



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 (Office)
 email: pp@stmarysbrownedge.org.uk
Assistant Priests: Fr Colin Battell OSB. Fr Charles Essien Tel: 01772 321201 (Monastery)

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (Year A)

1st March 2026

St Mary's, Brownedge			
Sat	28th Feb	9:30 am	Ellen Bradley (Ann)
	Vigil	7:00 pm	Second Sunday of Lent Joe Dowbakin (Ann)
Sun	1st Mar	9:30 am	Second Sunday of Lent Geoff Thurman R.I.P.
		6:30 pm	Rhoda Turner (Ann)
Mon	2nd Mar	9:30 am	Bryan Turner (Ann)
Tues	3rd Mar	9:30 am	Elizabeth Wilson
Wed	4th Mar	9:30 am	St Casimir (OM) Marsden Class Mass John Reid
Thurs	5th Mar	9:30 am	The Parish of St Joseph's Brindle
Fri	6th Mar	7:00 am	<i>In Monastery Chapel:</i> Holy Souls
		9.30 am	Susan de-Lare Monica Reid
		11:30 am	Funeral Service for Agnes Walker
		4.30 pm	Stations of the Cross
Sat	7th Mar	9:30 am	Ss Perpetua and Felicity (OC)
	Vigil	7:00 pm	Third Sunday of Lent Eileen & Bob Hornby
Sun	8th Mar	9:30 am	Third Sunday of Lent Robert McGeown R.I.P.
		11:00 am	Baptism of Bonnie Fearon
		6:30 pm	The Parish

St Gerard's, Lostock Hall			
Sat	28th Feb		Second Sunday of Lent Julie Watson
	Vigil	5:30 pm	
Sun	1st Mar	10:30 am	Second Sunday of Lent The Parish
Mon	2nd Mar	<i>No Service at St Gerard's this week whilst a New Sanctuary Carpet is being fitted.</i>	
Tues	3rd Mar		
Wed	4th Mar		
Thurs	5th Mar	<i>At the same time we will be taking the opportunity to do some painting repairs.</i>	
Fri	6th Mar	6:30 pm	Stations of the Cross
Sat	7th Mar		Ss Perpetua and Felicity (OC)
	Vigil	5:30 pm	Third Sunday of Lent Sacred Heart Guild
Sun	8th Mar	10:30 am	Third Sunday of Lent Mary Patricia Hewitt (Wedding Anniversary)

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 or
www.saintgerards.org.uk or
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

Let us pray for the parishioners of St. Stephen's, Droylsden, together with Fr. Bernard Wilson, their parish priest, Fr. Callistus Orjika, and their parish primary school.

Joint Notices

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Lent is a Season of preparation for the whole Paschal Triduum – Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday: not just a time to reflect on the Cross. Often our Lenten devotions can focus exclusively on the Cross, and the idea of Baptism can be lost. This is why the Church invites us to join the disciples in looking beyond the cross this Sunday: we see the glory of Easter, the glory of the resurrection and the glory of the baptised. We see all this in the Transfiguration: we are invited to recognise who Jesus is. It is the glorified Jesus, whom we will celebrate at Easter, who calls us to journey through Lent, just as God called Abram to journey far from his home. So the readings lead to us acknowledge that Lent is a very special ‘calling’, to follow the Lord of glory to the renewal of baptismal purity.

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 3rd March at 7pm. “Mary and the Hope of Heaven”; Christianity helps us make sense not just of life in this world but also of life after death. It gives us the hope of living forever with God, but also makes us realistic about what we will face at the end of our lives. This Sycamore film looks at the traditional “Last Things”: death, judgment, heaven, purgatory, and hell. It shows how we are called to holiness and to heaven – to follow the example of the saints. And it finishes with a meditation on the Blessed Virgin Mary, on what Catholics believe about her, and how we can come to know and love her more.“

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.

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.

World Day of Prayer: Ecumenical Service at St Aidan’s Community Hub, Bamber Bridge on Friday 6th March at 2pm. World Day of Prayer is celebrated on the first Friday of March each year to encourage Christian women to engage in personal prayer and lead communal prayer within their communities. This year, the service is written by the Christian women of Nigeria with the theme, “I will give you rest; Come!” Everyone is welcome!

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. 10am until 4pm.** Pop along and find out what it involves.

THE SEASON OF LENT

Stations of the Cross: There will be Stations of the Cross every Friday during Lent at 4.30pm at St Mary’s and at 6:30 pm at St Gerard’s.

Early Mass on Fridays: There will be the opportunity of attending a Mass at **7.00 am** each Friday during Lent. This year we will hold this Mass in the **Chapel at St Benedict’s Monastery**. It is a good chance for the those who cannot usually attend a weekday Mass due to work commitments.

Mass on Thursday Evenings: Remember we now have a Mass on Thursday at 6.30pm at St Gerard’s.

Reconciliation: Lent is an important time to prepare for Easter by going to confession. Perhaps start thing now about when you will do this. We have confessions in both our churches before the vigil Masses on a Saturday evening; you can always ask a priest to hear your confession at any time. We will have a Parish Service of Reconciliation on the Tuesday of Holy Week, 31st March in St Gerard’s Church at 7pm.

Prayer: Make an extra bit of time for prayer during Lent: maybe pray the rosary; listen to a hymn on YouTube; pray the readings form daily Mass on www.universalis.com; listen to the daily reflections on www.pray-as-you-go.org

Fasting: Fridays in Lent are special days of fasting. Eat a little less than we might normally do; go without something which is part of the regular pattern of our lives—a TV programme; social media; offer that sacrifice to God for a special intention.

Almsgiving: give something more than we usually do to a good and worthy cause, especially to help those in need and demonstrate faith in action: CAFOD, Caritas, SVP, your local parish. Maybe set up a direct debit to make your giving a regular habit, or increase slightly the giving which you already make.

Spiritual Reading: Have you considered reading a spiritual book for Lent? There is a lot to choose from; why not start with biography of a saint? If anyone would like to send in recommendations or reviews we can share them here.

CAFOD: Join up with the Big Walk or support the Family Fast Day.

Evangelise: Remind family and friends that it is Lent and encourage them to take part.

Learn More about the Lenten Sunday Gospels: During the Lenten period, Salford Diocese is holding a course to deepen our appreciation of the Sunday Gospel that week: there will be a series of gospel readings taking place **every Tuesday** and delivered online by various speakers including, for the Palm Sunday Gospel, Bishop John Arnold. The next one is 3 March to prepare us for the 3rd Sunday of Lent when we hear “The Samaritan Woman at the Well”. For more information, please visit the diocesan website: <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/online-readings-for-lent/>

Joint Notices

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. They can do their preparation classes with All Hallows and their Confirmation with the parish by our Bishop. 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 If you have any questions, please speak to Fr Mark.

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 >> 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 >> stay with us

MARRIAGE MATTERS

Transformed by our love - Sometimes life is hard and we can get lost in the daily grind of making ends meet, of getting things done. Then, suddenly, a change occurs through a simple show of affection: a kiss, a touch, a loving glance from my beloved! In little gestures like these, we reveal again our love for each other and our relationship is transformed!

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



Our Lady & St Gerard's



St Mary's Brownedge

New Dawn Catholic Conference 2026 will take place at All Saints Church, Redclyffe Road, Urmston, M41 7LG. Spring Conference from **29th - 31st May**. Principal Celebrants & Speakers include: Bishop John Arnold, Fr Pat Collins CM, Fr James Anyaegbu, Fr Frankie Mulgrew, John Hesketh, Gary Stephens and Daniella Stephens. There will be daily Holy Mass, praise and worship, talks, prayer ministry, children's (ages 5-11) and youth (ages 12-17) ministries, and opportunities for confession and personal prayer; bookings are now open: <https://booking.princeofpeace.org.uk/>. It will be a great celebration of people in prayer, worship, and fellowship with the beauty of the Catholic faith.

A second conference follows 3-7 August. Principal Celebrants & Speakers include: Abbot Hugh Allan O.Praem, Fr Michael Payyapilly VC, Fr Richard Bailey CO, Fr Cliff Fumbelo, Michelle Moran, Deacon Larry and Andi Oney, and Terry Quinn, with bookings open March 1st. For more information go to www.princeofpeace.org.uk - all are welcome.

St Wilfrid's to Ladyewell Shrine Stations of the Cross - As this was so successful last year arrangements have been made again for **Saturday 21st March** setting off from St Wilfrid's at 9 am to arrive at Ladyewell to celebrate Mass at 12:30 pm. All ages are welcome to join in but under 18's must be accompanied by a responsible adult. **As transport back will be offered for walkers it is vital that you sign up beforehand to ensure enough transport is available.** Details can be found at <https://metanoiaproject.churchsuite.com/events/x9viwafir> where you can also sign up for the walk.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The sick, and those who care for them:

Sister Louise, Yvonne Jeffrey, Maureen Calderbank, Joseph Finch, Brian Morley, Mick Green, Peter Clough, Joseph O'Grady, Ruth Johnstone, Eileen McLaughlin, Marie Davis, Christina Hall, Valerie Jeffrey, Connie Hardacre

All those who have died recently:

Jack Lawson, Peter Dawson, Maria Muriel Henderson, Mary Pails, Ena Bolton, Mary Bilsborough, Fr. Robert Morrow, Agnes Walker.

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

New Sanctuary Carpet: We will be replacing the carpet on the sanctuary this week; 2nd—6th March. Thus, there will not be services in Church from Monday to Friday that week so that it can be fitted. We are enormously grateful to an anonymous donor who is helping us to cover the cost.

Coffee Morning: after Mass on Sunday 8th March there will be a coffee morning launching our "Easter Raffle" which will be drawn on Easter Sunday.

Tea Dance: The South Ribble Central Villages Hub are hosting a **Hot Pot/Butter pie Lunch in the Parochial Centre on Tuesday 17th March from 12 noon until 3 pm.** This **Free event for over 55's** is by **ticket only** which must be requested by Friday 6th March. To obtain your tickets email communities@southribble.gov.uk

CAFOD Walk for water - Please remember to return your donations for family fast day this weekend in the collection plate. As stated last weekend Michael and I are walking 500 kms over Lent to support CAFOD's work in bringing clean water to regions of the developing world where people have to walk many kms daily to access something we take for granted. This was brought home to us a few days ago when we walked to St Wilfrid's to take some of the clothes for the Metanoia project so generously donated by parishioners. Rather than take the car we put them in rucksacks and set off! We were exhausted and sore by the time we arrived. Millions of people are carrying much heavier loads daily to access water and they are unable to get the 111 bus home! Our just giving site link is: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/fundraising/michaels-fundraising-page1036>

St Gerard's Parish Lottery No. 616 25/02/26			
1st	£100	56	Ms J Pails
2nd	£40	7	Mrs A Rands
3rd	£20	74	Mrs H Lyth

W/C 01/03/26	This Weeks Intentions
Sanctuary	Yvonne Jeffrey
Our Lady	Dominic Barrow & Family
St Gerard Majella	Mia Aston & Babies

Offertory 21st/ 22nd February 2026		
Loose	Envelopes	Total Attendance
£279.90	£173.40	164

Bingo Jackpots for 04/03/2026			
£33	£29	£52	£26

St Mary's Brownedge Notices

Offertory Procession: Next Sunday 8th March 9:30 am Mass: Ryles Family.

On Fridays in Lent, 6th March, 13th March following 9.30 Mass we will have coffee mornings. There is a list of dates on the Cafod Board. The first will be on 27th February along with the first of the Mystery Raffle Draws.

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 - CAFOD'S Big Lent Walk 2026 - Dave Gorman is once again, for the 5th consecutive year, taking part in the Big Lent Walk and walking a minimum of 200km during the forty days of Lent. Your support and generosity would, once again, be much appreciated in the fight against global poverty. Sponsorship forms are available in the Narthex and in the Sacred Heart porch or you can donate online via: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/daves-fundraising-page4>

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.

Caritas Sunday - Please note that this will be held on Sunday 21st March. It usually takes place in January but this wasn't possible this year. Envelopes for gift aid will be available at the back of church before that date. You are welcome to take one and return on Caritas Sunday. Caritas, as you know, uses all donations for the poor, the homeless and the underprivileged in our community.

Easter Egg Appeal: Once again this year, we are collecting Easter Eggs for the Women's Refuge and other family charities for Easter; Please put donations at the back of Church in the boxes provided or contact Clare Haythornthwaite on 312558.

Sanctuary Lamps Week 01/03/26	
1	In Loving Memory of Mary & Michael Walsh
2	Please look after Pattie, Danny, Liam, Amy & Mary

Mass Attendance: Our Attendance last weekend			
7 pm Vigil	9:30 am	6:30 pm	Total
57	153	70	280