



## St Mary's Brownedge

Founded c1780      SDTRTR No. 250037  
 St Mary's Priory, Brownedge Lane, Bamber Bridge, Preston PR5 6SP  
 www.stmarysbrownedge.org.uk    Facebook: @stmarysbrownedge  
 Live Streaming via website (churchservices.tv)  
**Parish telephone (01772) 335168      Office Mobile 07442 385553**  
 Parish Office email: office@stmarysbrownedge.org.uk

## Our Lady of Lourdes & St Gerard Majella

Lostock Hall - Preston - PR5 5AA  
**Parish Tel: (01772) 335387      Office Mobile 07442 385553**  
 Parish e-mail: office@saintgerards.org.uk



**Facebook :** @stgerardslostockhall    **Twitter :** @stgerardslostoc    **Instagram :** @stgerardsslostock

**Parish Clergy: Fr Mark Harold (Rural Dean & Parish Priest),**  
**Tel: 01772 335168; email: pp@stmarysbrownedge.org.uk Fr Colin Battell OSB. Tel: 01772 321201.**

### FIFTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME (Year A)


**8th February 2026**

St Mary's, Brownedge			
Sat	7th Feb		5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
	Vigil	7:00 pm	Michael & Catherine Carty & Mary & Michael McNamara
Sun	8th Feb	9:30 am 6:30 pm	5th Sunday in Ordinary Time John Rawcliffe The Parish
Mon	9th Feb	9:30 am	Joan Airey
Tues	10th Feb	9:30 am	St Scholastica For Good Health (M)
Wed	11th Feb	9:30 am	Our Lady of Lourdes Whole School Mass Brian Stead (Birthday) (OM)
Thurs	12th Feb	10:30 am	Requiem Mass for John 'Jack' Lawson
Fri	13th Feb	9:30 am	Richard Worden (Anniversary)
Sat	14th Feb	9.30 am Vigil 7:00 pm	Ss Cyril & Methodius Leo Finn (F) 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Anthony & Pauline Wilkinson
Sun	15th Feb	9:30 am 6:30 pm	6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Roger Hardacre - 70th Birthday Martin George Skingsley R.I.P.

St Gerard's, Lostock Hall			
Sat	7th Feb		5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
	Vigil	5:30 pm	Marion Parkinson
Sun	8th Feb	10:30 am	5th Sunday in Ordinary Time The Parish
Mon	9th Feb	6:00 pm 6:30 pm	Exposition Service of the Word
Tues	10th Feb	9:15 am 7.00 pm	Whole School Mass for the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes Winifred & Joseph Lever Service of First Reconciliation
Wed	11th Feb	9:15 am	Our Lady of Lourdes Service of the Word (F)
Thurs	12th Feb	6:30 pm	Margaret Guinan (Birthday Anniversary)
Fri	13th Feb	11.00 am	Funeral Service for Mary Rose Pails
Sat	14th Feb	Vigil 5:30 pm	Ss Cyril & Methodius (F) 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sister Louise Shield's Birthday
Sun	15th Feb	10:30 am 11:30 am	6th Sunday in Ordinary Time The Parish Baptisms of Elias Taylor & Elsie Pullman

OM - Optional Memorial    F - Feast  
 M - Memorial                      S - Solemnity

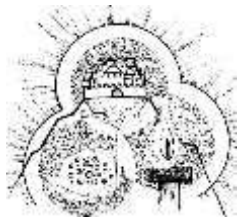
**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**  
**St. Mary's:** Tuesday & Thursday 3 pm to 4 pm  
**St. Gerard's:** Monday 6 pm to 6:30 pm  
**Confessions:** St Gerard's: Saturday: 5 - 5.15 pm  
 St Mary's: Saturday: 6.15-6.45 pm (or by request)  
**Holy Rosary:** Streamed at 8pm each evening from St Mary's.

 **Services at St. Mary's and at St Gerard's can be viewed live or on playback at any time on:**  
[www.stmarysbrownedge.org.uk](http://www.stmarysbrownedge.org.uk) or  
[www.saintgerards.org.uk](http://www.saintgerards.org.uk) or  
[www.churchservices.tv](http://www.churchservices.tv)  
 You can usually plug a PC into your TV to watch it on the big screen, On a 'Smart TV' save the site in the TV web browser. Please help any relatives or friends to access the internet.

**Prayers for Salford Diocese**  
 We pray for the people of the parish of St. Chad's and for Fr. Richard and the Manchester Oratory. We pray for their parish primary school and for the Chaplaincy to HMP Manchester.

# Joint Notices

## FIFTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME



While the world may seem to be very indifferent to Christianity most of the time, it can be very critical of Christians who do not seem to be following the most basic tenet of their faith – to be a people of

“good deeds”, as Jesus teaches in today’s portion of the Sermon on the Mount. While we may sometimes feel indignant about the world’s criticism of our faults, we have to remember that we are in a vital relationship with “the world” – we are to be its light. This means that we should welcome the world’s gaze and scrutiny of our actions and beliefs and we should, in a sense, be accountable to the world for the way we live. We should never be salt that loses its taste. This openness to the gaze of all is not for our own glory, however: it is so that others may find what we have found – their way to the Father.

**Sycamore (RCIA): Do you want to become a Catholic or learn more about the faith?** The next session of our RCIA Class is on Tuesday 10th February at 7pm. Our journey through the seven Sacraments has looked at Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist, Reconciliation and the Sacrament of the Sick and now we reflect on Holy Matrimony and Holy Orders: the vocations of marriage, family life, ordination, religious and consecrated life. Also, we reflect on the call to holiness within the single life.

**Visiting Priest:** We are delighted to welcome a new priest to help minister in our parishes: Fr Charles Essien is from the Diocese of Uyo in Nigeria. He has been a priest for 26 years. As well as parish work, he has worked in Priestly Formation and Hospital Chaplaincy and, most recently, he has been lecturing at the Catholic Institute of West Africa. Fr Charles will reside at St Benedict’s Monastery with Fr Mark and Fr Colin. He will act as an extra Assistant Priest to both St Mary’s and St Gerard’s as well as being able to lend support to the parishes across our Deanery when necessary. Please make Fr Charles welcome, help him to adjust to life in Lancashire and pray for him that his presence will be a great blessing on our community.

**Permanent Diaconate:** The diocese is trying to promote vocations to the Permanent Diaconate. If anyone would like to find out more about the ministry of being a Deacon, there is a ‘Come and See’ Day on the morning of Sat 7th March at St Mary’s Church in Burnley. Exact timings are yet to be finalised.

**Day of Renewal** – The next ‘Day of Renewal’ will be held on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2026 from 10am till 4pm at St Clares Church, Sharoe Green Lane Preston PR2 9HH – Poster on display in Church. A talk on the day will be by Fr Eamonn Mulcahy who will be speaking about ‘Unpacking the Paschal Mystery – to get the best Celebration of Easter’

**Catholic Family Retreat at Castlerigg Manor // March 27-29th // £160-230 per family-** For the first time since Covid, Castlerigg Manor are bringing back their popular family retreats. There will be streams for different ages and fun activities for everybody including Mass in the evening and time to explore Keswick. For more info >> [castleriggmanor.com](http://castleriggmanor.com) >> events

**May Half Term B&B Stays at Castlerigg Manor** - In May half-term, Castlerigg Manor (Catholic retreat centre in Keswick, Cumbria) will once again be opening their doors for B&B stays. A great way for families, groups of friends, and individuals to get an affordable stay in Keswick. Mass will be provided on site. For more info >> [castleriggmanor.com](http://castleriggmanor.com) >> stay with us

**Confirmation Programme 2026:** Young people who are in Year 8 at school and above are invited to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, which will be celebrated on **Wednesday 13th May at 7pm** in St Mary’s Brownedge Church by the Bishop of Salford. The preparation for our local parishes is being provided by Brownedge St Mary’s High School in collaboration with Fr Mark and the parishes. Sessions will begin during Lent and will take place at 3.15pm on weekdays at our High School. Pupils from our parishes who attend other High Schools are also welcome to register.

Many children in St Gerard’s Parish attend All Hallows High School; All Hallows is organising Confirmation for those parishes which are in Liverpool Archdiocese. All Hallows pupils who live in the Diocese of Salford are encouraged to register for Confirmation on the link below. We will make special arrangements for their preparation classes. If you would like your child to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation, please complete the registration form which can be found in the link on this school website: [www.st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk/catholic-life/chaplaincy](http://www.st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk/catholic-life/chaplaincy) If you have any questions, please speak to Fr Mark.

**Diocesan Mass for Engaged Couples:** On Saturday 14 February, the feast of St Valentine, Bishop John will be celebrating a special Mass for engaged couples across the diocese. The Mass provides couples with an opportunity to seek God’s blessing to guide and strengthen them during this time of preparation. Newly-married couples are also invited to receive a blessing in their first year of marriage. The Mass will take place at St Patrick’s Church in Collyhurst on Saturday 14 February 2026 at 1:30pm.

**Diocesan Yearbook:** This year, the diocese have combined two books into one: The Diocesan Ordo and the Almanac. The Ordo is at the back of the Yearbook and details which Mass/feast we should be celebrating each day; what the readings and prayers should be, and even what colour vestments the priest should wear! Copies are available at the back of Church priced £5 each or £6 for a ring-bound version.

# Joint Notices

**School Governors:** There is still a vacancy for a Foundation Governor at Our Lady & St Gerard's School. This is a fantastic opportunity to make a real difference in the lives of our children and the wider community. **What's the Purpose?** Foundation Governors play a vital role in:

- **Supporting the school's vision and values** rooted in our foundation.
- **Ensuring strategic direction** and helping shape the future of our school.
- **Holding leaders to account** for educational performance and well-being.
- **Strengthening links** between the school, church, and community.

## What Are the Rewards?

- **Impact:** Make a positive difference in children's education and future.
- **Personal Growth:** Develop leadership, governance, and strategic skills.
- **Community:** Be part of a dedicated team working for the good of all.
- **Fulfilment:** Contribute to something meaningful and lasting.

No prior experience is necessary—just a passion for education and commitment to our values. Full training and support will be provided. **Interested?** To apply or for more information, contact Fr Mark.

**Online Gospel Readings During Lent** - During the Lenten period, there will be a series of gospel readings taking place every Tuesday and delivered online by various speakers including Fr Michael Deas, with the final reading to be given by Bishop John Arnold ahead of Palm Sunday. The first reading will be given by Fr Michael Deas on Tuesday 17 February: **First Sunday of Lent (Feb 22):** Matthew 4:1-11 (The temptation of Jesus) For more information, please visit the diocesan website: <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/online-readings-for-lent/>

**Talk from Cardinal Timothy Radcliffe OP** - On 17 February, Cardinal Timothy Radcliffe OP will be giving a talk as part of a series of guest lectures from Manchester Universities Catholic Chaplaincy. The theme will be '*How we can keep our hope alive today.*' The talk will begin at **6PM at the Catholic Chaplaincy Church of the Holy Name**, 339 Oxford Rd, Manchester M13 9PG. For more information please contact [mucc@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:mucc@dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

**Lent:** Ash Wednesday is on 18th February. During Lent we will offer many opportunities to engage in prayer, fasting and almsgiving. In particular there will be an early Mass at 7pm on Fridays; Stations of the Cross in both churches on Fridays; Cafod fundraising mornings; a Study group reflecting on the Sunday Gospels. More details next week.

## St Mary's SVP Conference Activities & Impact in 2025

Thank you, Parishioners of both St Mary's and St Gerard's, your generous donations through monthly collections and private gifts have enabled us to help those in need throughout our community and abroad.

We have provided Furniture and Household items in 5 instances, White goods to 2 families. Electrical appliances to 4 others. Supplied Clothes and School uniforms to 2 children and provided transport in 2 cases. Vinnie survival packs have been provided for 40 homeless people and we have funded a project to provide goats for 10 families in twin conference in Andhra Pradesh, India.

We have volunteered at the Christian Community Larder and Chorley Buddies for 115 hours, 99hrs of Prison visits, 208 hours of family and elderly visits, given 52 hours of Practical help to others and had 41 hrs of Conference meetings

**See Poster in Church for further Details**

## MARRIAGE MATTERS

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time: "Unity is the key" When we married, a new flame was lit in our Church, signified by the lighting of a new candle as we made our vows and became "Little Church" together. Now, as we think of our life up to now, we can see how our love has been reflected on to our children, our family and our Church community.

## PLEASE PRAY FOR:

### The sick, and those who care for them:

Sister Louise, Yvonne Jeffrey, Mary Bilsborough, Joseph O'Grady, Brian Morley, Jean Doran, Mick Green, Maureen Calderbank, Joseph Finch, Ruth Johnstone, Peter Clough, Eileen McLaughlin, Marie Davis, Mary Craven

### All those who have died recently:

Elsie Smith, Brian Bamber, Jack Lawson, Peter Dawson, Maria Muriel Henderson, Fr Francis Austin, Mary Pails, Ena Bolton.

**Donations:** Make an online Donation to support our parishes by scanning the QR codes below:



Our Lady & St Gerard's



St Mary's Browndale

**Universalis.com:** Universalis is a website which provides the Mass texts and readings for each day of the year as well as the Liturgy of the Hours. Online it provides free texts for the upcoming 7 days. Buying the App gives full access. This QR Code will take you straight to the Mass Readings of the day:



**Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound and for those who have asked for your Prayers.**

## ***Our Lady & St Gerard's Notices***

**Our Lady of Lourdes:** This week is our **Co-Patrolal Feast, Our Lady of Lourdes**. We are celebrating a day early so that the children of the School can celebrate with us: Mass for the Feast on Tuesday 10th February at 9.15 am. All welcome.

It is also the World Day of Prayer for the sick. We ask the intercession of Mary for all those who are sick.

**First Communion Programme:** This Sunday is the next stage for those children preparing for First Holy Communion this year—they will taking part in the 10.30 am Mass followed by a session to learn about Reconciliation

**First Reconciliation:** On Tuesday 10th February at 7pm there is a Service of Reconciliation for those children who are making their First Reconciliation.

**Majella Companions:** Meeting this week on Tuesday 10th Feb at 2.00 pm in the Shields Centre.

**Recently Deceased** - Please Pray for the Repose of the Soul of Mary Rose Pails who has died this week and whose Funeral Service is on Friday 13th February at 11 am and for Peter Gerard Dawson whose Requiem Mass will be on Thursday 19th February at 10 am.

**Diary Dates** - Coffee Morning after Mass on Sunday 8th March launching our "Easter Raffle" which will be drawn on Easter Sunday 6th April.

**Metanoia project** - Recently a box has been placed at the back of church next to the larder box. This box is from the Metanoia project based at St Wilfrid's in Preston and they are collecting warm socks, hats, gloves etc for the homeless in Preston who are struggling to keep warm at this time of year. Besides providing warm clothing the Metanoia group provide the homeless with a warm meal every Tuesdays night. If anyone can cook and has a couple of hours to spare on Tuesdays they would welcome the help. If you are able to assist with this essential work please contact Jen on 07957566741 or [Jen@metanoiaproject.co.uk](mailto:Jen@metanoiaproject.co.uk) . Help of any kind, however infrequent, would be gratefully received. Thank you to all who have donated so far.

**Mass Intentions:** If you would like to have a Mass intention please leave a note at the Parish Office clearly stating the Mass Intention. If you would like to Gift Aid the donation please let us know.

<b>W/C 08/01/26</b>		<b>This Weeks Intentions</b>	
<b>Sanctuary</b>		Yvonne Jeffrey	
<b>St Gerard Majella</b>		Mia Aston & Babies	
<b>Offertory 31st Jan / 1st February 2026</b>			
<b>Loose</b>	<b>Envelopes</b>	<b>Total Attendance</b>	
£271.10	£254.05	146	
<b>Bingo Jackpots for 04/02/2026</b>			
£30	£26	£49	£40

## ***St Mary's Brownedge Notices***

**Offertory Procession:** Next Sunday 15th February 9:30 am Mass: Counsell Family

School Mass: On Wednesday 11th February at 9.30am there will be a whole school Mass for the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes.

**Saturday Morning Mass:** Next Saturday there will be a Mass at 9.30am. With the arrival of Fr Charles, we hope to be able to restore this each week.

**CAFOD: Friday 27th Feb is Family Fast Day.** There will be a short talk on weekend 21/22 Feb and envelopes for donations will be available.

**On Fridays in Lent, 27th Feb, 6th March, 13th March** following 9.30 Mass we will have coffee mornings. There is a list of dates on the Cafod Board.

**Mystery Raffle Tickets** will be on sale each weekend from 21/22 Feb and drawn at the following Lenten Coffee Morning.

**Cafod's Big Lent Walk** - Many thanks to David Gorman who will again be walking 200km in 40 days to raise funds for life-saving water. Your support is much appreciated.

**Parish Walk** - We will also have a **Parish Community Walk** on **Saturday 21st March** starting from church at 10.30am and walking 2.5/5km or a lap or two of the church grounds. You can give a small donation if you want and we will add this to David's total. Refreshments and final draw of mystery raffle in the Narthex afterwards.

**Requiem Masses:** There will be a Requiem Masses for John Anthony 'Jack' Lawson on Thursday 12th February at 10:30 am

**The Preston Salvation Army** – Christmas Thankyou - Extremely big Thank you for your help & support with our Annual Christmas Appeal & Emergency Food Provision – We helped 300 families with toys / gift hampers. WE provided toys for 315 0 to 10 year olds, gifts for 308 10 to 19 year olds. A total of 623 children. On average each child was given 15 items making the total around 9500 toys / gifts given. The Food bank was extremely busy in December, and we gave out 1300 bags of food & toiletries to people in need. Without all the wonderful donations we received we would have been unable to help as many families as we did in Christmas 2025 – Your giving enabled The Salvation Army, Preston, to serve others across the city and beyond. Thank you all once again!

<b>Sanctuary Lamps Week 08//02/26</b>			
1	For Cameron Beeby		
2	For Christine Clark R.I.P.		
<b>Mass Attendance: Our Attendance last weekend</b>			
7 pm Vigil	9:30 am	6:30 pm	Total
54	179	96	339