



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)
 Parish telephone (01772) 335168 Office Mobile 07442 385553
 Parish Office email: office@stmarysbrownedge.org.uk

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 (C)

16th March 2025

St Mary's, Brownedge			
Sat	15th Mar Vigil	7:00 pm	St John of God (OM) 2nd Sunday of Lent Giovanni Puzo
Sun	16th Mar	9:30 am 6:30 pm	2nd Sunday of Lent Rhoda Rawcliffe The Parish
Mon	17th Mar	9:30 am	St Patrick (F) Philip Morris
Tues	18th Mar	9:30 am	St Cyril of Jerusalem (OM) In Memory of Margaret Beine
Wed	19th Mar	9:30 am	St Joseph, Husband of Mary With Finch Class; Bill Smith (s)
Thurs	20th Mar	9:30 am	Maria Culshaw (1st Anniversary)
Fri	21st Mar	7.00 am 9.30 am 2:30 pm 4.30 pm	In Monastery Chapel Michael Dolan R.I.P. Kit & Peg (Anniversary) Dove Haven Care Home; Joe Dowbakin (Anniversary) Stations of the Cross
Sat	22nd Mar Vigil	7:00 pm	3rd Sunday of Lent Denis Hopwood
Sun	23rd Mar	9:30 am 11:00 6:30 pm	3rd Sunday of Lent Dorothy & John Thurston Sergeant Baptism of Elsie Kellett The Parish

St Gerard's, Lostock Hall			
Sat	15th Mar Vigil	5:30 pm	St John of God (OM) 2nd Sunday of Lent The Parish
Sun	16th Mar	10:30 am	2nd Sunday of Lent Margaret Guinan R.I.P. Baptism Presentations
Mon	17th Mar	6:00 pm 6:30 pm	St Patrick (F) Exposition Service of Word & Communion
Tues	18th Mar	9:15 am	St Cyril of Jerusalem (OM) With Years 3 & 4. Mildred Corcoran R.I.P.
Wed	19th Mar	10:30 am 2:00 pm	St Joseph, Husband of Mary Requiem Mass: Cicely Bajko Requiem Mass: Geoff Giddins
Thurs	20th Mar	6.00 pm 6.30 pm	Reception: Audrey Robinson Bill Smith (Birthday Anniversary)
Fri	21st Mar	2:30 pm 6.30 pm	Requiem Mass: Audrey Robinson Stations of the Cross
Sat	22nd Mar Vigil	5:30 pm	3rd Sunday of Lent The Parish
Sun	23rd Mar	10:30 am	3rd Sunday of Lent Audrey Robinson R.I.P.

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.

Prayers for Salford Diocese:

This week we pray for the people of St. John Southworth Parish, Nelson, Brierfield and Fence, for Fr. Gerard Kelly, their Parish Priest, and for the Methodist community who share Christchurch with this parish. We pray for their three parish primary schools and for Pendle Community Hospital.

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 Pope Francis

Lord our God, we pray for our Holy Father, Pope Francis, your servant and our shepherd; for strength and healing from his illness, for the comfort of our prayers and the maternal closeness of Mary, and for abundant blessings on his continued ministry as the successor of St. Peter and the Bishop of Rome. Lord in your mercy hear our prayer!

Joint Notices

Second Sunday of Lent

Every year, on the Second Sunday of Lent, we hear about the **Transfiguration of Jesus** on the top of Mount Tabor. Why? Jesus revealed his glory to the three apostles in order to strengthen them for the journey ahead - the journey to Jerusalem, Gethsemane and Golgotha. The same vision is today offered to us, to strengthen us in our Lenten Journey of Faith. Last week we heard about temptation: this week we are driven onwards by a vision of glory that will be ours - the goal of our lives of faith and all that we do as Christians. The Transfiguration represents the final destination of our lives, if we are faithful in resisting temptation and living each day as faithful members of Jesus Christ. Perhaps today we can bring to mind some of our "mountain top experiences when we have been blessed with something which uplifts our hearts to faith. Be spurred on and encouraged by today's vision to see why the effort is worth it.

R.C.I.A. Learning about the Catholic Faith: Last week we reflected on the end of our earthly existence and how the "endgame" of our life on earth is to reach Heaven. This week will consider how the saints inspire us to reach for heaven and the special role of the Blessed Virgin Mary in our Catholic Faith. **We will continue to meet each Tuesday of Lent.**

Please pray for 8 members of our group who are to be received into the Church at Easter. Last Sunday some of them took part in the "Rite of Election", being presented to the Bishop as candidates to be received into the Church. Many thanks to those who attended to support them. We were one of the largest parish groups in the diocese.

Baptism Preparation Course: Thanks to all who came to the session on Tuesday. These families will be presented to the Parish at Mass this weekend as candidates for Baptism in the coming weeks.

SVP - There will be the regular monthly retiring collection for the SVP at both churches at all Masses this weekend.

Youth Ministry Internship Scheme at Castlerigg Manor: The Diocese of Lancaster Youth Retreat Centre in Keswick is seeking young volunteers for the 2025–26 team. The internship scheme offers solid experience and training, formal qualifications, and gives participants the chance to live in the Lake District, be part of a dynamic team, make friends for life, and really impact the lives of young people. Interested? jack@castleriggmanor.co.uk

Castlerigg Easter Retreat for Teens and Young Adults: Maundy Thursday to Easter Sunday, April 17th–20th – A fantastic Easter Retreat for teens and young adults. A chance to journey together through the Triduum and make some friends along the way. The programme offers a combination of fun, relaxation, prayer, talks, and of course the beautiful liturgies. Cost: £85 (subsidies are available—speak to Fr Mark or contact: director@castleriggmanor.co.uk) Further info: www.castleriggmanor.com

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.

Mass on Thursday Evenings: Remember we now have a Mass on Thursday at 6.30pm 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. We will have a Parish Service of Reconciliation on the Tuesday of Holy Week, **15th April 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 from 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.

Evangelise: Remind family and friends that it is Lent and encourage them to take part.

The Fasting and Feasting Prayer

Fast from fear of illness; feast on God's healing.
Fast from apparent darkness; feast on God's light.
Fast from harsh words; feast on speech that uplifts.
Fast from gossip; feast on affirmations.
Fast from discontent; feast on gratitude.
Fast from pessimism; Feast on hope.
Fast from anger; feast on patience.
Fast from negatives; feast on encouragement.
Fast from resentment; feast on forgiveness.
Fast from suspicion; feast on truth.
Fast from self-centeredness; feast on compassion.
Fast from complaining; feast on appreciation.
Fast from giving up; feast on enthusiasm.
Fast from shadows of sorrow; feast on trust in God.
Fast from focusing on problems; feast on blessings.
Fast from anxiety; feast on faith

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**. This week she joined us at the Jubilee service in the High School. She liked the message of going into the wilderness for 40 days like Jesus did.



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: Lenten Talks: Salford Diocese is holding a series of talks this Lent. Each week, the talks will focus on a different person from the Bible to help us better understand how the journey we are called to make this Holy Week year is rooted in scripture. The weekly talks on **Tuesdays of Lent at 11am at the house of the Bishop of Salford, Wardley Hall, M28 2ND**. Further information: Sr Joan Kerley: joankfmsj@gmail.com or 0161 971 7842.

"PILGRIMS OF HOPE" As you know over the past four weeks, a group of parishioners from both parishes have been meeting to explore the CAFOD reflection guide on the jubilee year and how, as Christians, we can bring hope to a world so desperately in need of hope. At the back of church there is a poster outlining some of the pledges we have made to try and play our part in challenging inequality and injustice wherever these occur. Have a look as you leave church and see if any of the pledges would be possible for you to make.

Jubilee World Youth Day Rome 2025: Salford Diocesan Youth Service are taking a group to World Youth Day in Rome this summer from **28 July and 3 August**. Archie Henderson, an Altar Server at St Gerard's, is taking part. Archie is currently at UCLan studying History with a hope of becoming a teacher in a Catholic School. The Pilgrimage costs £1180 and thanks to donations so far he now has only £830 to raise, 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.

Parish Jubilee 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. There is still an opportunity to come on this fantastic trip. Contact Fr Mark for more details.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The sick, and those who care for them:

Sister Louise, Peter Clough, Jean Doran, Yvonne Jeffrey, Joseph O'Grady, John Stringfellow, Brian Morley, Dorothy Whittle, Maureen Hopwood, John Guinan, Pope Francis,

All those who have recently died:

Frances Cottam, Kathleen Nuttall, Cicely Bajko, Laura Dalley, Geoff Giddins, Martin Knowles, Harry Riding, Julie Watson, Audrey Robinson, Gerard Porter.

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

Our Lady & St Gerard's Notices

CAFOD: Family Fast Day envelopes can be returned this week in the offertory collection or through the Presbytery door.

School Coffee Morning: Thursday 20th March from 9.30am to 10.30am all parishioners are warmly invited to the school for a coffee morning where the children are hoping to raise some money for their St Joseph's Penny Appeal. (Caritas Salford).

CAFOD'S Big Lent Walk 2025: Margaret & Michael Cronin are doing the 200km walk during Lent. Please support them. The online link is: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/michael-cronin2025>

Graveyard & Ashes Vault: Please help to keep our Graveyard and Memorial Garden tidy. Please remember to clear old flowers or pots—there are some still there from Christmas. Anything which is no longer wanted can be placed in the large orange bins (or one of the smaller ones) These bins are for general rubbish, including glass, metal, wood, plastic etc. This will help keep the area tidy and make maintenance easier for our volunteer groundsmen. Thanks for your help and a huge thankyou to our volunteers who do a great job.

Recently Deceased: There have been several parishioners who have died recently in both our parishes. Please pray for the repose of their souls:

At St Gerards:

Cicely Bajko, Funeral: Weds 19th March 10.30 am;
Geoff Giddins: Funeral: Weds 19th March 2.00pm
Audrey Robinson: Reception into Church on Thursday 20th March at 6 pm; Funeral: Friday 21st March 2.30pm.
Harry Riding: Funeral: Tues 1st April 10:45 am

At St Mary's Brownedge:

Julie Watson: Funeral: Weds 26 March 1pm
Laura Dalley: Funeral: Thurs 27 March 2.30pm
Martin Knowles: Funeral: Friday 28 March 12 noon

Brownedge 200 club Winners for February 2025:

1st prize - £200 – No 92 – Mike Bailey
2nd Prize - £100 – No 341 – Nicholas Cox
3rd Prize - £50 – No 269 – Tony Regan

When using the 200 Club envelopes please ensure they are sealed – We have received several open with no money enclosed. Also, if you have changed any of your contact details i.e home addresses, Please let Kathryn and Sandra know.

W/C 16/03/2025	This Weeks Intentions		
Sanctuary	Yvonne Jeffrey		
Our Lady	Cicely Bajko		
Offertory 8th / 9th March 2025			
Offertory Loose	£291.12		
Offertory Envelopes	£171.80		
Attendance	159		
Bingo Jackpots for 19/03/2028			
£25	£77	£88	£37

St Mary's Brownedge Notices

Offertory Procession: Next Sunday 23rd March 9:30 am Mass: Taylor Family

Mothers Prayer Meeting at St Mary's on Wednesday 19th March at 1 pm in St Mary's Priory.

Cafod - Many thanks to all who supported our recent coffee morning and raffle which raised £207 and the buckets and donations in February £124. Many thanks for your continued generosity and support.

CAFOD - On Fridays in Lent, following the 9.30 Mass, we will have coffee mornings each week starting on **7th March until 4th April**. All welcome

Mystery raffle tickets will be on sale each weekend from **8th/9th March** and drawn at the following Lenten Coffee Morning. There is a list of dates on the Cafod notice board in the porch.

CAFOD'S Big Lent Walk 2025 - Dave Gorman is once again be taking part in the Big Lent Walk and walking a minimum of 200km during the forty days of Lent. Your support and generosity would, once again, be much appreciated in the fight against global poverty Sponsorship forms are available in the Narthex and in the Sacred Heart porch or you can donate online via: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/daves-big-lent-walk-cafod-fundraiser2025>

There will also be a **Parish Community Walk** on Sat **12th April** starting from Church at 10.30am and walking 2.5/5km or a couple of laps of the church grounds. You can get sponsors or give a small donation, and we will add this to David's total. We will meet back at Church for refreshments. All welcome including our four-legged friends!

Emergency Lighting: To comply with H&S regulations we are currently adding additional emergency lighting in church which will cost over £8000. We are grateful to all our donors and fundraisers for all they do to help us. Join the 200 Club or give a donation to help maintain our Church.

Women's Refuge Easter Egg Appeal: We are collecting Easter Eggs for the Women's Refuge; Please put donations of Easter Eggs at the back of Church in the boxes provided or contact Clare Haythornthwaite on 312558. Our annual appeal brings a lot of joy to many children

World Day of Prayer: Thank you to all who took part; over £170 was raised for grants to Christian Charities.

Mass Attendance: Our attendance last weekend	
7 pm Vigil	59
9:30 am	150
6:30 p.m..	58
Total	267
Sanctuary Lamps Week 16/03/25	
1	Pray for the Soul of my Beloved Wife—Mary Patricia Hewitt
2	In Memory of Herbert Pearson - Buried at Anzio