



# Our Lady and St Gerard's Lostock Hall

## NEWS AND VIEWS

### MARCH

Lent starts with ASH WEDNESDAY on 5th March and at the end of March we will have reached the Fourth Sunday. We prepare not only for Easter itself but the Clocks going forward on the same day to mark the end of the long Winter months.

The times of the Easter Services will be in the Weekly Bulletin nearer the time.

How do you prepare spiritually for Easter?

### Preparing Our Hearts for Easter

- Reflect on Christ's sacrifice for our sin.
- Identify our sins.
- Ask for forgiveness and repent.
- Give thanks for your new heart.
- Spend time in Scripture.
- Practice compassion.
- Spend time with others who are truly following Christ.



**Iss  
ue**

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## CAFOD

### Join CAFOD's Big Lent Walk in the Jubilee Year



You are invited to join CAFOD's Big Lent Walk and journey together with Catholics in England, Wales and Scotland as Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee Year - walking 200km over 40 days during Lent.

Perhaps journey to one of the churches or shrines designated as places of pilgrimage in our diocese as part of your Big Lent Walk.

Every £1 you raise will support communities like Lokho's in Kenya, experiencing the worst impact of the climate crisis, to rebuild their lives in hope.

CAFOD and SCIAF are the official relief and development agencies of the Catholic Church for England and Wales (CAFOD) and for Scotland (SCIAF), and we are both members of the global Caritas Internationalis family.

We both believe that a green and just world, free from poverty, is possible. We are teaming up this year because we know that working together means that we can make an ever bigger difference.

Our goal: to get thousands of teams or individual walkers to join together, walking and fundraising and raising awareness of inequality across the world. Together means big change can happen.

The money you raise by taking part in the Big Lent Walk will enable us to continue fighting global poverty and working through expert local partners to bring real life change to communities overseas.

Sign up here: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/> and help to change people's lives. Or call Simon Holleron on 077 100 944 54 for more information.

We'd love you to be involved. Sign up here. <https://parishes.walk.cafod.org.uk/sign-up#signup>

#### **Notice in Newsletter of Our Lady of Lincoln last weekend.**

"Please do not keep complaining about the church being cold,. The church is heated an hour before Mass starts, but as soon as the church doors open the heat escapes"

***News and Views Page 2***

# **Maureen Cook**

## **1935- 2025**



Maureen passed her 11 plus and went to Lark Hill Convent School. She left aged 17 with 2 GCE's, for Shorthand Typing 1 and Bookkeeping.

Maureen worked at Leyland Motors as a secretary then went to Brownedge St Mary's School and then onto St Gerard's Primary School where she helped in different roles for the church.

We went on many holidays and had many laughs. One hotel group we stayed at closed the two hotels nearest to the village so we walked through the grounds of the hotel to get to the village. Our way was blocked by a gate, about 14 foot high. She climbed over and I followed her, once we had got through we realised we could have easily got under the gate.

Then in Yorkshire one time we stayed at a pub, good landlord, good company. We had a bit of banter with him, he was very thin and about 6 foot tall. He said something cheeky to Maureen, I can't exactly remember what but she replied to him "If they painted you black you would pass for a stick of liquorice".

Once, Maureen was driving in Devon and decided she wanted to pull into a layby for a break, she managed to hit a mound of earth and finished up on a boulder with all 4 wheels off the ground.

She agreed one time to pick up me and my brother-in-law one Saturday in Tithebarn Street, Preston and her being very naive she then wanted to know why men kept looking in the car, when I explained to her it was a local pick up spot she told us we had to get a taxi home in future.

**Alf**

# Mildred Corcoran

1933 - 2025



Some of you may have wondered who Mildred was when her name appeared on the Newsletter and in the Bidding Prayers.

Mildred lived in Penwortham with her Sister and started coming to our Church when St Mary Magdalen in Penwortham stopped having a Saturday evening Mass.

Mildred always sat at the back of the church more or less opposite Our Lady.

Mildred was a very generous person and for many years had bought the Altar Servers Christmas presents and Easter Eggs as well as Gift Aiding her Offertory donations.

When Mildred got a new puppy a few years ago whilst Father Joe was with us she used to bring it with her under her coat and sometimes you could hear it whimper during the service.

A few of our parishioners attended her Requiem Mass at St Mary Magdalen's Church on Friday 7th February, there wasn't a Eulogy but Father Ian mentioned in his Homily that she was an accomplished musician who had a band of her own at one time.

At the end of the Requiem Mass as the doors opened at the back of church you could hear the now grown dog whimpering and waiting.

As the hearse waited to move off with the door still open it sat looking and occasionally pulling towards the open door.

Love for a lovely Lady. Rest you.

in Peace Mildred and thank



**The 'Welcome' stands on a large A-board just outside  
the Main Door**

## **WELCOME TO COVENTRY CATHEDRAL**



We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, widowed, straight, gay, questioning, well-heeled or down-at-heel. We especially welcome wailing babies and excited toddlers.

You're welcome here if you're just browsing, just woken up or just out of prison. We don't care if you're more Christian than the Archbishop of Canterbury or haven't been to church since Christmas 10 years ago.

We extend a special welcome to those who are over 60 but not grown up yet, and to teenagers who are growing up too fast. We welcome keep-fit mums, football dads, starving artists, tree-huggers, latte-sippers, vegans, junk-food eaters. We welcome those who are in recovery or still addicted. We welcome you if you if you're having problems, are down in the dumps or don't like organised religion (we're not that keen on it either!)

We offer a welcome to those who think the earth is flat, work too hard, don't work, can't spell or are here because Granny is visiting and wanted to look round. We welcome those who are inked, pierced, both or neither. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, had religion shoved down their throats as kids or got lost on the ring road and wound up here by mistake.

We welcome pilgrims, tourists, seekers, doubters – and especially you...

## **PLEASE COME IN!**

### **Golden Wedding**

Thank you to all for your kind wishes and cards on the occasion of our Golden Wedding on 22nd February.

**David & Sheila Walker**

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# Lenten School of Prayer 2025

**Tuesdays 4,11,18,25 March, 1,8 April 11.00am – 1.00pm**  
**Wardley Hall, M28 2ND**

*Led by Mgr. Paul Smith, Sister Joan Kerley, and Maria Kidd*

## **“Pilgrims of Hope”**

Reflections on the call of Pope Francis for us to celebrate the Holy Year by being “Pilgrims of Hope”.

### **4 March - “Pilgrims of Hope”**

*Pope Francis’ invitation to us as he inaugurates  
the Holy Year*

**11 March - Abraham**

*Pilgrim of hope on his journey to a new country*

**18 March - Moses**

*Pilgrim of hope on his journey to freedom*

**25 March - Mary**

*Pilgrim of hope with God’s People*

**1 April - Paul**

*Pilgrim and preacher of hope*

**8 April - Jesus**

*Pilgrim to Jerusalem and his destiny*

There is a limit of 30 participants.  
To reserve a place please contact Sister Joan  
([joankfmsj@gmail.com](mailto:joankfmsj@gmail.com) or 0161 971 7842)  
We would be grateful for donations

## **Don't Count The Years, Make The Years Count**



Soon I will be married to an Octogenarian!

Is it a co-incidence that my husband's birthday is on a World Day of Prayer? as over the years I have prayed a lot for him.

Since childhood, John has had many health issues and has been in hospital numerous times, but thanks to my prayers being answered , he is still here alive and kicking! And still has the energy to go watch PNE every Satur-

day, win or lose, Never give up!

John's indomitable spirit allows him to do lots of volunteering and some would call him a fountain of knowledge and jack of all trades (he would say Master of None) but I know different.

I cannot think of anything he would not attempt, from digging holes with a JCB to analysing financial spreadsheets,

George Burns said "By the time your eighty year old you've learned everything, ----- you only have to remember it"

When I was in my last year at school, a teacher said to me "Don't marry just anyone"

I think this was a bit of fatherly advice as I had just lost mine that year.

I also read somewhere "to always marry someone kind"

Happy Birthday John, and thank you for your kindness and love.

**Grace Robinson**

## **WHEN SHOULD A CATHOLIC MAKE: A SIMPLE BOW, A DEEP BOW OR GENUFLECT ?**

In Catholic tradition, gestures of reverence such as bowing the head, bowing the body, and genuflection are used to express respect, worship, and humility. The Catechism of the Catholic Church and liturgical norms provide guidance on when each gesture is appropriate.

1. **Bowing the Head** : A bow of the head is a simple inclination of the head as a sign of reverence.

### **When to Use It:**

- During the mention of the names of Jesus, Mary, and the saint being commemorated in a liturgical celebration.
- Before receiving Holy Communion (if not genuflecting).
- As a general sign of respect in prayer or when greeting clergy.

2. **Bowing the Body** (Profound Bow) :A bow of the body (also called a profound bow) is a deeper gesture, bending at the waist.

### **When to Use It:**

- During the Creed at the words "by the power of the Holy Spirit...and became man" (except on Christmas and Annunciation, when a genuflection is made instead).
- Before receiving a blessing from a bishop or priest outside of Mass.
- At certain moments in the Mass, such as when approaching the altar if no genuflection is made.

3. **Genuflection**: Genuflection is the act of kneeling on one knee (usually the right) as a sign of adoration.

### **When to Use It:**

- Before the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle or exposed in a monstrance.
- When entering or leaving a pew in the presence of the Eucharist.
- On Good Friday, during veneration of the Cross.

When passing in front of the tabernacle, unless carrying something heavy or if it is impractical. These gestures help Catholics physically express their faith and reverence in worship.

Examples over Page and thanks to contributor for submitting article.



## **Jubilee year-Pilgrims of hope.**

A group of parishioners from both parishes have been meeting on Monday nights to explore the CAFOD reflection guide on the Jubilee Year and of how, as Christians, we can bring hope to a world so desperately in need of hope!

One of the focuses of a Jubilee Year is the cancelling of debts and Pope Francis has urged us to look carefully at the global debt crisis. CAFOD are concentrating very heavily on this in 2025 as debt interest payments are absorbing huge amounts of budgets in countries home to the world's poorest communities, so much so, that the interest owed on these debts amount to more than some countries can spend on health and education.

You will hear more about this in the coming months from CAFOD but for now the Jesuits at: [Jesuitmissions.org.uk](http://Jesuitmissions.org.uk) are asking everyone to sign a petition to ask the government to cancel unjust and unsustainable debts. It's easy to find this petition by clicking on this website and searching for their debt cancellation campaign. It takes two minutes to add your name and is an easy way to offer Hope to those much worse off than us. It is requested we sign and send this petition on Ash Wednesday as it's believed that if the government are inundated by requests on the same day they'll realise we mean business!

Michael and I are attending a parliamentary reception at the speaker's house in Westminster organised by CAFOD on Tuesday 18th March. We are hoping to meet with our local MPs there to encourage them to take the issue of the Global debt crisis seriously.

CAFOD family fast day this year is Friday 14th March, another opportunity for us to fast alongside those who have no option but to go to bed hungry. An appeal will be made the weekend of **Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th March at both churches.**

There is a notice at the back of church of all the events taking place at St Mary's to raise money for CAFOD during lent.

# **Our Lady of Lourdes and St Gerard Majella**

Welcome and thank you for visiting our Church.

The Church was built in 1912  
to replace our first church,  
St Paulinus (now used as a boxing club)

In 2024 the parish which includes the  
Church building itself,  
the Presbytery, the boxing club,  
Secretarial and Clergy.  
cost **£95,000** to run.

That is approximately **£1,900** a week,  
this would have been  
much higher but for our amazing volunteers  
who carry out so much work for us.

Please be generous and help us to maintain the  
parish and if possible Gift Aid any donation you make.

To be eligible to Gift Aid you need to pay Income Tax,  
for every £1 Gift Aided HMRC will give us back  
25 pence.

Thank you

## **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,	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: <a href="mailto:safeguarding@saintgerards.org.uk">safeguarding@saintgerards.org.uk</a>	
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](mailto:newsviews@saintgerards.org.uk) The last day for submissions is the 20th of each month.

[www.saintgerards.org.uk](http://www.saintgerards.org.uk)

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**St Mary's, Brownedge**  
**Live Streaming Times**  
<https://www.churchservices.tv/bamberbridge>

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Mass</b>	09:30 am & 6:30 pm
<b>Monday to Friday</b>	<b>Mass</b>	9:30 am
<b>Private Prayer</b>	<b>Tuesday Thursday</b>	3:00 pm to 4:00 pm 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Mass</b>	7 pm Vigil
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Mass</b>	09:30 am & 6:30 pm

## Parish Diary

<b>2nd</b>	<b>8th Sunday in Ord Time</b>	<b>30th</b>	<b>4th Sunday of Lent</b>
4th	St Casimar	2nd	St Francis of Paola
		April	
<b>5th</b>	<b>ASH WEDNESDAY</b>	4th	St Isidore
7th	Ss Perpetua & Felicity	5th	St Vincent Ferrer
		<b>6th</b>	<b>5th Sunday of Lent</b>
8th	St John of God	<p>The <b>PARISH OFFICE</b> is open at the following new times:</p> <p><b>Monday to Friday 9 am to 3 pm. Office hours are now shared with St Marys Brownedge.</b></p> <p><b>AM at St Gerard's</b>  <b>PM at St Marys Brownedge.</b>  <b>Phone: 01772 335387 Mobile 07442 385553 (9am-3pm)</b></p>	
<b>9th</b>	<b>1st Sunday of Lent</b>		
<b>16th</b>	<b>2nd Sunday of Lent</b>		
17th	St Patrick		
18th	St Cyril of Jerusalem		
19th	St Joseph, husband of the Blessed Virgin		
<b>23rd</b>	<b>3rd Sunday of Lent</b>		
25th	The Annunciation of the Lord		



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## WHATS ON IN THE PAROCHIAL CENTRE

March 2025

Saturday 1st - Rebecca Duncalf

Saturday 8th - Monty Scot

Saturday 15th - Rick E A

Saturday 22nd - Clare Louise

Saturday 29th - Andrew Knight

**\*\*New Opening Hours\*\***

Monday to Thursday 5 pm—12 am

Friday 2 pm to 12 a m

Saturday & Sunday 12 pm to 12 am





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