



St Mary's Brownedge

Founded c1780 SDTRTR No. 250037
 St Mary's Priory, Brownedge Lane, Bamber Bridge, Preston PR5 6SP
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 Live Streaming via website (churchservices.tv)

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Our Lady of Lourdes & St Gerard Majella

Lostock Hall - Preston - PR5 5AA
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Facebook : @stgerardslostockhall Twitter : @stgerardslostoc Instagram : @stgerardsslostock

Parish Clergy: Fr Mark Harold (Rural Dean & Parish Priest), Tel: 01772 335168 (Office)
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Assistant Priests: Fr Colin Battell OSB. Fr Charles Essien Tel: 01772 321201 (Monastery)

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (A) (DIVINE MERCY)

12th April 2026

St Mary's, Brownedge			
Sat	11th Apr	9:30 am	Fred & Mary Cowburn 2nd Sunday of Easter DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY
	Vigil	7:00 pm	Deceased members of the Catholic Club
Sun	12th Apr		2nd Sunday of Easter DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY
		9:30 am	Gerard Turner (Birthday)
		11:00 am	Baptism of Robin Hoyle
		6:30 pm	Mary Walmsley (Anniversary)
Mon	13th Apr	11:30 am	St Martin ^(OM) Funeral Service of Ann Barnes
Tues	14th Apr	9:30 am	Sheehan & Livesey Families
Wed	15th Apr	9:30 am	Margaret Cubbin
Thurs	16th Apr	9.30 am	Jack & Sheila Allsop
Fri	17th Apr	9:30 am	Francis, John & Elizabeth Dowbakin
Sat	18th Apr	9:30 am	Kenneth Duxbury
	Vigil	7:00 pm	3rd Sunday of Easter Ian Woan
Sun	19th Apr	9:30 am	Roy Wilde
		6:30 pm	The Parish

St Gerard's, Lostock Hall			
Sat	11th Apr		2nd Sunday of Easter DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY The Parish
	Vigil	5:30 pm	
Sun	12th Apr	10:30 am	2nd Sunday of Easter DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY Mrs Kath Banks R.I.P. (Ann)
Mon	13th Apr	6:00 pm 6:30 pm	St Martin ^(OM) Exposition Holy Souls
Tues	14th Apr	9:15 am	Priest's Intentions
Wed	15th Apr	9:15 am	Holy Souls
Thurs	16th Apr	11:15 am	Requiem Mass for Mary Eileen Lawson R.I.P.
Fri	17th Apr		NO SERVICES
Sat	18th Apr		3rd Sunday of Easter
	Vigil	5:30 pm	Priests Intentions
Sun	19th Apr	10:30 am	Holy Souls
		12 noon	Baptism of Florence Duffy & Amelia Szlachciak

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.

During Easter

We pray for new members of the Church, vocations, the right use of the media, the Church and human work.

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.



Joint Notices

Second Sunday of Easter "DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY"

MY LORD and MY GOD



Often people forget that Easter is not just a day, but a season - the longest in the Church's year, in fact! We are given fifty glorious days of Spring and Summer to prolong our baptismal joy, fifty glorious days

of basking in the light of the risen Saviour. It seems a shame that after the efforts we put into Lent we don't celebrate Eastertide with the same enthusiasm. The readings of this Season have their origins in the instruction given to converts in the early Church: in Lent, the readings were the basis of catechesis on the forthcoming baptism; in Easter the readings are "Mystagogy" - a type of teaching where the newly baptised ("neophytes") learn through taking part in the celebration of the sacraments and hearing the word. On the Sundays we hear who Jesus is, and on weekdays hear about Baptism and the Eucharist. This "Mystagogy" is not just to nourish the neophytes, but to help all of us deepen our life in the risen Lord Jesus. This Sunday we are with the disciples in the Upper Room, where eight days after the Resurrection Jesus comes among them - as he comes among us.

Welcome! Easter is traditionally a time for people to be received into the Church. We are greatly blessed that **nine adults** are becoming Catholics in our Parish this Easter. This follows a group of eight last Easter; this is a great sign of renewal and new life and the attractiveness of our community; welcome to: Edward Seed, Emily Baxter, Dan Butler, Glynn Watson, Sam Cruickshank, Shannon Wright, Molly Bottomley, Amrutha Nair and Lauren Boyd. Also Dan Taylor and Akram Ghasemkhani will be received in the coming weeks. Most of these Baptisms / Receptions / Confirmations / First Communions took place at the Easter Vigil and we continue to pray for them through the Easter Season.

Happy Easter! Fr Mark and Fr Colin would like to thank everyone for their kindness and support. Many members of our community do so much to help us all; it is much appreciated. We pray for every blessing of this sacred feast to be with each of you, your loved ones, and our whole community.

The Triduum and Easter Services: The liturgies of the past week have been wonderful occasions; many thanks to everyone who has helped in any way: sacristans, servers, cleaners, flower arrangers, musicians and singers, reader and other ministers. It is truly a special parish effort visibly demonstrating our Holy Communion. Well done everyone!

Altar Servers: A huge thank you to our altar servers who have helped so much over Holy Week Easter and during the year. They are a fine team in both our parishes who add dignity and reverence to our celebrations. Anyone who would be interested in serving on the altar please let us know. It would be great to have more!

Thank You from the Altar Servers : To Father Mark & Father Colin and Father Charles for Easter Eggs! :)

Shroud of Turin: A replica of the Shroud of Turin and a supporting exhibition will be displayed at **Blackburn Cathedral until Sunday 12th April 2026.**

It is a life-size replica of the original burial shroud believed to have been used to wrap the body of Jesus after the Crucifixion. It offers a wonderful opportunity to learn more and study this sacred cloth - which for some, has proved to be a deeply moving and profound experience.

On Sunday 12th April from 1 – 2pm there will be a talk by Fr Andrew Dalton, a lecturer from Rome and a world expert on the Shroud.

SVP - The Next SVP Meeting is on Monday 13th April at 6:30pm at the St Mary's Priory. The SVP befriends those who live alone, or are just lonely, recently bereaved, or disabled. Please let us know through the Church office if you would like a visit and a friendly ear to listen.

Also the next SVP collection will be next weekend the 18th/19th April after all the Masses. This monthly retiring collection helps us to help others.

The Chaplet to the Divine Mercy: The Chaplet of Divine Mercy is a very spiritual devotion focussing on the mercy Jesus has for each one of us. The Chaplet can be said daily. There is also a special Novena which runs for the 9 days from Good Friday to the Feast of Divine Mercy on 2nd Sunday of Easter. There are copies of the Chaplet and the Novena available at the back of Church.

SVP: - Camino Pilgrimage - Tuesday 7th April – Barbara Hall will be leaving for the SVP Camino Pilgrimage – Please join her & the other Pilgrims with your prayers – Donations can still be made at www.justgiving.com/page/barbara-hall-1 or any donations can be put in the donations basket in Church in an envelope marked Camino.

Please also remember Glynn Watson, who was received into the Church at the Easter Vigil and then set off on Easter Sunday to walk the Camino in memory of his wife, Julie, who died last year.

70th Platinum Wedding Anniversary - Thank you very much for the presents, cards and so many congratulations on our Platinum 70 years Wedding Anniversary. Thank you to Father Mark for the Blessing and to Grace Robinson for arranging the Mass and the surreptitiously gained article in the News and Views. Now for the next 10 years! Terry and Marina McNulty.

Joint Notices

Recommendations for Spiritual Reading:

Easter time it is always good to reflect more deeply on the life of Jesus; Watching a religious documentary or a biblical movie can also lead us into deeper understanding of the Paschal Mystery. Also, currently on BBC iPlayer there is a good documentary about the winner of "The Traitors", called, "**Harry Clark goes to Rome**". A good portrayal of a young man seeking to deepen his faith. Well worth a watch. Encourage your families to tune and think about their faith a little more.

Gift Aid: A Simple Way to Help Your Parish:

Many parishioners may not realise that most people receiving the State Pension are now paying Income Tax on it and many more will be from 5th April this year. This means a large number of us already pay enough tax for the parish to reclaim Gift Aid on our offertory giving.

Just to reassure you: we are not asking you to give more (though any increase is always appreciated). What we are encouraging is that whatever you already put into the offertory is Gift Aided.

Gift Aid allows the parish to claim an additional 25p for every £1 donated, at no extra cost to you. All that's needed is a simple Gift Aid declaration. It's quick to complete, confidential, and covers all your regular and one-off giving.

If you're not already signed up, please consider doing so. By Gift Aiding your offerings, you help the parish receive the full benefit of the tax you already pay—strengthening our community and supporting the work of the Church.

The Gift Aid form (and Standing Order if you prefer) are available in the Narthex or if you need any help, please speak to our parish Gift Aid organiser or contact the parish office.

Song recital: There will be a song recital in St Mary's Church at 4.30pm on Saturday, April 11th, by Helen Latham and Georgina Rosanna Crowe (sopranos) with Charles Ellis at the piano. Tickets £10 (children free) from Raymund Livesey (tel 338413) or pay at the door.

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. Have you been confirmed? Have your children or grandchildren been confirmed? Everyone who is a Catholic should receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. The preparation for our local parishes is being provided by Brownedge St Mary's High School in collaboration with Fr Mark and the parishes. For more information about being confirmed please get in touch with Fr Mark, the school chaplain or the parish office: www.st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk/catholic-life/chaplaincy.

Catholic Family Holidays in The Lake District:

Castlerigg Manor in Keswick (heart of the Lake District) is offering budget-friendly holidays for Catholic families during May, August, and early September. Breakfast and evening meal are included and there will be Mass on site. Guests have full use of the site including the grounds, games room, chapel, and lounges, and Castlerigg is just a short walk from Keswick and Lake Derwentwater. Ideal for individuals, couples, families, or groups of friends. Head to www.castleriggmanor.com >> **stay with us** or contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk / **017687 72711**

Youth Ministry Gap Year Opportunity: Do you know anyone aged 18-25 who is looking for a new challenge? The Diocese of Lancaster has a Youth Ministry team based in Keswick in the Lake District. They run retreats at Castlerigg Manor and also work in Churches and schools around the area. The 'Youth Ministry Internship' scheme comes with high quality training, experience, and recognised qualifications and gives young people the chance to join a welcoming community and a vibrant team doing some amazing work. **Interested?** Contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk or www.castleriggmanor.com

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



MARRIAGE MATTERS

"Togetherness" - Our 'togetherness' in what we do and say is a 'sign' of our love and a source of joy for us. Sometimes, like Thomas, we can be stubborn, with an attitude of 'I'll believe it when I see it' creating a sense of separation and distance. But together we have the power to stop, reflect, be forgiven, and begin again.

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, Eileen McLaughlin, Marie Davis, Christina Hall, Anne May.

All those who have died recently:

Marie Baron, Mary Eileen Lawson, Magdalena Denby, Valerie Jeffrey, Ann Barnes.

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

St Mary's Brownedge Notices

Majella Companions - Meet on Tuesday 14th April at 12:30 pm in the Shields Centre.

Donation to Foodbank - Our Local Spar on Hope Terrace have very kindly donated 10 Easter Eggs to the Foodbank.

Chalices: We have sent 4 of our 6 chalices to be regilded as the original plating is wearing away. The cost of each one is £222 inc. VAT. One of our open Ciboria, which holds the hosts, is also being restored at a cost of £174. If we send the remaining 2 chalices the total cost will be £1506. If anyone would be willing to contribute to the cost of the restoration of one of them, perhaps in memory of a loved one it would be greatly appreciated.

New Sanctuary Carpet: The new sanctuary carpet looks splendid; However the remaining carpet in the Church now looks even more in need of replacing. If anyone would like to make a donation to raise funds to carpet the remainder of the church it would be appreciated. The last time was in the early 90's so it is not something we do very often. We are still waiting for an estimated cost for this, when it arrives you may wish to sponsor a square metre or two!!

CAFOD -- Thank you all so much for your generous donations to the collection we made at St Gerard's for the Lenten family fast day. The amount came to £592.45. As £231.21 of that was gift aided, the overall total to help those in the developing world struggling to access life giving water will be around £650. That's wonderful! Michael and I will be continuing our CAFOD walk for water until we have completed the 500 kms which was our official target before Michael became so unwell. At this rate it may take us till Pentecost! As such you can still support Cafod's work on our just giving site. The link is: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/fundraising/michaels-fundraising-page1036>

Wednesday Bingo Easter Break: We will restart on Wednesday 15th April.

Easter Raffle - Raised £270 for church funds — thank you to everyone who donated prizes, bought ticket and helped to sell tickets. Well done!!

APF Red Mission Boxes - Grateful thanks to Box Holders and collectors for the 2025 collection which amounted to £2165.50.

Offertory Procession: Next Sunday 19th April 9:30 am Mass: Carreon Family.

Cafod - Many thanks to all who supported our coffee mornings and raffles during Lent, we have raised a wonderful £1,160. We have also received a generous anonymous donation of £100 and from our Parish Community Walk have given David Gorman £125 towards his Big Lent Walk. From the buckets and sale of goods on the Cafod stall during March, £165. Unclaimed raffle tickets from last week, orange 788, 96, 627, prizes on the trolley in the Narthex. Thank you for standing in love and solidarity with our global family, blessings of Easter to you all

Cafod's Big Lent Walk - "CAFOD Big Lent Walk - In the 47 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday inclusive, I've walked 322km and raised a fantastic £1,377 excluding Gift Aid. I am truly humbled and grateful to everybody for their generosity, support and encouragement. Thank you so much. Dave Gorman".

Mothers Prayers - The next meeting is on Wednesday 15th April at 1 pm in the Priory.

CARITAS COLLECTION – Many Thanks to you for raising almost £900 for the poor & underprivileged in our community. This included a £100 donation from the CAFOD group which was greatly appreciated – Well done to you all.

Message from Caritas – 2nd April 2026 – Head of Fundraising – Thank you so very much to the Parishioners of St Mary's Bamber Bridge for your Compassionate and generous response to the growing levels of poverty and homelessness across our Diocese. We have received your very generous collection of £747.38 in response to the Caritas Sunday appeal in March and understand that a further £140.00 has been collected on the Parish donor machine plus lots of gift aid envelopes which are on the way to us – Please know that your kindness directly brings comfort, stability and hope to individuals and families at the very moment they need it most. Your generosity truly makes a difference – Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Wedding: Best wishes to Mark Birkinshaw & Chloe Cross who were married on Thursday in a beautiful Wedding Service.

W/C 12/04/26		This Weeks Intentions	
Sanctuary		Yvonne Jeffrey	
Our Lady		Redmond & Williams Family	
Offertory 4th / 5th April 2026			
Loose	Envelopes	Total Attendance	
£470	£315:25	250	
Bingo Jackpots for 15/04/2026			
£25	£33	£56	£30

Sanctuary Lamps Week 12/04/26			
1	For Patrick & Bridget Kiernan		
2	Deceased Family & Friends of Ann & Dave Gorman		
Mass Attendance: Our Attendance last weekend			
7 pm Vigil	9:30 am	6:30 pm	Total
200	280	68	548