

Our Lady and St Gerard's Lostock Hall

NEWS AND VIEWS

**OCTOBER - In 2020 on the
Feast of Our Lady of the
Rosary (7th October) Pope
Francis said.**

"Today is the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. I invite everyone to rediscover, especially during this month of October, the beauty of the prayer of the rosary, which has nourished the faith of the Christian people through the centuries, I invite you to pray the rosary, and to carry it in your hands or in your pockets. The recitation of the rosary is the most beautiful prayer we can offer to the Virgin Mary; it is a contemplation on the stages of the life of Jesus the Saviour with his Mother Mary and is a weapon that protects us from evils and temptations," The pope said that the Blessed Virgin Mary has urged the recitation of the rosary in her apparitions, "especially in the face of the threats looming over the world."

St Gerard Majella - Feast Day this year is on Wednesday 16th October. More information about St Gerard is on our parish website www.saintgerards.org.uk

Issue No 681 October 2024



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***Pastoral Letter of the Right Reverend John Arnold
Bishop of Salford
To be read and distributed in all Parishes on the weekend
of 31st August/1st September***

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ

I think it appropriate to write to you at this time concerning three different but closely related matters.

This summer has seen considerable unrest in our cities, with the riots that followed the appalling murder of three children and the wounding of others. It has been clearly established that the riots were promoted by racism, anti-Islamic prejudice and what the Prime Minister referred to as “Far right thuggery”. There was much misinformation and “fake news” promoted by the misuse of social media. We must be grateful for the response of our law enforcement personnel and the prompt action of the courts which will surely deter similar disruption in the future, and for the generosity within local communities in repairing the damage that was done. The counter protests also had their positive impact, in displaying the active opposition and rejection of such prejudice. But we need to be constructive in a further response. Our Diocese has a long history of welcome to diverse communities, including people of different nationalities and religious belief who have assisted our economic and social progress. We must not take that diversity for granted but continue to build and strengthen a sense of community. I urge everyone to take any opportunity to befriend your neighbours, work colleagues and the people with whom you can build any association. We can learn and benefit from the different cultures and bring advantage to our lives together. Growing and promoting that understanding and friendship will strengthen our communities and reject any sense of racial or religious prejudice.

In recent years we have celebrated the “Season of Creation”, which runs from 1st September to the Feast of St Francis of Assisi on 4th October. The Season of Creation is seen as a worldwide celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home, and a time to renew our relationship with God as Creator, and all creation. The Season of Creation presents opportunity to promote our understanding of the complexity of Nature and the environment and to show, as Pope Francis says, how “each and every one of us has our part to play”. More recently in *Laudate Deum*, Pope Francis acknowledges that personal, family and community habits are contributing and helping to bring about large processes of transformation. This is something to be celebrated as we see action

particularly in our schools where our children are so enthusiastic about learning about nature and creating spaces in their grounds to care for creation. This complements the wider diocesan work with schools to install solar panels to reduce energy consumption across school buildings and in some of our parishes. Our actions matter, as do those by governments and industries, where we need to see greater changes. Let us not forget the role we have in lobbying for change, through contact with local councilors and members of parliament. We need to promote better practice in order to secure a healthy environment for future generations. While we have been spared the severity of so many climate events that we see in other parts of the world, we have certainly experienced disruption of our seasons, with droughts, heatwaves and exceptional rainfall which is already disrupting agriculture and food security. I ask you all during this Season of Creation to reflect on what more you can do to care for creation and to use the resources that we have made available to help you in your journey to take action.

Finally, but closely connected to both our community building and our care for our environment, is our Diocesan Synod. This is necessarily a lengthy process, because discernment requires time and reflection and prayer, but we must not lose the positive momentum that brought us to “The Big

Listen”. We now have just six months to complete the process, and this will include parish meetings and the gathering of further thoughts and suggestions. It is already clear that we will certainly benefit by this process, and we will understand better how we are to promote and live the Gospel values in our times and choose the right priorities for building Church and Faith in our Diocese. Information about how to participate in the next stage has been circulated to all the parishes and organisations. I am grateful to all who have participated in any way up to this point, but I must ask that we all engage in this final period, both in the attendance of parish meetings and in our prayer. That combination, of prayer and action, will guide us to the important decisions that need to be made.

These are certainly turbulent and challenging times within our country and our world. I think we do well to have frequent recourse to our diocesan prayer, “Stay with us, Lord, on our Journey” as we seek to do what is right and good. We would also do well to turn to Our Lady with particular problems and decisions with our simple request

“Mary, untier of knots, pray for us”. May the God of love, bless us all and guide us to achieve all that He asks of us.

John - Bishop of Salford

In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity

Andrew Flintoff, you have “Done us Proud!” This man has put Preston on the map with his kind, caring, compassionate ways towards a group of lads, a possibly wayward, disadvantaged teenagers from a poor area in town.

Anyone watching “Field of Dreams” on BBC1 will understand what I am writing about and cannot help but be inspired and impressed by his dedication and perseverance to these young men.

Andrew or Freddie as he is commonly known, has got them to play cricket and learn all about teamwork, looking after their health and raising their self-esteem. This is all achieved through playing sport and careful handling i.e. someone believing in you.

The biggest reward was seeing Adnan, a refugee from Afghanistan, who left behind his family in times of trouble, and walked and hitch-hiked all the way here. He didn't know which country he was in and couldn't speak English.

Fortunately, he was taken in and fostered by a lovely couple who showed him care, safety and love. From then on, he learnt English and went to school here and now plays cricket for Lancashire under 18/s.

In the latest episode it shows the lads in India, where Freddie has taken them to improve their skills on the field. While they were there it was the feast of Ramadan and Adnan being Muslim had to fast during daylight hours. Observing him, some of the lads joined him to see how it felt without food.

Leading by example is always a good thing.

These lads have learnt a lot about life and have changed their ways for the better. Thank you Andrew Flintoff for your belief in them!

“It is easier to build strong children than repair broken men.”

Grace Robinson

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Clothing Matter

Before the subject of the Statue of Our Lady and the Infant Jesus at the rear of the Church is hopefully and finally 'put to rest', I have to confess that I hadn't a clue what the statue represented, all I know is that I put my regular offering into the box every week and have a quiet five minutes there before Mass.

The meeting in question 'many moons ago; as Margaret described it must have been between 1992 and 1999 when Father Gordon was the Parish Priest. By then I had flown the nest and was no longer dragged to every service, kicking and screaming by my mum, who apparently was one of the most vociferous voices at the said meeting according to witnesses.

Until recently, I had no idea whatsoever that a meeting had even taken place or what was discussed at it. The subject was never ever brought up on any occasion that I saw my mum afterwards.

As Margaret stated in the last issue of 'News and Views' (680) what did it matter what Our Lady was wearing, the statue is just an image.

The same must apply to modern day churchgoers. Gone is the old stuffy tradition of dressing up to the nines to attend Mass. With church attendances (any faith I might add) dwindling by the week, it doesn't matter what anyone wears so long as they make the effort to attend Mass.

My comments regarding the 'dress code' at First Holy Communion events recently were merely an observation as to how things had changed where dads, uncles, granddads etc used to put a suit or collar and tie on, were in some cases replaced by shorts and flip flops etc.

Churches cannot afford to be choosy in this day and age and be merely thankful that families are encouraged and not discouraged to attend Mass every week even if it means replicating 'Messi', 'Ronaldo'. 'Salah' 'Haaland' etc etc etc! in what attire they turn up in (that also applies to the children as well!)

So to re-cap, I wasn't dragged to the said meeting 'many moons ago' with Father Gordon, until recently I hadn't a clue as to what image of Our Lady was in situ at the rear of the church and I will continue to have my five minutes of reflection pre-Mass every week, whatever Our Lady is wearing!

Tony Billington

Footnote: The best years of a woman's life are the 10 years between 39 and 40!

Frequently Asked Questions – The New Lectionary

Tuesday, May 14th, 2024 @ 2:17 pm

Here are the answers to some frequently asked questions on the Lectionary which will come into use in England and Wales from Advent 2024.

A new edition of the Lectionary, the book which contains the readings which are proclaimed at Mass, will come into use in England and Wales in Advent 2024. The new edition uses the English Standard Version- Catholic Edition for the readings and the Abbey Psalms and Canticles for the Responsorial Psalms. Here are the answers to some frequently asked questions.

Are there changes to the readings?

This is a new publication of the Lectionary using a different scripture translations — the content remains the same. So, for the reading for each Sunday will be the same.

What's new?

There will be provision for Saints who have been added to the Universal Calendar since the last Lectionary published in 1981. There will also be the readings for the National Calendars. In addition, some of the revised liturgical rites, such as Marriage, have additional readings.

Will the text be mandatory?

It is normal practice in the Roman Rite that there is only a single edition of a liturgical text in use in a particular territory. So in the same way as only the third edition of the Roman Missal (2010) may be used in the celebration of Mass (in the Ordinary Form); the same will be true for the Lectionary.

Who will be publishing the Lectionary?

The Catholic Truth Society have been appointed publishers for the Lectionary. They are working closely with the bishops to ensure that the published volumes are worthy, clear in page layout, sturdy and reflect the daily needs of the liturgy.

When will the Lectionary published?

The bishops of England and Wales completed their approval of the Lectionary text in 2018. The text was then submitted to the Holy See to be reviewed. The Lectionary will be published in good time for its first use in Advent 2024.

How many volumes?

The current Lectionary (1981) is in three volumes. One significant change in the layout is that all the readings will be given in sense lines as an assistance to the reader. This is recommended in the Introduction to the Lectionary and is common to most recent publications of the Lectionary. The effect is that readings do require more space and this means more pages.

The new Lectionary will be in four volumes: one for Sundays and Solemnities, two volumes for Weekdays and the Proper of Saints, a final volume with Ritual Masses, Masses for the Dead etc.

What is a Missal?

In the Liturgy the Missal can refer to three distinct but related things. To many people the most familiar meaning is a peoples' Missal – either for Sundays or weekdays.

To understand the other two meanings, it is easiest to take a step away. The various books of the Roman Rite (for the celebration of Sacraments etc.) are grouped together. Those rites which are primarily celebrated by the Bishop (such as Ordination) are part of the Roman

Pontifical. The two books for the celebration of Mass form the Roman Missal, one of these, which contains the readings is the Lectionary, the other, which contains the prayers, is the Missal.

Will I need a new Sunday Missal?

Many people have a Sunday or Weekday Missal to either prepare the readings or to reflect on them. Some also use it to follow the text which is proclaimed in the liturgy. As the new Lectionary will use a different translation of the scriptures people will wish to get a new Sunday or Weekday Missal.

What is the English Standard Version: Catholic Edition?

The English Standard Version is the latest in a series of English translations which go back to the 16th Century. These translations have all been based on a 'word for word' principle. The ESV is directly based on the Revised Standard Version and it is suggested that c. 6% of the text has been revised. Changes were made to modernise the language and reflect the latest scholarship. The publisher Crossway emphasises 'word-for-word' accuracy, literary excellence, and depth of meaning. Work on the Catholic Edition was done by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India in collaboration with Crossway.

What is the Abbey Psalms and Canticles?

The Grail Psalms have been part of Liturgy in English since before the Second Vatican Council. They are used in both the Lectionary and the Divine Office.

In 2008 a revision of the text was undertaken by the monks of Conception Abbey, Missouri. It sought to bring the latest scholarly understanding of the text and to review the text where the English was essentially a paraphrase of the Hebrew. This text was approved by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) in 2010. A further revision in the light of use was prepared and approved both by USCCB and CBCEW, and has received the confirmation of the Holy See. This text is now owned by USCCB who have renamed it Abbey Psalms and Canticles both in recognition of the work of Conception Abbey and also so that there was clarity about the edition being used. This text will be used in the Lectionary and in subsequent liturgical books, such as the Liturgy of the Hours.

Is there a revision of the Liturgy of the Hours as well?

The International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL) is responsible for translating the Latin liturgical texts for the English-speaking Bishops' Conferences. It was approached by USCCB to assist in a new translation of the Liturgy of the Hours. Broadly this work can be divided into three areas: Psalms and Canticles; Scripture and scripture based texts; other texts.

The Abbey Psalms and Canticles will provide the first area. Other texts are being translated by ICEL — these include the hymns, many of which have not been available before, and the intercessions. This vast project has been in progress for a number of years with the Bishops of England and Wales receiving, commenting and voting on the material which has been prepared by ICEL. There is not currently an estimated date for publication.

Bishops Conference of England and Wales

Gardening Tip of the Month

Have you noticed the decline in Butterflies and insects this Summer? So before you clean up too much in the garden hold back. dead growth gives them shelter and food. My beans have done well this year despite the slugs, wind and rain. I always say a 'thank you' when I pick some. It is truly a miracle! Cover you Rhubarb now with straw to stop it rotting. Make the most of the Autumn colours and don't forget to look up, clouds are amazing. **LW**

Dominic's long walk home

Most of you have heard about our grandson Dominic who has had a difficult year after being diagnosed with a malignant brain tumour last August.

His treatment from the NHS has been wonderful and after a nine hour op, 3 months radiotherapy and six months of gruelling chemotherapy the signs are positive.

In grateful thanks, his mum, dad, auntie and uncle walked 50 miles from the royal Manchester children's hospital to Blackpool Victoria where Dominic was to ring his end of treatment bell. At the Vic the walkers were met with a rapturous welcome of family, friends, and parents of children from Our Lady Star of the Sea primary and St Bede's high school in St Anne's. The primary school had already raised almost three thousand pounds for Manchester children's hospital by holding a 'Dominic Fest', a day of sport and bake sales before the end of term.

At various points on the route on both days well wishers joined the walk and on the Sunday six of our Cronin children and six of our grandchildren walked the whole 17 miles in torrential rain from Preston to Blackpool!

Grateful thanks also to members of our local Christian Community Larder who provided very welcome drinks and snacks outside St Aidan's on Station Road in Bamber Bridge on the Saturday evening. So far over £16,500 has been raised for brain tumour research on Dominic's just-giving site.

Huge thanks to everyone! **Margaret and Michael**



Dominic & Rex Identical Twins



CAFOD

The CAFOD harvest appeal on October 4th is concentrating on a 21 year old called Daniel from the Democratic Republic of Congo (the DRC). Daniel has been supported financially by CAFOD and been given vocational training in carpentry. As a result his life has been transformed. Daniel explains that he grew up in a difficult situation of poverty and disadvantage. Alongside his siblings he often went to bed hungry despite both of his parents working. Like many youngsters in the Republic he wasn't able to go to school as costs were prohibitive. His country is rich in natural resources but like many African countries huge mining companies cream off profits, there is also great deal of corruption leaving the population impoverished. Since independence from Belgium in the 1960's there has been repeated political instability, civil war, and armed conflict. All these factors alongside natural disasters has meant little Infrastructural development. Education is poor and it is estimated that ninety seven per cent of ten year olds lack basic reading and writing skills. Last year it was estimated that 6 million people are internally displaced and 25 million face acute food security. Many of the population seek sanctuary and shelter in church compounds.

It would be easy to lose hope that individually, with inequality on such a global scale, we can make a difference. However when we join our efforts with others, recognising God's spirit at work in them, we can respond with compassion to the needs of our global family and begin building a more just world.

Returning to Daniel, he says that since his vocational training which wouldn't have been possible without the support of CAFOD, he would have had little hope for a better future. Now he has a stable income and his own workshop, where he makes furniture, the sale of which helps support his parents and siblings giving the whole family hope of a better life. Daniel says, 'If God helps and this work expands I can do greater things'

Your donations at this harvest will be targeted to fund training, tools and safe spaces to help others like Daniel learn new skills and the self confidence to fulfil their God-given potential. As you can imagine there is a huge waiting list for the vocational training offered by CAFOD and CAJED (Concerted Action for Disadvantaged Young People and Children) its sister organisation on the ground. If you can gift aid, your donation can go even further as CAFOD can claim tax relief on the full amount. If you didn't get an envelope you can scan the QR code on my lanyard or give online at Cafod.org.uk/envelope.

Envelopes can be put in the collection plate or placed through the presbytery letterbox

A huge thank you for all you have done and continue to do to support Cafod's work with your donations and your prayers. Please feel free to take one of the harvest prayer cards from the back of church.

Many thanks.

Margaret

The working party/maintenance team

In September News and Views we read with interest the amazing work being done by the working party on the drains at the side of the church. It's incredible, especially given the 70 plus age of the team members, how they managed to sort out the blockage so cheaply making such a financial saving to the parish.

A huge, huge thank you to all those involved. The parishioners of Our Lady and Saint Gerard's are indebted to you!

Margaret and Michael Cronin



Now you see it, now you don't!

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	07759 722309
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 Oct	St Therese of the Child Jesus	17th	St Ignatius of Antioch
2nd	Holy Guardian Angels	18th	St Luke
4th	St Francis of Assisi	19th	St Paul of the Cross
5th	St Faustina Kowalska	20th 29th Sunday of the Year	
6th 27th Sunday of the Year		22nd	St John Paul II
7th	Our Lady of the Rosary	23rd	St John of Capistrano
9th	St John Henry Newman	24th	St Anthony Mary Claret
10th	St Paulinus of York	26th	SS Chad and Cedd
11th	St John XXIII	27th 30th Sunday of the Year	
12th	St Wilfrid	28th	SS Simon & Jude
13th 28th Sunday of the Year		1st ALL SAINTS	
14th	St Callistus	Nov Holy Day of Obligation	
15th	St Teresa of Jesus	2nd	ALL SOULS
16th	St Hedwig	3rd 31st Sunday of the Year	

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THIS SEPTEMBER

7th September - Chris RAY

14th September - Ant OLIVER

21st September - Stephen DIVINE

28th September - LEON



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