

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)
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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.**

Second Sunday of Lent (Year B)

25th February 2024

St Mary's, Brownedge			
Sat	24th Feb Vigil	7:00 pm	Second Sunday of Lent Derek Nickson R.I.P.
Sun	25th Feb	9:30 am 6:30 pm	Second Sunday of Lent The Parish Michael Walsh
Mon	26th Feb	9:30 am	Mary Walsh
Tues	27th Feb	9:30 am	St Gregory of Narek (OM) Glyn & Robert Walton
Wed	28th Feb	9:30 am 2:30 pm	Philip Morris (Anniversary) (Yr3) SC Hospice - Holy Souls
Thurs	29th Feb	9.30 am	Joe & Lizzie Dowbakin (Anniversary)
Friday	1st Mar	7.00 am 9:30 am 12:30 pm 4.30 pm	St David (F) <i>In Monastery Chapel</i> Ellen Bradley Ellen Bradley (Anniversary) Funeral Mass for Marcella Varey Stations of the Cross
Sat	2nd Mar Vigil	7:00 pm	Third Sunday of Lent Martin Skingsley R.I.P.
Sun	3rd Mar	9:30 am 6:30 pm	Third Sunday of Lent Bob Gill The Parish

St Gerard's, Lostock Hall			
Sat	24th Feb Vigil	5:30 pm	Second Sunday of Lent Mary Hardman
Sun	25th Feb	10:30 am	Second Sunday of Lent The Parish
Mon	26th Feb	6:30 pm	Celebration of the Word & Holy Communion
Tues	27th Feb	9:15 am 7.00 pm	St Gregory of Narek (OM) Marie Phelan (Yr 6 / Reception) First Reconciliation Service
Wed	28th Feb	9:15 am	Celebration of the Word & Holy Communion
Thurs	29th Feb	9:15 am	Eileen McGivern R.I.P.
Friday	1st Mar	6.30 pm	St David (F) Stations of the Cross
Sat	2nd Mar Vigil	5:30 pm	Third Sunday of Lent Frank Williams (90th Birthday Anniversary)
Sun	3rd Mar	10:30 am	Third Sunday of Lent The Parish

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.

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

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.

Prayer for the Salford Diocesan Synod:
 Loving Father, be with us as we seek new ways of being your people in our Diocese. May each new day bring us closer to your son Jesus, as we follow his teaching and become disciples of love. As we continue our Synodal journey, draw us closer to each other. May the truth of your Spirit enlighten us. Open our hearts, as we listen to each other and reach out in love to your people.
 Stay with us, Lord, on our journey.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion.
 My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen

Our Lady & St Gerard's Notices

CAFOD - Friday 23rd February was Cafod's Lenten family fast day when we are asked to eat a little less and donate the money saved to CAFOD to help the many people throughout the developing world going to bed hungry every night. People like James, a fisherman from Liberia, who risked his life daily with only primitive tools to fish and provide food for his family until CAFOD stepped in to provide basic safety equipment. There will be a retiring at this weekend's Masses. Put your Cafod envelopes in the collection baskets. If you are able to gift aid please fill out the slips and place inside the envelopes. Many thanks indeed for your continuing generosity.

Coffee Morning - The Fundraising group have arranged a Coffee Morning on **Sunday 3rd March** after the 10:30 am Mass. **Any donations of prizes for a raffle would be appreciated and any items suitable as Mothers Day gifts. Donations of cakes can be brought to church on the day.** Thank you.

Majella Companions - Meet this **Tuesday 28th February** at 2 pm in the Shields Centre.

Sacramental Programme - Those children preparing for their First Holy Communion will make their First Reconciliation on Tuesday 27th February at 7pm in Church. Everyone is welcome to come and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during this service.

Stations of the Cross - There will be Stations of the Cross in Church on Friday evenings during Lent at 6:30 pm.

Piety shop - Have a small selection of Easter gifts which are suitable for young children i.e. Easter Bonnets, Bunny Ears, Face Masks etc...Also our Easter cards are now available. ** Stop Press - We now have a supply of the Sleeping St Joseph statues back in stock.**

School Mission Statement: The whole community of our primary school recently spent the day discussing the identity of our school and putting into words how to best describe it. Well done everyone involved in a wonderful and uplifting day. We hope to share the fruits of this day with the parish very soon.

The Big Listen - Huge thank you to all those who attended THE BIG LISTEN before Christmas - your presence and input is very much appreciated. For those who could not attend but would like to know a little more about it and would like to submit their own response, you can do that by visiting: <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/faith/synod/> then scroll down to the Portal and choose the first option - submit a response to the synod. Alternatively you can scan the QR code. Once again THANK YOU.



Defibrillator - The Defibrillator is now in place and has been registered with the Lancashire Ambulance Service and the National Database.

It will be inspected regularly BUT if you are aware of it having been used please let the office know so that New Pads can be fitted ready for the next emergency. We are responsible for its maintenance and replacements parts when needed.

We have been advised that previous experience or first aid qualification/training is not necessary however if you are interesting in finding out more go to the online link available below to a professionally recorded full demonstration training session including FAQs. This can be downloaded and shared remotely with others. We also advise that you retain this for future reference and refresher sessions: <https://vimeo.com/557677120/e7524918c5>



The Grant covered half the cost if you would like to help us with the remaining costs of this equipment it would be appreciated. **Our share not including fitting is £750 so any contributions would be gratefully accepted.** These may be left at the Presbytery but please mark the envelope "**Defibrillator**" so that the funds can be properly recorded.

We have had several instances over the past few years where an ambulance has had to be called during a service because someone has fallen ill. Fortunately a defibrillator hasn't been required but we thought it prudent to make this application not only for our use but for the general public in the area.

Thank you.

Offertory 17th/ 18th February 2024			
Offertory Loose	£319.67		
Offertory Envelopes	£170.31		
Attendance	156		
Bingo Jackpots for 21/2/2024			
£34	£28	£39	£36

W/C 25/2/2024	This Weeks Intentions
Sanctuary	Frank Jeffery R.I.P.

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

St Mary's Brownedge Notices

Offertory Procession: Next Sunday 3rd March 2024
9:30 am Mass: Daniels Family.

Children's Mass: This Sunday our 9.30am Mass will be one of our regular Children's Masses.

Cafod Family Fast Day Friday 23rd February - Collection is this weekend! This Lent, your donations to Cafod's Family Fast Day Appeal will help hard-working people like James, the fisherman in Liberia, with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Please give using the envelope provided or online at cafod.org.uk and please join us in praying with James, that our sisters and brothers around the world have what they need to feed their families. Thank you.

Cafod Coffee Morning on Friday 1st March - After Mass - Clare Dixon, Head of Latin America team at Cafod will be coming to the coffee morning to give us some information about the Health Clinic, which we recently purchased through World Gifts. Your support would be much appreciated.

Lenten Coffee Mornings: On Fridays in Lent, following 9.30 Mass, we will have coffee mornings starting 23rd Feb - 22nd March, except for Friday 8th March, which will be on Saturday 9th March following the Community Walk. See Cafod board for details.

Mystery raffle tickets - will be on sale each weekend from 24th/25th February and drawn at the following Lenten Coffee Morning.

Thank you for your generosity and commitment to help fight Global Poverty.

CAFOD'S BIG LENT WALK 2024 - Many thanks to David Gorman, who will again be walking 200km in the 40 days of Lent, to help fight Global Poverty. Sponsorship forms will be available in the Narthex and Sacred Heart porch. Your support would be much appreciated. Perhaps some others might be interested in undertaking this as part of your Lenten spiritual exercises?

We will also have a Parish Community Walk on Saturday 9th March starting from church at 10.30am and walking 2.5/5km. If that is too much, join in a lap or two of the church grounds. You can get sponsors or give a small donation and we will add it to David's total. We will meet back at church for tea, coffee & toast and a rest!! All welcome.

Phone Line: Apologies for those trying to phone the landline at the end of last week. The phone line was down for a couple days as we changed provider. It should now be working fine. Remember there is also now a mobile number for the Parish Office on the front of the newsletter.

Salford Diocesan Synod:

'The Big Listen' - We would like to say thank you to all those who attended our 'Big Listen' sessions despite the terrible weather! We have fed back all responses to the diocese and will keep you posted with updates about the synod as we move forward. For those who could not attend but would like to know a little more about it or would like to submit their own response, you can do that by visiting: <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/faith/synod/> then scroll down to the 'Portal' and choose the first option (submit a response to the synod). Please keep 'The Big Listen' in your prayers, that we may be guided by the Holy Spirit to move our diocese in the right direction.



SVP Collection - This month's collection on the 17th/18th February amounted to £173.59 thank you for your generosity.

New Carpet: We are delighted to unveil the new church carpet which enhances the beauty of our Church. This week, the carpet has now also been fitted in the Narthex.

Graveyard and Ashes Plot Memorials: Please help us maintain the dignity of our graveyard; a reminder that memorials, pots, personal tributes etc... around the graves should be in keeping with the dignity of this sacred space. Also a reminder that, as stated on the notice there, we cannot accommodate personalised grave pots on or around the Ashes memorial plaques behind the main apse of the sanctuary; this is because the area must be kept tidy and easily accessible for the lawn mowers and gardening machinery. We will ensure that there are holes available for flowers to be placed on and around the memorial plaques. We will look into the possibility of creating a shelf or a step which might be able to accommodate the personalised pots in the future. Thank you for your co-operation.

200 Club: Congratulations to our January winners:

1st Prize £200: David Livesey;
2nd Prize £100: Philip Swarbrick;
3rd Prize £50: Victoria Berry.

Sign up to support the Church and enjoy the fun of seeing if you can win something now and again:
office@stmarysbrownedge.org.uk

Ecumenical Morning Prayer & Breakfast: Each First Wednesday at 8.00am:

6 March: Valley Church
3rd April (Easter week) : Methodist Church;
1st May: St Aidan's;
5th June: St Mary's Brownedge;
3rd July: Valley Church; August - no meeting.

Mass Attendance: Our attendance last weekend is shown below.	
7 pm Vigil	53
9:30 am	155
6:30 p.m..	61
Total	269

Sanctuary Lamps Week 25/2/24	
1	In Memory of the Kerry & Warpole Families
2	The Bailey & McQuillan Families

Joint Notices

Second Sunday of Lent

We spool forward a few centuries in the story of the Old Testament, to arrive at Abraham, "Our Father in Faith". Today we hear of another Covenant (like last week) - even though the word is not used. God promises Abraham descendants like "the stars of heaven", and the showering of blessings. This shows how much God loves Abraham, and all his children. This love is proved for us in Jesus: God loves us so much he sacrificed his only Son (just as Abraham was willing to do); but this is not all: Jesus also rose from the dead, to stand at God's right hand and plead for us. All this is revealed in the story of the Transfiguration, where Jesus is seen in the glory that is rightfully his as the only Son of God. Not until after the Resurrection will the disciples see this fully again.

Churches Together World Day of Prayer; Friday 1st March: This year the prayer service is particularly significant as the service has been prepared by the Christian Women of Palestine. It takes place on Friday 1st March at Bamber Bridge Methodist Church at 4pm. All welcome to join us in praying for peace in the Holy Land.

New Priest Chasubles: We have a new set of Mass vestments for each of our churches. There is one of each of the four main liturgical colours. The design on the orphrey of each chasuble is based on the artwork in the church of the English College in Rome. Thanks to those who have already contributed towards the cost of these which was £120 for each vestment. Any further contributions would be most welcome.

Retreat Programme - The popular retreat programme at St Gerard's continues: The next one is on **Tuesday 5th March 2024**: - "Ignatian Prayer & Discernment" The retreats start at 11:30 am through to 3 pm (with 30 minutes Lunch break (please bring a packed lunch)). The cost is £20 per person. The retreats are held in the "Shields Centre" and are led by Donna Worthington. **There are still a few places available for this retreat** - if interested please contact our office on **01772 335387** or email office@saintgerards.org.uk.

Metanoia Project: The Preston project at St Wilfrid's are asking for donations of New or Used (but in reasonable condition) Sleeping Bags and thick Socks. Of all sizes for men: Thermals, Tracksuit bottoms (with elasticated ankles are best) Jean, Trainers, Boots, Shoes and Rucksacks. These can be taken to St Wilfrid's where they are distributed at a drop-in on Wednesday evenings.

Blackburn Chamber Choir and Blackburn Music Society jointly present: "Uncovered Treasures" . Premiere performance of newly discovered works by Sir Edward Bairstow. The Blackburn Music Society and Blackburn Chamber Choir performance is on **Wed 27th March 2024** 7.30pm in Blackburn Cathedral, Blackburn, BB1 5AA Tickets £12 (under 18 and students Free) Available via this link <https://rb.gy/1zww3f>

Right to Life: There is an amendment being brought before Parliament in the next couple of weeks to reduce the abortion law from 24 to 22 weeks. Please collect a postcard from the back of Church and send it to your MP asking them the support this amendment.

Lent Devotions

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.

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.

Service of Reconciliation: We will have a Parish Service of Reconciliation on the Tuesday of Holy Week, 26th 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.



PLEASE PRAY FOR

The sick, and those who care for them:

Carina Clough, Sister Louise, Peter Clough,
Valerie Jeffrey

All Those who have Recently Died:

Irene Sanders, Eileen McGivern, Moira Keany,
Eddie Gough, Marcella Varey, Denise Crabtree,
Frank Jeffrey, David Coxheads