



Our Lady and St Gerard's Lostock Hall

NEWS AND VIEWS

The Assumption of Our Lady 15th August

Issue No 667 August 2023

On Tuesday 15th August we celebrate the Solemnity of The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is the oldest feast day of Our Lady, its origin is lost in those days when Jerusalem was restored as a sacred city, at the time of the Roman Emperor Constantine (c. 285-337). By then it had been a pagan city for two centuries, ever since Emperor Hadrian (76-138) had levelled it around the year 135 and rebuilt it in honour of Jupiter.

It is a Holyday of Obligation and Mass will be at 9:30 am & 4:30 pm at St Mary's and at **7:30 pm at St Gerard's.**



**Summer Holiday Office Hours
at St Gerard's**
Monday 9 to 12 pm,
Wednesday 9 to 12 pm,
Friday 9 to 12 pm

At St Marys
Monday 12 to 3 pm,
Wednesday 12 to 3 pm,
Friday 12 to 3 pm

**Office Closed 14th to 18th
August**

In this Issue

Sister Louise	Page 2
Men in Black	Page 3
Denis Gallagher	Page 5
If Jesus came to your house	Page 8
World You Day 2023	Page 9
Parish Diary	Page 15

Greetings to you all in Lostock Hall.



I hear that you have been characteristically generous in raising funds to provide a new boiler for the church and have worked very hard with various activities such as knitting bob hats and Easter bunnies, just to mention a couple. Well done and may the Lord reward and bless you.

I miss you all so much and you are always with me in my thoughts and in my prayers. I will never forget you or the years I spent in Lostock Hall. Thank you for the many cards and letters that have come from all those who have written or phoned. I will try to improve my corresponding skills to prove that I haven't forgotten you. I will be with you in spirit as you all celebrate together.

Love and prayers always.

Sister Louise.

Working Party Update

We have been working, hail, rain or shine (mostly the later) for the last 5 or 6 weeks to get the old paint and rust off the railings on Brownedge Road and will start the painting as soon as we get a dry Saturday (it could be September!!)

We've had plenty of advice from passers by as to how to do the work but no one has offered so far to lift a brush!

As always extra hands make light work and there is always plenty to talk about especially once the football season gets under way. Just turn up after 9 am any Saturday when PNE are playing away.

Gardening Tip of the Month

Place a plastic flower pot in the hole at the top of your watering can to prevent frogs etc from jumping in and drowning. (LW)

Men in Black

When Father Joe left Tardy St Gerard's for 'pastures new' I got the feeling that we had gone 'full circle' with Brownedge St Mary's RC Church dating back to pre-1891.

Roman Catholics in the Lostock Hall/Tardy Gate area had to trudge up Black Lane (Brownedge Road) to St Marys In Bamber Bridge to attend Mass, in all kinds of weather and occasionally treacherous conditions underfoot on what was basically an unmade dirt track.

The ever expanding Railway network and Cotton industry in the local area was attracting many outsiders of all denominations and faiths.

St Pauls CE Farington Moss had already been built in 1839-40, whilst local cotton baron, Mr Henry Ward Esq, had funded the construction of a Methodist Chapel on Watkin Lane circa 1866.

St James's CE Church was built and opened around 1891-92 as a satellite of St Saviours CE Church in Bamber Bridge.

Around the same time, the ever growing Roman Catholic populace in the area gave need for somewhere more local than St Marys at Bamber Bridge and this resulted in the building of St Paulinus's Chapel on Black Lane in 1891. This doubled up as a Chapel at the weekends and school during the week.

23 years later, again due to more and more Roman Catholics moving into the area, 'Our Lady and St Gerard Majella' RC Church was built and ready in 1913, on Lourdes Avenue. St Paulinus then became a full-time school.

Now 132 years later on from being independent of Brownedge St Marys, Tardy St Gerard's is again reliant to some degree, sharing the services of Father Mark and Father Colin and long may it continue for all our sakes.



From the very first Parish Priest, Father Athanasius Fishwick (1891-93) up to Father Joe, there have been 20 servants of the Lord, correct me if I'm wrong at Tardy St Gerard's RC Church.

Born in February 1949, I have personally been under the care of 14 of them in the past 74 years.



Father Gregory Swann (1946-56) was responsible for my Baptism and Father Ian Wilfrid McKenzie arrived just in

time to for my First Holy Communion in June 1956.

I served on the Altar, entirely under Father McKenzie (1956-68) Father Leonard Jackson officiated at my wedding in December 1972 and christened my eldest son.

He was followed by Father Boniface Hunt, uncle to F1 racing driver James Hunt, who was a 'bit of a lad' amongst other things.

Father Boniface left in 1981, being replaced by Father Justin Caldwell (1981-84)

The longest serving priest at Tardy St Gerard's was the highly respected and influential Father Peter Cuthbert Mercer who served our Church for 23 years (1906-29).

His name lives on in present day Lostock Hall, St Cuthberts Road and Mercer Road named after him. Whilst a large memorial stone stands next to the Church wall opposite the graveyard. The New Church was under his watch.

Father McKenzie oversaw the Tower and extension in 1963. I was confirmed by George Beck, Bishop of Salford (1955-64).



Whilst Father Rupert Everest was the Parish Priest when both my sons were confirmed at Tardy St Gerard's by Bishop Thomas Holland and Bishop Patrick Kelly respectively.

What does the future hold for our children and grandchildren? Only one person knows and He is the reason why people will continue to worship at St Gerard's, St Mary's and throughout the world by all Christian denominations.

Tony Billington

Footnote : A Father was reading Bible stories to his young son, "The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and flee out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned into a pillar of salt" His young son asked "What happened to the flea?"

Denis Gallagher - 1938—2023 His Eulogy



Thank you all for being here today. Your love and support means a lot to our mum and our families and I'm sure our dad would have been very pleased to see so many people here to celebrate his life and to lay him to rest.

Our dad had a fulfilled life. A life of love, happiness and challenges. He lived it his own way but always with consideration for others.

We'd be here all day, and probably tomorrow if we were to tell you everything he had done over his lifetime, so we thought the best way to do this is to read from a book that our dad could have written.

The book would contain a wealth of knowledge covering every subject imaginable...providing guidance and advice for all aspects of life.

Travel, Spirituality, Psychology, Fashion, Sport, Philosophy and Engineering are just a few of the chapters, but the constant thread throughout the book would be love.

We'll never be able to read this book, but we know every word, chapter and verse. Some words were taught, others shown through example. Some we already knew and others we need reminding of. This is what made him so special.

We'd like to share some of this book with you.... 'A Guide to Life' by Denis Gallagher. It's a book of 'How things should be done do'.

We're only going to read some of the chapters and headings. If you want a full insight into our dad's life, the book will be on sale afterwards, reasonably priced, with a discount for family and friends.

Chapter 1 **Human development**

How to show Love, compassion and kindness to each other.

Understanding others and not judging.

Forgiving others, and yourself.

How to be patient with family members, Give and take.

Chapter 2 **Spirituality**

How to believe, Have faith.

Respecting other beliefs and religions.

Being a Good Samaritan.

How to show care and consideration to others.

Chapter 3 **Machinery & Vehicles**

How to fix a loom, Designing Arab head-dresses.

Driving without the aid of a speedometer, clutch or handbrake.

Providing roadside assistance to an elderly couple, Picking up hitchhikers

How to have drive and determination.

Chapter 4 **Nature**

How to appreciate the world around you, and all it's wonders.

Climbing trees to shake conkers from the branches

Finding birds nests, picking hazelnuts and blackberries.

How to appreciate the care given to you from the love of your life.

Chapter 5 **Sport**

How to be fair, honest and truthful.

Running with a broken shin... and still coming second.

Knocking out a Welsh guard to win a boxing competition.

Cycling up Shap, on a 5 geared bike.

Supporting the under-dog, Staying within the rules...only just...on some occasions!

Chapter 6 **Fashion & Style**

How to maintain youthful looks, Looking cool.

Perfect curls for your daughters First Holy communion

Removing chewing gum or slime from children's hair, Cutting hair with the aid of a Hoover.

Razor sharp creases in army uniform, being Best in Parade.

How to be a gentleman.

Chapter7 **Food & Beverages**

How to show appreciation for your wife's cooking. Eating homemade chips in bed, using your belly button as a salt dispenser.

Wine making, brewing hooch and distilling moonshine.

Knowing when you've had enough to drink, Having one too many.

Saying grace before meals

Chapter 8 **The human mind**

How to remain positive “It’s all in the mind.”

Turning a disadvantage into an advantage.

Every problem has a solution.

How to relax, Ways to sleep...anywhere.

Always have a dream, Maintaining your ‘buzz’.

Chapter 9 **Hobbies & Past times**

Playing with your Grandchildren.

Making Christmas hats (that will win first prize).

Fancy dress for children and adults (see food and beverages for instructions on ‘Making a bucket of curry’).

Meeting new people, enjoying the craic, Exploring new avenues.

Working hard throughout your life to provide for your family.

Chapter 10 **Travel & the world**

How to live life in America.

Turning a short-cut into a long one.

Holidaying in Malta, Sneaky drinks at the beach bar.

Travel throughout Europe, Africa, Asia.

How to get home to your family.

Chapter 11 **Music**

Watching Status Quo with someone special.

Rocking around the clock, in drain-pipes and creep sole shoes.

Discovering YouTube and its plethora of artists, Enjoying Old Tom and favourite tunes.

How to sing a bedtime song to your boy and girl.

Chapter 12 **History**

How to learn from the past, your mistakes and your successes.

Staying happily married for over 50 years.

Enjoy watching your family tree grow and flourish.

Knowing your roots, Celtic connections.

Remembering loved ones you have lost.

.....The final chapter would be simple and concise... How to be...

The best son, brother, uncle, cousin, father-in law, granddad, great-granddad, relative, friend, acquaintance.

...And finally... how to be the best husband and dad...see all previous chapters.

IF JESUS CAME TO YOUR HOUSE

If Jesus came to your house to spend a day or two,
If He came unexpectedly, I wonder what you'd do?
Oh, I know you'd give your nicest room to such an honoured guest,
And all the food you'd serve Him would be the very best, And you
would keep assuring Him your glad to have Him there,
That serving Him in your home is joy beyond compare.

But - when you saw Him coming, would you meet Him at the door,
With arms outstretched in welcome to your Heavenly Visitor?
Or would you have to change your clothes before you let Him in,
Or hide some magazines, and put your missal where they'd been?
Would you turn off the TV, and hope He hadn't heard,
And wish you hadn't uttered that last, loud hasty word?

Would you hide your worldly music and put some hymn book out?
Could you let Jesus walk right in, or would you rush about?
And I wonder - if the Saviour spent a day or two with you,
Would you go right on and doing the things you always do?
Would you go right on saying the things you always say?
Would life for you continue as it does from day to day?

Would your family conversation keep up its usual pace?
And would you find it hard each meal to say a table grace?
Would you sing the songs you always sing, and read the books you
read,
And let Him know the things on which your mind and spirit feed?
Would you take Jesus with you everywhere you'd planned to go?
Or would you, maybe, change your plans for just a day or two?

Would you be glad to have Him meet your closest friends,
Or would you'd hope they'd stay away, until His visit ends?
Would you be glad to have Him stay, forever on and on,
Or would you sigh with great relief, when He at last was gone?
It might be interesting to know the things that you would do,
If Jesus came in person to spend some time with you.

(Taken from St Marys Browndedge Parish Magazine Spring/Easter
2004)

Hastening toward WYD

The motto for WYD 2023 is “Mary arose and went with haste”, taken from Luke’s Gospel (1:39).

Earlier last year, the World Youth Day Press Office announced 13 patron saints to accompany young people during their journey toward and during the event. They are -



St. John Bosco

St. Vincent.

St. Anthony, a 13th century Franciscan.

St. Bartholomew of the Martyrs, a 16th century Dominican

St. John de Brito, a 17th century Jesuit missionary and martyr.

Blessed Joana of Portugal, a 15th century daughter of a king who gave up everything to become a Dominican nun;

Blessed João Fernandes, a 16th century Jesuit martyr.

Blessed Maria Clara del Niño Jesus, a 19th century aristocratic woman who became a mother to the poor of Lisbon.

Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, an Italian man who encouraged others with “his dynamism, joy, and charity”.

Blessed Marcel Callo, a French young man who died in a forced labour camp in Germany;

Blessed Chiara Badano, an Italian teenager who died from a painful bone cancer.

Blessed Carlo Acutis, an Italian teenager who spread the word of God through the nascent internet and later died from leukaemia.



The first WYD took place in 1986 in Rome, and was later held in Buenos Aires (1987), Santiago de Compostela (1989), Czestochowa (1991), Denver (1993), Manila (1995), Paris (1997), Rome (2000), Toronto (2002), Cologne (2005), Sydney (2008), Madrid (2011), Rio de Janeiro (2013), Krakow (2016), and Panama (2019).

Our two parish representatives are James Turner and Archie Henderson.

We have a Family Fun Night organised for 22nd September from 6:30 pm to support their attendance.

Family Fun Night

In The Parochial Centre
Friday 22nd September

start 6:30pm

BINGO

Comperre Lee McNulty



DISCO FUN & GAMES

Adult Tickets £5

Max 2 Children per Adult

Children Free

Children Must Be Accompanied By An Adult

Children Free Hot Dog

Adults Bacon & Sausage

Barms

Walking Route Cards

We usually publish monthly a list of Health Walks & Rambles in and around the Borough, but for the last few months these have not been happening. The walks of course are still there and the Walking route Cards are available via the South Ribble Website at <https://www.southribble.gov.uk/content/walking-route-cards>

Why not put your best foot forward and download one of these free Walking Route Guides?

The walks range in distance from 1.5 miles to almost 8 miles, with starting points to be found all over the borough.

Listed below are the walks you can download and the distances, the first four are very local and you probably know them

- 01. Farington Lodges Walk (1.5 miles)**
- 02. Farington Lodges Walk (3.5 miles)**
- 03. Hope Terrace Walk (5.5 miles)**
- 04. Tardy Gate Walk (1.5 miles)**
05. New Longton & Whitestake Walk (2.5 miles)
06. Longton Coastal Walk (5.0 miles)
07. Longton Brickcroft Walk (1.5 miles)
08. Hutton & Longton Coastal Walk (7.0 miles)
09. Penwortham Heritage Trail 1 (2.0 Miles)
10. Penwortham Heritage Trail 2 (2.5 miles)
11. Penwortham Heritage Trail 3 (4.3 miles)
12. Penwortham Heritage Trail - Howick & Hutton Circular (3 miles)
13. Penwortham & Howick Riverside Walk (4.1 miles)
- 14. Old Tram Road & Walton-le-Dale Walk (5 miles)**
- 15. Bamber Bridge & Walton Park Walk (5.5 miles)**
16. Gregson Lane & Coupe Green Walk (3.6 miles)
17. Nabs Head Samlesbury Walk (5 miles)
- 18. Lostock Hall Heritage Trail (3.5 miles)**
- 19. Lostock Hall and Farington Railway Heritage Trail (3.5 miles)**
- 20. St Mary's Parish Boundary Walk (7.7 miles)**
21. St Leonard's Parish Boundary Walk (5 miles)

Altruistic August 2023

MONDAY



1 Set an intention to be kind to others (and yourself) this month

TUESDAY

2 Send an uplifting message to someone you can't be with

WEDNESDAY

3 Be kind and supportive to everyone you interact with

THURSDAY



4 Ask someone how they feel and really listen to their reply

FRIDAY

5 Spend time wishing for other people to be happy and well

SATURDAY

6 Smile and be friendly to the people you see today

SUNDAY

7 Give time to help a project or cause you care about

8 Make some tasty food for someone who will appreciate it

9 Thank someone you're grateful to and tell them why

10 Check in with someone who may be lonely or feeling anxious

11 Share an encouraging news story to inspire others

12 Contact a friend to let them know you're thinking of them

13 No plans day! Be kind to yourself so you can be kind to others too

14 Take an action to be kind to nature and care for our planet

15 If someone annoys you, be kind. Imagine how they may be feeling

16 Make a thoughtful gift as a surprise for someone

17 Be kind online. Share positive and supportive comments

18 Today do something to make life easier for someone else

19 Be thankful for your food and the people who made it possible

20 Look for the good in everyone you meet today

21 Donate unused items, clothes or food to help a local charity

22 Give people the gift of your full attention

23 Share an article, book or podcast you found helpful

24 Forgive someone who hurt you in the past

25 Give your time, energy or attention to help someone in need

26 Find a way to 'pay it forward' or support a good cause

27 Notice when someone is down and try to brighten their day

28 Have a friendly chat with someone you don't know very well

29 Do something kind to help in your local community

30 Give away something to help those who don't have as much as you

31 Share Action for Happiness with other people today



ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier • Kinder • Together

You should consult your Doctor or other health care professional before starting this or any other fitness program to determine if it is right for your needs.

**Parish Clergy: Fr Mark Harold (Rural Dean & Parish Priest),
Fr Colin Battell OSB.**

The Presbytery
17C Browndedge Road
Lostock Hall
Preston
PR5 5AA

Tel: 01772 335387 **Mobile 07442 385553 (9am-3pm)**

In an Emergency please phone either

St Marys Browndedge 335168

St Mary's Leyland 455955

St Catherine's Farrington 421174

Contacts

The Primary School 335025

The Parochial Centre 339459

Weekly Services

Sundays: Saturday Vigil 5:30 p.m.
Sunday 10:30 a.m.

Weekdays: **MASS** - Tuesday and Thursday at 9:15 am
Services of Word & Holy Communion - Monday 6:30 pm &
Wednesday at 9:15 am

Reconciliation: Confessions - before Weekend Masses.

Baptisms

To arrange a Baptism please call the parish office on 01772 335387 between 9 -11.45 am. (Mon – Fri). Parents are expected to attend 2 Baptism Preparation meetings before a Baptism can take place. If people have not been in the practice of attending church regularly, they are asked to attend Mass for a period of six weeks prior to the Baptism to help them to be spiritually prepared for the sacrament and to get into the habit of practicing the Faith.

No Priest! What do we do?

If there is an Emergency and no Priest is available for the weekend Masses, the Eucharistic Ministers, particularly those who have been trained, will perform a Holy Communion Service and this will replace the Mass. Please note that this is **Only in an Emergency** and there is no time to arrange for another priest or no other is Priest is available.

Marriages

At least six months notification of Marriage is required. Pre-marriage instruction is mandatory and organised by the Diocese. Please telephone 335387 to arrange Notification and Preparation.

Parish Organisations

CONTACT

Advertising	John Corrigan	316295
Altar Servers	David Walker	629701
A.P.F. & Sacristan	Christine Flanagan	334723
CAFOD	Margaret Cronin	336475
Catechists & Sacramental Programme		335387
Children's Liturgy Group	Lee McNulty	07478703414
Eucharistic Ministers & Readers	Michael Quinlan	467306
Flowers	Carole Hesmondhalgh	339700
Football Club	Phil Tinsley	07775890667
Fund Raising Group		335387
Gift Aid	John Robinson	335387
News & Views, Website , Printers	David Walker	629701
Majella Companions		335387
Marriage Registrars	Margaret Cronin	336475
	Ann Quinlan	467306
Parochial Centre		
Piety Shop	Vivian Page	313910
P.T.A.	Ross Free	339691
Sacred Heart Guild		
Safeguarding Officer	email: safeguarding@saintgerards.org.uk	
School (Staff, Ancillaries & Governors)		335025
Senior Citizens Organisers	Linda Walsh	311654
	Gloria Duffell	339966
Youth Representative	Lee McNulty	07478703414

Items for News & Views can be left at the Presbytery or emailed to the editor at newsviews@saintgerards.org.uk The last day for submissions is the 20th of each month.

www.saintgerards.org.uk

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St Mary's, Brownedge
Live Streaming Times
<https://www.churchservices.tv/bamberbridge>

Sunday	Mass	09:30 am & 6:30 pm
Monday to Friday	Mass	9:30 am
Private Prayer	Tuesday Thursday	3:00 pm to 4:00 pm 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Saturday	Mass	7 pm Vigil
Sunday	Mass	09:30 am & 6:30 pm

Parish Diary

1st Aug	St Alphonus Liguori	16th	St Stephen of Hungary
2nd	St Eusebius of Vercelli	19th	St John Eudes
4th	St John Mary Vianney	20th	20th Sunday of the Year
5th	Dedication of the Basilica of St Mary Major	21st	St Pius X
6th	The Transfiguration of the Lord	22nd	Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
7th	St Sixtus II & Companions	23rd	St Roe of Lima
8th	St Dominic	24th	St Bartholomew
9th	St Teresa Benedicta	25th	St Louis
10th	St Lawrence	26th	Blessed Dominic of the Mother of God
11th	St Clare	27th	21st Sunday of the Year
12th	St Jane Frances de Chantal	28th	St Augustine
13th	19th Sunday of the Year	29th	The Passion of St John the Baptist
14th	St Maxilimian Kolbe	30th	St Margaret Clitherow
15th	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary	31st	St Aidan & Saints of Lindisfarne

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WHATS ON IN THE PAROCHIAL CENTRE THIS MAY

Saturday 6th May
Dave Oz

Saturday 13th May
Greg Ritchie

Saturday 20th May
John Connolly

Friday 26th May
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