



St Mary's Brownedge

Founded c1780 SDTRTR No. 250037

St Mary's Priory, Brownedge Lane, Bamber Bridge, Preston PR5 6SP

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Live Streaming via website (churchservices.tv)

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Office Mobile 07442 385553

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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.

The Presentation of the Lord (C)

2nd February 2025

St Mary's, Brownedge			
Sat	1st Feb Vigil	7:00 pm	Presentation of the Lord William Derek Waring
Sun	2nd Feb	9:30 am 6:30 pm	Presentation of the Lord Andrew Sugden . The Parish
Mon	3rd Feb	9:30 am	St Ansgar (OM) Andrew Sugden
Tues	4th Feb	9:30 am	Celebration of the Word & Holy Communion Chris Ashton
Wed	5th Feb	9:30 am	St Agatha (M) With Mary Class Whiteley & Swarbrick Families
Thurs	6th Feb	9:30 am	SS Paul Miki and Comp (M) Mike & Pat Bailey
Fri	7th Feb	9:30 am 12 noon	Deceased members of the Higney, Rowland & McCardie Families Requiem Mass for Brenda Walmsley
Sat	8th Feb Vigil	7:00 pm	5th Sunday of Ordinary Time Marie Spicer
Sun	9th Feb	9:30 am 6:30 pm	5th Sunday of Ordinary Time John Rawcliffe The Parish

St Gerard's, Lostock Hall			
Sat	1st Feb Vigil	5:30 pm	Presentation of the Lord The Parish
Sun	2nd Feb N.B.TIME	11:00 am	Presentation of the Lord Florence Porter R.I.P. Baptism of Munachimso Okeke
Mon	3rd Feb	6:00 pm 6:30 pm	Exposition Celebration of the Word & Holy Communion
Tues	4th Feb	9:15 am	Eileen McGivern (Anniversary)
Wed	5th Feb	9:15 am	Celebration of the Word & Holy Communion
Thurs	6th Feb	6.30 pm	SS Paul Miki and Comp (M) Susan Copley
Fri	7th Feb		NO SERVICES
Sat	8th Feb Vigil	5:30 pm	5th Sunday of Ordinary Time Kathleen Igo R.I.P.
Sun	9th Feb	11:00 am 12 noon	5th Sunday of Ordinary Time The Parish Sacramental Programme Unit 3

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.

Cycle of Prayer: We pray for Peace on Earth, Openness to the Word of God, Christian Unity, The Sick and those who care for them, victims of trafficking and those who work to combat it, the unemployed.



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.

Prayers for Salford Diocese: The Deanery of St John Southworth

We pray this week for the people of the parishes of Our Lady and St. Patrick, Walton-le-Dale, and St. Mary and St. John Southworth, Samlesbury, and their primary school. We pray for Fr. Philip Nathaniel, their parish priest.

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.

Joint Notices



The Presentation of the Lord

This Sunday, February 2nd, we celebrate the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, also known as Candlemas. It is one of the few feasts which, if it falls on a Sunday,

replaces the Sunday Mass prayers and readings. It commemorates two key events: the ritual purification of Mary 40 days after Jesus' birth and the presentation of the infant Jesus in the Temple at Jerusalem. We see Jesus being acclaimed by Anna and Simeon in the temple and Simeon, holds up the baby Jesus, declaring Him to be a Light to the World. Simeon's proclamation, "Now, you can let your servant go in peace... for my eyes have seen you salvation", is proclaimed every night in Compline, the Night Prayer of the Church. There is a medieval tradition regarding this as the conclusion of Christmas.

The name "Candlemas" comes from the tradition of blessing all the Church's candles for the year on this day. Candlemas also marks the midpoint of winter, halfway between the winter solstice and the spring equinox. Weather predictions were often associated with this day, as reflected in the old verse: "If Candlemas Day be fair and bright, Winter will have another fight. If Candlemas Day brings cloud and rain, Winter won't come again." The movie "Groundhog Day" is based on this tradition: if the groundhog, emerges from his burrow on February 2nd and sees his shadow, he retreats, signalling six more weeks of winter. If he doesn't see his shadow, spring is on its way.

As we reflect on this feast, we are reminded of the light we are called to share with others. In a world often overshadowed by division, suffering, and despair, our faith in Christ compels us to be sources of hope, compassion, and reconciliation. Candlemas is not only about celebrating Christ as the light of the world but also about renewing our commitment to reflect His light in our daily lives.

Caritas Sunday: Thanks to our young people who gave the appeal for Caritas last Sunday. Many thanks for your generosity in supporting this annual appeal. Please return any envelopes or donations for Caritas this weekend so that we can finalise our donation to them.

R.C.I.A. Learning about the Catholic Faith: Our next session in our RCIA programme is this Tuesday 28th January at 7pm at St Mary's Church. Having looked at the Sacraments of Initiation, Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist, we will now look at the Sacraments of healing: Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick This week we will focus in particular on the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Ecumenical Morning Prayer Breakfast: Just a reminder that our next worship and breakfast is at St Aidan's on **Wednesday 5th February at 8am**. We will be in the hall/community hub - Everyone welcome

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY LARDER - A heartfelt thank you for your amazing food and cash donations. As a result of your generosity, the larder supported 60 families a week throughout 2024. You contributed to the "Meal in a Bag" and "Slow Cooker" initiatives. They look forward to your continuing support in 2025. They are a designated Warm Space and welcome you to join them for light refreshments Monday or Friday 9-30 to 11-30am.

New Lectionary: We have now begun using the new translation of the Liturgy of the Word: The English Standard Version replaces the Jerusalem Bible translation. Many thanks to those who attended the talk before Christmas by Maria Hall. It was an excellent presentation with a good attendance from across the deanery. It is available to view on the "Recordings" tab of St Mary's streaming service. It is recommended that all our readers should watch this.

Baptism Preparation Course: The Next preparation course starts on **Tuesday 11th March** at 7.00 pm at St Mary's Brownedge. Contact the Parish Office for further information.

World Day of Prayer Notice – Friday 7th March – Brownedge St Mary's Church 3pm.

The Franciscan Mass Association (FMA Office) has relocated to St Clares Parish 186 Victoria Avenue, Manchester M9 0RR – Poster with more information to be displayed in Church – 0161 749 7626 / fma@thegreyfriars.org for more information.

Make a regular financial contribution to your Church:

Our Parish Lotteries: St Mary's has a 200 Club and St Gerard's has a Parish Lottery. These are great fun ways in which we can financially support our Church. We know many people come to church at Christmas but not necessarily every week. However, **we do need regular weekly income in order to continue to exist**. Perhaps if you are not able to come more regularly, you could consider a way of making a regular financial contribution to the church: Join St Mary's 200 Club or St Gerard's Parish Lottery. Make a small commitment to support your church: A pound a week ... Send an email now to the Parish Office!

Why not enrol some of your family members as a gift or encourage them to join up. Remind those who don't come regularly that if they want the Church to be there when they need it, they need to show support.

**office@stmarysbrownedge.org.uk or
office@saintgerards.org.uk**

Joint Notices



Year of Jubilee 2025:

In the Catholic Church, the concept of Jubilee or 'Holy Year' was used to declare special years for forgiveness and reconciliation. The first Jubilee was declared by Pope Boniface VIII in 1300 to mark the beginning of that century. He later recommended it occurring every 100 years. Various other Popes changed the length of the interval between the observances. But Pope Saint Paul II set the present 25-year interval in the 1500s. So Holy Years are "ordinary" when they occur at regular intervals (25 years in these modern times) and "extraordinary" when they are proclaimed for a very special reason. More recently a Great Jubilee was declared in 2000 by Pope Saint John Paul II to celebrate the new millennium. That Jubilee year brought the total number of universal Jubilee years to 28 that so far had been celebrated by the Church.

The 2025 Jubilee, which has the theme of "Pilgrims of Hope" will be a year of hope and trust for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the increased threats to the climate. Intended as a time of conversion and emphasis on God's mercy and forgiveness of sins, Jubilees begin with the opening of the Holy Door in St. Peter's Basilica. Holy Doors at each of the four papal basilicas in Rome are destination points for pilgrims, who pass through seeking special graces. The Pope has added a fifth Holy Door in a prison in Rome to symbolise our liberation from the captivity of our sin.

Jubilee Visits in Salford Diocese: The Diocese have nominated six churches as places of pilgrimage in the Jubilee Year. This includes St Mary's Brownedge as a place of pilgrimage. We are asked to make people welcome to visit our church during the Holy Year and offer opportunities for prayer and devotion. It would be good to have a team of people who would be willing to help with this. There is a booklet at the back of church detailing the six churches and the idea of being pilgrims of hope in the upcoming Jubilee Year. There is also a "Jubilee Passport" produced by the diocese with some of the details about the six churches and what we can see when we visit them.

Jubilee Mascot: "Luce" is the mascot for the Jubilee and for our Children's Liturgy Group. Her name is the Italian for "Light" and she, like each of us, is a **Pilgrim of Hope**. Last week she passed on a message for us; she asked us to "Bring good news to the poor!", just like Jesus showed us to do.



Jubilee Guide Book: Alive Publishing have produced a small booklet which has a lovely explanation of the Jubilee Year including prayers and devotions. These are available at the back of Church for £1.50.

"PILGRIMS OF HOPE" Reflection Evenings: We will be holding four sessions to help us understand the Jubilee better. We will be using resources provided by CAFOD. These will take place over four Monday evenings starting on **February 10th** and continuing on **February 17th, February 24th and March 3rd**. The meetings will take place in the porch of Our Lady and St Gerard's from 7.00pm - 8.00pm after Exposition and our Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion. The gatherings will involve prayer, reflection and discussion as to how we can be pilgrims of hope in this Jubilee Year. All are most welcome from both parishes.

Jubilee World Youth Day Rome 2025: Salford Diocesan Youth Service are taking a group to World Youth Day in Rome this summer. Archie Henderson, an Altar Server at St Gerard's, has secured a place with this pilgrimage which will take place between **28 July and 3 August**. Archie is currently a second year under graduate at UCL studying History and when he graduates next year he will then take a years teacher training before hopefully becoming a teacher in a Catholic School. Archie was fortunate to attend the WYD in 2023 and wrote about his experience in News and Views over several months. Lee McNulty from St Gerard's will also be attending as a group leader. The Pilgrimage costs £1180, if you are able to help Archie raise this money he would eternally grateful. Any ideas for fundraising or any donations can be left at the Parish Office. Thank you.

Jubilee Parish Pilgrimage to Rome: To celebrate the Jubilee Year and Fr Mark's 30th anniversary of priesthood, there is the opportunity of a trip to Rome from Mon 4th to Mon 11th August 2025. It will be based at Palazzola, Villa of the Venerable English College, 20 miles south of Rome. There will be a couple of organised visits into the city of Rome as well as local excursions and plenty of time to relax and enjoy this beautiful setting. The cost is between £695 and £895 (depending on type of room) and includes all meals (with wine). Price of the flight is not included but can be organised if required. **Full details and booking forms are available from the back of church or the parish office.** Further information: Anthony R Coles Travel and Conferences, 18 Maresfield Gardens, London NW3 5SX Tel: 020 7431 3414 email: arctc@btinternet.com

We currently have about 26 signed up. Contact Fr Mark for more details.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The sick, and those who care for them:

Sister Louise, Peter Clough, Dorothy Whittle, Jean Doran, Yvonne Jeffrey, Joseph O'Grady, John Stringfellow

All those who have recently died:

Margaret Guinan, Giovanni Puzo, Paul Mather.
Florence Hunt, Jean Rishton, Mildred Corcoran,
Brenda Walmsley, Kathleen Taylor.

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

Our Lady & St Gerard's Notices

Change of Sunday Mass Time at St Gerard's during February. On Sundays 2nd, 9th and 16th February Mass will be at **11:00 am**. This is to enable Father Mark to Celebrate Mass at both Churches whilst Father Colin is away.

Also, for the next two Thursdays, our Mass will be in the evening at **6.30pm** rather than in the morning.

Baptism: we welcome into the family of God, Munachimso Okeke who will be baptised on Sunday during the 11 am Mass.

Parish Lottery - If your membership runs from January to January please get in touch with the office before the next draw next week if you'd like to continue. Parish Lottery subscription are still £60 for the year – Prizes are drawn monthly, and you can win excellent cash prizes (£100, £40 & £ 20) with extra prize draws during the year.

CARITAS - Many thanks to our schoolchildren who made the appeal last Sunday for Caritas. It was great to see their enthusiasm in speaking about how we can all help bring hope to the disadvantaged in our diocese. Please bring back your envelopes and donation this weekend and if you didn't receive an envelope Caritas have provided some more which can be found at the back of church. Thank you everyone!

Family Fun Night – Friday 28th February 7pm – Tickets £5 per adults up to 2 children free – Tickets on sale next weekend and include a sausage barm for adults and a hotdog for children. Your Host Lee McNulty and Disco by Mike Lambert. All the usual games and Bingo of course.

Volunteers - DBS applications – There will be DBS forms at the back of Church for all volunteer members of staff to complete and return to the office as soon as possible – Any questions or queries, please get in touch. Also we need someone to come forward as a new DBS coordinator to help manage the DBS application process. Training will be given. Please contact the Office if interested.

St Mary's Brownedge Notices

Offertory Procession: Next Sunday 9th February 9:30 am Mass: Ryles Family

Mass on Tuesday: for the next two weeks, there will be a Service of Word and Holy Communion at St Mary's at 9.30am.

Mass on Tuesdays will be at St Gerard's at 9.15 am.

SVP Meeting – Monday 3rd February – 6:30pm – Priory meeting room

Cafod Coffee Morning - Friday 7th February after 9.30 Mass. Come & join us for our regular First Friday fundraising Coffee Morning for CAFOD. Tea/coffee and toasted teacakes in the Narthex. All welcome

SVP Meeting – 6:30pm – Monday 3rd February – Priory Meeting Room

St Mary & St Benedict's Primary - School Coffee Morning – **Wednesday 5th February at 10.15am** - Parishioners Invited to attend after Mass

200 Club – Well done to all the member of The 200 club. Last Sunday our wonderful organisers presented Fr Mark with a cheque for £4000 which supports the ongoing maintenance of the Church – Thank you for your continued support.

Parish Lunch: Many thanks to everyone who supported the Parish Lunch last Sunday and to David and Mary for organising. It was a lovely occasion.

www.universalis.com: The readings for Mass and the Divine Office:

Scan this QR code with your camera:



Donations: Make an online Donation to support your parish by scanning the QR codes below:



W/C 2/02/2025	This Weeks Intentions
Sanctuary	Yvonne Jeffrey

Offertory 18th / 19th January 2025	
Offertory Loose	£249.19
Offertory Envelopes	£147.40
Attendance	163

Bingo Jackpots for 5/02/2028			
£37	£71	£82	£31

Mass Attendance: Our attendance last weekend	
7 pm Vigil	64
9:30 am	215
6:30 p.m..	65
Total	344

Sanctuary Lamps Week 2/02/25	
1	The Late George & Monica Clark - R.I.P.
2	Mabel Richardson & Peter Richardson