for a 10 percent discount & free postage. There are two Daily Missals: The Weekday Missal that contains all the prayers and readings for all weekday Masses, from Monday to Saturday for £55 or The Daily Missal containing the complete Sunday, daily and sanctoral cycles in a single volume for £69.99. You can see the choices in more detail by clicking the link: <https://www.ctsbooks.org/?s=Missals> Please email the office - [marnhull@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:marnhull@prcdtr.org.uk) if you'd like me to pre-order for you. Harriet

**\*\*New\*\* Gift Aid Envelopes**

The Gift Aid envelopes for the financial year 2025/26 are now available for collection at the back of the church. If you have any queries please contact Paul Bowe at [marnhull-giftaid@prcdtr.org.uk](mailto:marnhull-giftaid@prcdtr.org.uk)

**\*\*New\*\* RECEPTION INTO FULL COMMUNION WITH THE CATHOLIC CHURCH** - Please pray for Beth who will be received into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil Mass in our parish.

**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

**\*\*New\*\* Transformative Lenten Retreat: "Pilgrims of Hope" - April 9th-11th**. Join us for a Transformative Lenten Retreat led by Fr. Jon Bielawski at Holy Trinity, Dorchester. **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 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-1E001CAA7917960D2540EF23F30FEDED>

**Catholic Herald Magazine** for Lent available at each Church - cost £5. Please place cash in the jar provided.



**\*\*New\*\* DON'T FORGET CLOCKS GO FORWARD ONE HOUR ON SATURDAY 30TH MARCH!**

**\*\*New\*\* CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY, PLYMOUTH ORANGE BOX AVAILABLE** - PLEASE SEE THE LIST FOR SUITABLE ITEMS FOR DONATION.

**\*\*New\*\* Plymouth Diocese Vacancy: Head of Caritas - see posters or website: <https://www.marnhullandgillinghamrc.org.uk/newsletter>**