

Our Lady and St Gerard's Lostock Hall

NEWS AND VIEWS

Issue No 670 November 2023

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

The Royal British Legion Lostock Hall have confirmed the arrangements are as usual this year.

“The Remembrance Parade will take place again this year and are inviting as many people as possible to show respect and support this important day

The Parade will Fall in between 2 and 2:15 pm on 12th November and march off at 2:30 pm. The remembrance Service will take place at 3 pm at the memorial.

If any veteran or member of the wider community could spare any time to assist during the Remembrance period, your support would be greatly appreciated.

Lest We Forget 

Our Church will remember our deceased relatives on Sunday 19th November at the 10:30 am Mass where relatives are invited to bring up a candle during the service in memory of their loved ones.

Remembrance Day



**Remembrance Sunday
12th November 2023**

In this Issue

Cafod Update	Page 1
Laudate Deum	Page 3
Mary Morgan (Molly)	Page 6
Stations of the Cross	Page 7
World Youth Day	Page 9
Parish Diary	Page 17

CAFOD

Thank you once again for your generous donations to Cafod's harvest appeal. I will tell you the final total when the money has been counted.

Much of Cafod's recent projects have centred on climate change and the mitigation of its effects in the developing world where the poorest are the first to suffer from floods, droughts, earthquakes and other natural disasters.

Climate change and our care for creation is close to the heart of Pope Francis and early in his papacy he released an encyclical 'Laudato Si' to outline how we must protect our common home, the earth. In it he lamented environmental degradation and global warning. He called on all of us to take swift and unified global action.

On October 4th, the feast of St Francis of Assisi, the pope released Laudate Deum an apostolic exhortation to all people of good will on the climate crisis. This could be considered a follow up to Laudato Si' and in it he says that the world is not moving fast enough to mitigate the devastating effects of climate change. He criticises those who downplay or deny the severity of the threat posed by climate change. The pope believes that the world has largely failed to rise to the challenges he outlined in Laudato Si'. A full text of Laudate Deum can be found on the Vatican news website. (An extract follows this article)

The pope looks ahead to December's Cop 28, which will be held this year in Dubai where world leaders will discuss specific solutions which urgently need scaling up this decade to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees.



We have a particular interest in this year's Cop as our youngest daughter Bessie has recently left her work in the House of Commons to take up employment at Cafod's central office, Romero

House, Westminster Bridge road London. She's working there as a policy leader for climate change and is being sent to Dubai in early December as one of CAFOD representatives. She tells us now that Pope Francis is her line manager!

You may remember a few weeks ago you were asked to sign a petition calling on the world bank to allow farmers in the developing world to grow and develop their own seeds rather than forcing farmers to buy more expensive seeds from huge multinationals. You may be wondering where your petitions went and I can verify that a week or two ago they were presented to the world bank by the CAFOD staff at Romero House. Over 70,000 signatures were collected from parishes in England and below are the CAFOD staff outside the world bank. Our daughter Bessie is in the middle on the front row.

Margaret Cronin.



APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION
LAUDATE DEUM
OF THE HOLY FATHER
FRANCIS
TO ALL PEOPLE OF GOOD WILL
ON THE CLIMATE CRISIS

This is a small extract from the Laudate Deum

Eight years have passed since I published the Encyclical Letter *Laudato Si'*, when I wanted to share with all of you, my brothers and sisters of our suffering planet, my heartfelt concerns about the care of our common home. Yet, with the passage of time, I have realized that our responses have not been adequate, while the world in which we live is collapsing and may be nearing the breaking point. In addition to this possibility, it is indubitable that the impact of climate change will increasingly prejudice the lives and families of many persons. We will feel its effects in the areas of healthcare, sources of employment, access to resources, housing, forced migrations, etc.

This is a global social issue and one intimately related to the dignity of human life. The Bishops of the United States have expressed very well this social meaning of our concern about climate change, which goes beyond a merely ecological approach, because "our care for one another and our care for the earth are intimately bound together. Climate change is one of the principal challenges facing society and

the global community. The effects of climate change are borne by the most vulnerable people, whether at home or around the world". In a few words, the Bishops assembled for the Synod for Amazonia said the same thing: "Attacks on nature have consequences for people's lives". And to express bluntly that this is no longer a secondary or ideological question, but a drama that harms us all, the African bishops stated that climate change makes manifest "a tragic and striking example of structural sin".

The reflection and information that we can gather from these past eight years allow us to clarify and complete what we were able to state some time ago. For this reason, and because the situation is now even more pressing, I have wished to share these pages with you.

The Global Climate Crisis

Despite all attempts to deny, conceal, gloss over or relativize the issue, the signs of climate change are here and increasingly evident. No one can ignore the fact that in recent years we have witnessed extreme weather phenomena, frequent periods of unusual heat, drought and other cries of protest on the part of the earth that are only a few palpable expressions of a silent disease that affects everyone. Admittedly, not every concrete catastrophe ought to be attributed to global climate change. Nonetheless, it is verifiable that specific climate changes provoked by humanity are notably heightening the probability of extreme phenomena that are increasingly frequent and intense. For this reason, we know that every time the global temperature increases by 0.5° C, the intensity and frequency of great rains and floods increase in some areas and severe droughts in others, extreme heat waves in some places and heavy snowfall in others. If up to now we could have heat waves several times a year, what will happen if the global temperature increases by 1.5° C, which we are approaching? Those heat waves will be much more frequent and with greater intensity. If it should rise above 2 degrees, the icecaps of Greenland and a large part of Antarctica will melt completely, with immensely grave consequences for everyone.

Resistance and confusion

In recent years, some have chosen to deride these facts. They bring up allegedly solid scientific data, like the fact that the planet has always had, and will have, periods of cooling and warming. They forget to mention another relevant datum: that what we are presently

experiencing is an unusual acceleration of warming, at such a speed that it will take only one generation – not centuries or millennia – in order to verify it. The rise in the sea level and the melting of glaciers can be easily perceived by an individual in his or her lifetime, and probably in a few years many populations will have to move their homes because of these facts.

In order to ridicule those who speak of global warming, it is pointed out that intermittent periods of extreme cold regularly occur. One fails to mention that this and other extraordinary symptoms are nothing but diverse alternative expressions of the same cause: the global imbalance that is provoking the warming of the planet. Droughts and floods, the dried-up lakes, communities swept away by seaquakes and flooding ultimately have the same origin. At the same time, if we speak of a global phenomenon, we cannot confuse this with sporadic events explained in good part by local factors.

Lack of information leads to confusion between large-scale climate projections that involve long periods of time – we are talking about decades at least – with weather forecasts that at most can cover a few weeks. When we speak of climate change, we are referring to a global reality – and constant local variations – that persists for several decades.

In an attempt to simplify reality, there are those who would place responsibility on the poor, since they have many children, and even attempt to resolve the problem by mutilating women in less developed countries. As usual, it would seem that everything is the fault of the poor. Yet the reality is that a low, richer percentage of the planet contaminates more than the poorest 50% of the total world population, and that per capita emissions of the richer countries are much greater than those of the poorer ones. How can we forget that Africa, home to more than half of the world's poorest people, is responsible for a minimal portion of historic emissions?

It is well worth reading the whole document which can be found here ["Laudate Deum": Apostolic Exhortation to all people of good will on the climate crisis \(4 October 2023\) | Francis \(vatican.va\)](#) or on our website pages.

Mary Gertrude Morgan (Molly) Eulogy



Mum was a war baby, first born to Alfred and Betty, soon to be followed with four siblings; Frank, John, Ann and Peter. They lived in East Lancashire, Nelson, in Glenfield House.

Mum went to the local convent school and was proud that their Auntie Joan was a teacher there.

Her first job was a typist clerk at the local Police Station.

In her early twenties, whilst staying with her Auntie Evelyn, she attended a dance at the Wintergardens in Blackpool, where she met a handsome Irish man who literally swept her off her feet. They were engaged after two weeks! Within a year they were married and had a son, Paul. A few years later came Clare, then me.

She was a full time mum, until we got older, then she worked as an auxiliary nurse at the Lostock Hall Continuation Hospital, which is now St Catherine's Hospice.

She liked her football, a cigarette, enjoyed reading and sewing. She made most of our clothes when we were little. Me and Clare always had to be matching. The purple, suede hot-pants she made in the 70's we loved - but not the fur capes and jockey caps she frog marched us down to church in!

Mum and dad knew how to have fun, they were the only ones to have a new year's eve party every year. All their neighbours and friends knew there'd be a party at Molly and John's in Lourdes Ave.



Then disaster struck. Dad died, leaving her a widow at the tender age of 42. But she didn't crumble, far from it, she remained strong and

resolute. Mum went back into nursing, this time as a district nurse in the Chorley area.

Life got happier for her when becoming a grandmother and was delighted to be a hands-on granny to Declan, Liam, Damon, Josie and Caitlin. She was even more delighted at becoming a great-grandmother to Chloe and Niamh.

Mum was forward thinking, she had a laptop and ordered all her shopping online. She streamed the church services during Covid and stalked us all on face book!

Her last days were spent at home, being cared for by the hospice team and her children. She saw all her family and asked to see the people that mattered; her sister, brother and best friend.

So, mum, you are now reunited with dad and can both look down on the legacy you've left behind, see the family you created; 3 children, 5 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren and know how much you've been loved.

Stations of the Cross



Having referred to events at Tardy St Gerard's which I missed through one 'mishap' or another, one I did manage to be part of was the unveiling of the New Stations of the Cross on March 8th 1959.

I seem to recall that the Stations of the Cross being replaced had been on the walls of the church for donkeys years maybe some of our older congregation members remember them or even being put up.

I vaguely seem to remember them being in large frames, glass covered and very old-fashioned compared to what would replace them.

There were mixed views on the New Stations, mainly positive.

I also recall the background scenes on the walls behind the New Stations.



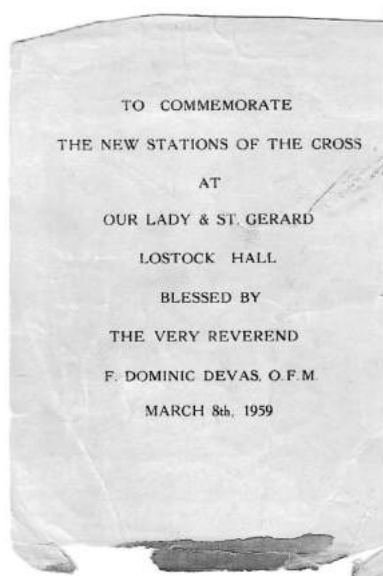
Weren't the walls blank when the New Stations went up and the scenery applied later?

Accompanying this article is a small "Commemoration" card which were handed out on the day that the New Stations were unveiled.

The Very Reverend Father Dominic Devas O.F.M. carried out the ceremony on Sunday 8th March 1959. I was on duty that day as a torch-bearer (thankfully not an acolyte as the event was a 90 minute affair, not including time added on!)

Tony Billington

Footnote: If your left hand doesn't what your right hand is doing, get a job at Westminster!



World Youth Day - Lisbon Day 3 Wednesday



Day number three of World Youth Day. Waking up bright and early, the Salford group hopped on the metro line, with smiles on our faces and a few Portuguese tarts in our tummies, we made our way to the morning catechism.

Whilst walking out of the metro station, we stood opposite the huge Benfica Lisbon Football stadium. After half the group had taken a picture of the enormous building and one of the leaders had told us about being in the stadium once before, we moved on around the corner to the catechism.

On arrival we were again shocked by the sheer number of people at this event. People from all different countries, the main two (that I could see) being America and Australia. So many friendly people, singing and dancing to the music being played at the beginning of the event. Finding a free chance before the start, I and a few other people from our group went off to trade our small goodies with other people. I managed to get a wrist band from the Parish of Gaylord (USA), two pin badges from the friendliest Australians and a pin of another group from California (USA) which I later traded for a Canadian pin badge. We then returned to our group for the catechism.

After the peaceful catechism, our group was split into two. Half would go to the City of Joy and the other would go to the sporting event being held at the local universities arena. I had signed up for football, so was a part of the sporting group. We followed Father Michael and Lorraine out of the park and to the (above ground) Metro station, our group was excited for a kick about in what was to be, 39 Degree heat.

On the metro we passed yet another stadium, this time being the home of football star Ronaldo. The Sporting Lisbon Football stadium had everyone up yet again and taking pictures before we passed. Hopping off the metro our group walked the mile long walk to the arena in the heat, which was slowly becoming too much (for me, the others seemed fine). However, after a quick lunch at Burger King and

2 hours of queuing we received news that we would not be taking part due to some people in the group not filling in the forms.

However, even after the unfortunate news we still had a full day left so we didn't waste any time. Our group got back on the metro and headed straight for the centre of Lisbon. Grabbing an ice-cream on the way to help with the heat, we then visited the beautiful "Capela de Nossa Senhora da Saúde" chapel. The architecture and style of the chapel was stunning, the use of gold and stone was incredible.



The quiet chapel was a wonderful space which allowed us to have a moment of peace and a chance for thank God for the wonderful opportunity he had given us all.

After our time looking around we left quietly as more people entered to pray, and headed down the road to the city centre where we had a chance to look around for ourselves.

Meeting a few people from other countries too: Italy, France, Spain. It was amazing, the idea that they had travelled too from their homes to come for the same thing (World Youth Day) really blew my mind but was a key point in helping strengthen my faith.



Archie Henderson

Thank You

Our grateful thanks to those who helped with our granddaughters christening on October 8th. To Margaret, Helen and Anna for their co-ordination and support. To David and Ann who gave up their time on Sunday lunchtime to get everything prepared for us and especially to Father Colin for such a lovely service.

We had a very happy day, one which we shall always remember.

Thank you all.

Catherine and Dennis Poole

Gardening Tip of the Month

No need to burn leaves. Just gather them into black bags, seal and put in a few small holes in the side and leave until next year. Let the worms do the rest. Fine Free organic compost. Peat Free too. Put remaining leaves on soil for small creatures and frost protection. (LW)

JOINT NOTICE

The Mercy Brothers

**Friday 10th November 7.30pm
at Bamber Bridge, Catholic club.**

Priest Rock band featuring Fr Mark Harold, Fr Joe Gee, Fr Chris Gorton, Fr Nick Kern and guest drummer, Tom.

**Raising funds for Bamber Bridge Foodbank
and Metanoia's Help for the Homeless
in Preston.**

**Tickets £10, Children £4,
including hotpot supper,
available after Mass or contact
office@stmarysbrownedge.org.uk**

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)

**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 Nov	All Saints Day
2nd	All Souls
3rd	St Martin de Porres
4th	St Charles Borromeo KFC Bingo 7 pm OLSM
5th	31st Sunday of the Year
7th	St Willbrord
9th	Dedication of Lateran Basilica
10th	St Leo the Great
11th	St Martin of Tours
12th	32nd Sunday of the Year
15th	St Albert the Great
16th	St Margaret of Scotland
17th	St Elizabeth of Hungary
18th	Dedication of Basilica of SS Peter and Paul
19th	33rd Sunday of the Year

21st	Presentation of BI Virgin Mary
22nd	St Cecilia
23rd	St Clement
24th	Ss Andrew Dung-Lac
25th	St Catherine of Alexandria
26th	Christ the King
30th	St Andrew
3rd Dec	1st Sunday of Advent

The **PARISH OFFICE** is open at the following new times:

Monday to Friday 9 am to 3 pm. Office hours are now shared with St Marys Brownedge.
AM at St Gerard's
PM at St Marys Brownedge.
Phone: 01772 335387 Mobile 07442 385553 (9am-3pm)

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WHATS ON IN THE PAROCHIAL CENTRE THIS NOVEMBER

SATURDAY 4th NOVEMBER - SHANNEN DONNELLY

SATURDAY 11th NOVEMBER - HELEN LOUISE

SATURDAY 18th NOVEMBER - STUART DAVID

SATURDAY 25th NOVEMBER - ALISON D



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