



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 (Office)
 email: pp@stmarysbrownedge.org.uk
Assistant Priests: Fr Colin Battell OSB. Fr Charles Essien Tel: 01772 321201 (Monastery)

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (A)

29th March 2026

St Mary's, Brownedge			
Sat	28th Mar	9.30 am	Kath Harvey (Birthday)
	Vigil	7:00 pm	PALM SUNDAY Yolanda & Cyril Walsh 60th Wedding Anniversary
Sun	29th Mar	9:30 am 6:30 pm	PALM SUNDAY Margaret Grayless John Lees
Mon	30th Mar	9.30 am 1:00 pm	Jack Lawson Requiem Mass for Magdalena Denby R.I.P.
Tues	31st Mar	9:30 am	Gregory Carroll
Wed	1st Apr	9:30 am 2.00 pm	Richard Reid Stations of the Cross with the Primary School
Thurs	2nd Apr	9.30 am 10.30 am 8:00 pm	MAUNDY THURSDAY Office of Readings High School Liturgy MASS OF THE LORDS SUPPER Joe Rogers & Tony O'Connor
Fri	3rd Apr	10:00 am 10.45 am 3:00 pm	GOOD FRIDAY Stations of the Cross Walk of Witness CELEBRATION OF THE PASSION
Sat	4th Apr	9:30 am 8:00 pm	HOLY SATURDAY Office of readings THE EASTER VIGIL Mary Stead
Sun	5th Apr	9:30 am 6:30 pm	EASTER SUNDAY Spicer Family The Parish

St Gerard's, Lostock Hall			
Sat	28th Mar		PALM SUNDAY Doreen Wane R.I.P.
Sun	29th Mar	5:30 pm 10:30 am	PALM SUNDAY The Parish
Mon	30th Mar	6:00 pm 6:30 pm	Exposition Priest's Intentions
Tues	31st Mar	9:15 am 7:00 pm	Stations of the Cross with the Primary School Reconciliation Service
Wed	1st Apr	9:15 am	Terry & Marina McNulty 70th Wedding Anniversary
Thurs	2nd Apr	6:00 pm	MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
Fri	3rd Apr	3:00 pm 6:30 pm	GOOD FRIDAY CELEBRATION OF THE PASSION Stations of the Cross
Sat	4th Apr	6:00 pm	HOLY SATURDAY THE EASTER VIGIL Sacred Heart Guild
Sun	5th Apr	10:30 am	EASTER SUNDAY Priest's Intention Baptism of Gabriel Reeves

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

Let us pray for the people of St. Margaret Mary's, New Moston, for Fr. Andrew Starkie and the Manchester Ordinariate Mission. We pray for their Parish Primary school and for the Presentation Sisters. We also remember Deacon Stephen O'Connor, who served this community and who died this past week.



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

Joint Notices

PALM SUNDAY



On Palm Sunday the long reading of the Passion dominates the celebration, and in a sense its meaning is obvious. Do not allow this, however, to detract from the other readings, which give the vital context necessary for understanding the Passion as more than just a long story. It is our story – the tale of how God achieved OUR salvation by the supreme sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

Sycamore (RCIA): Do you want to become a Catholic or learn more about the faith? Our current programme is drawing to a close and will be marked by 11 adults being received into the church at the Easter Vigil. Our journey in faith has been blessed greatly and we look forward to launching a new programme soon to welcome even more people into the family of God.

Visiting Priest: We are delighted to welcome a new priest to help minister in our parishes: Fr Charles Essien is from the Diocese of Uyo in Nigeria.

Fr Charles will reside at St Benedict's Monastery with Fr Mark and Fr Colin. He will act as an extra Assistant Priest to both St Mary's and St Gerard's as well as being able to lend support to the parishes across our Deanery when necessary. Please make Fr Charles welcome, help him to adjust to life in Lancashire and pray for him that his presence will be a great blessing on our community.

Gift Aid: A Simple Way to Help Your Parish

Many parishioners may not realise that most people receiving the State Pension are now paying Income Tax on it and many more will be from 5th April this year. This means a large number of us already pay enough tax for the parish to reclaim Gift Aid on our offertory giving.

Just to reassure you: we are not asking you to give more (though any increase is always appreciated). What we are encouraging is that whatever you already put into the offertory is Gift Aided.

Gift Aid allows the parish to claim an additional 25p for every £1 donated, at no extra cost to you. All that's needed is a simple Gift Aid declaration. It's quick to complete, confidential, and covers all your regular and one-off giving.

If you're not already signed up, please consider doing so. By Gift Aiding your offerings, you help the parish receive the full benefit of the tax you already pay—strengthening our community and supporting the work of the Church.

The Gift Aid form (and Standing Order if you prefer) are available in the Narthex or if you need any help, please speak to our parish Gift Aid organiser or contact the parish office.

Easter Triduum Liturgies

"The Paschal Triduum is the matrix of our personal and communitarian lives"- Pope Francis.

Maundy Thursday:

Mass of the Lord's Supper:

St Gerard's at 6pm; St Mary's at 8pm

Good Friday: Celebration of the Passion:

St Gerard's and St Mary's both at 3pm

Holy Saturday: The Easter Vigil:

St Gerard's 6pm; St Mary's 8pm

These three celebrations are a unity and they give meaning to everything else in our lives as Catholics. Make the Triduum a priority in your diary.

✠ HOLY WEEK NOTICES ✠

Parish Lenten Reconciliation Service: The opportunity to go to confession on Tuesday 31st March at 7pm at St Gerard's. This is for the parishes of both St Mary's & St Gerard's.

Holy Week & Easter Cards: Please take a card for Easter which details all our services. Invite someone to come to Church.

Holy Week Posters: There are posters available to display in our windows at home.

Mass of Sacred Chrism: The blessing of the Holy Oils and Renewal of Priestly Promises will take place at St Patrick's, Collyhurst, on Wednesday at 11am as Salford Cathedral is being renovated. Our parishes will be represented some of our parishioners. The newly blessed oils will be presented at Mass of the Lord's Supper.

Maundy Thursday: Washing of the Feet: It would be good to have 12 volunteers to have their feet washed. Please see the list at the back of Church.

Watching at the Altar of Repose: At St Mary's, after the Mass of the Last Supper, we are invited to pray before the Blessed Sacrament up until midnight. Please sign up at the back of Church.

Good Friday Ecumenical Walk of Witness: Churches Together are holding the usual Good Friday Walk of Witness. Leave from St Mary's Church at 10.45 am to process with the cross to McNamara Gardens, outside Morisons in Bamber Bridge, where there will be a service of Hymns and readings at 11.00am. All welcome. Afterwards Methodist Parishioners invite us to join them for tea/coffee and hot cross buns at their Church. All welcome.

Donations: Make an online Donation to support our parishes by scanning the QR codes below:



Joint Notices

Confirmation Programme 2026: Young people who are in Year 8 at school and above are invited to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, which will be celebrated on **Wednesday 13th May at 7pm** in St Mary's Brownedge Church by the Bishop of Salford. Have you been confirmed? Have your children or grandchildren been confirmed? Everyone who is a Catholic should receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. The preparation for our local parishes is being provided by Brownedge St Mary's High School in collaboration with Fr Mark and the parishes. If you want more information about being confirmed please get in touch with Fr Mark, the school chaplain or the parish office: www.st-maryshigh.lancs.sch.uk/catholic-life/chaplaincy

S.V.P. – Thank you everyone for your kind donations to the SVP monthly collection, we raised £124.51 from Brownedge and £105.10 from St Gerard's. The SVP befriends those who live alone, or are just lonely, recently bereaved, or disabled. Please let us know through the Church office if you would like a visit and a friendly ear to listen.

SVP: - Camino Pilgrimage - Tuesday 7th April
– Barbara Hall will be leaving for the SVP Camino Pilgrimage – Please join her & the other Pilgrims with your prayers – Donations can still be made at www.justgiving.com/page/barbara-hall-1 or any donations can be put in the donations basket in Church in an envelope marked Camino.

Please also remember Glynn Watson, who will be received into the Church at the Easter Vigil and then head off on Easter Sunday to walk the Camino in memory of his wife, Julie, who died last year.

Planned Giving Envelopes / Gift Aid - New boxes of planned giving envelopes (gift aid and non-gift aid) are now ready for collection in the Narthex. If your box is missing or any details are not correct; if you would like to start using envelopes; or if you would prefer to give by standing order, please contact: John Kirkwood 01772 312793 or in the case of St Gerard's contact the parish office direct.

May Half Term B&B Stays at Castlerigg Manor - In May half-term, Castlerigg Manor (Catholic retreat centre in Keswick, Cumbria) will once again be opening their doors for B&B stays. A great way for families, groups of friends, and individuals to get an affordable stay in Keswick. Mass will be provided on site. For more info >> castleriggmanor.com >> stay with us.

Shroud of Turin: A replica of the Shroud of Turin and a supporting exhibition will be displayed at **Blackburn Cathedral from Monday 23rd March until Sunday 12th April 2026.**

It is a life-size replica of the original burial shroud believed to have been used to wrap the body of Jesus after the Crucifixion. It offers a wonderful opportunity to learn more and study this sacred cloth - which for some, has proved to be a deeply moving and profound experience.

On Sunday 12th April from 1 – 2pm there will be a talk by Fr Andrew Dalton, a lecturer from Rome and a world expert on the Shroud.

Recommendations for Spiritual Reading: We recently asked for recommendations for spiritual reading. A parishioner has suggested:

I have recently enjoyed "Theology of the Body" by Pope John Paul II. He often touches on this theme throughout his pontificate—reflecting how we are made by God and the respect and dignity we owe to ourselves being part of the amazing wonder and beauty of God's creation.

St Francis de Sales consoling thoughts on the Providence of God: Tan Book Publications has a series of these consoling thoughts on different topics for example, on sickness and death, on the interior life on the providence of God They are in my opinion easy to read and fully informed works of the great saint and available from Amazon etc.

In this Holy Week, it is always good to reflect more deeply on the Passion of Jesus; you might consider a small book by Cardinal Timothy Radcliffe entitled "Seven Last Words" where he leads us deep reflection on the words uttered by Christ as he hung on the cross.

Watching a religious documentary or a biblical movie can also lead us into deeper understanding of the Paschal Mystery: "Jesus of Nazareth", "The Passion of the Christ", "King of Kings", "The Greatest Story Ever Told", to name but a few.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The sick, and those who care for them:

Sister Louise, Yvonne Jeffrey, Maureen Calderbank, Joseph Finch, Brian Morley, Mick Green, Peter Clough, Joseph O'Grady, Eileen McLaughlin, Marie Davis, Christina Hall, Anne May.

All those who have died recently:

Patricia Long, Marie Baron, Sheila Allsop, Mary Lawson, Magdalena Denby, Valerie Jeffrey, Ann Barnes.

MARRIAGE MATTERS

"Challenged when we witness how others love" St Paul recognises the amazing humility of Jesus who accepts death on the cross out of love for God and us. We wonder and are challenged by the joy of a friend who daily visits his wife who has dementia; in his great love he feeds her, puts her to bed each evening, prays with her. Could we love like this?

Universalis.com: Universalis is a website which provides the Mass texts and readings for each day of the year as well as the Liturgy of the Hours. Online it provides free texts for the upcoming 7 days. Buying the App gives full access. This QR Code will take you straight to the Mass Readings of the day:



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

Our Lady & St Gerard's Notices

Sacramental Programme: This Sunday at 10.30 Mass the children preparing for First Holy Communion have their next session. As we begin this Holy Week, we pray that the many graces of this sacred time be poured upon them and their families.

New Sanctuary Carpet: The new sanctuary carpet looks splendid; many thanks once again to the generous benefactor who donated the cost of the new carpet. The remaining carpet in the Church now looks even more in need of replacing. If anyone would like to make a donation to raise funds to carpet the remainder of the church it would be appreciated. The last time was in the early 90's so it is not something we do very often.

Flowers for Easter - If you would like to make a donation towards fresh flowers for the church for Easter it would be appreciated envelopes are in the porch. Thank you.

CAFOD Walk for water - Michael and Margaret Cronin are walking 500 kms over Lent to support CAFOD's work in bringing clean water to regions of the developing world where people have to walk many kms daily to access something we take for granted. Our just giving site link is:
<https://walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/fundraising/michaels-fundraising-page1036>

Wednesday Bingo Easter Break: There will be no Bingo Session in Holy Week or Easter Week (1st & 8th April). We will restart on Wednesday 15th April.

Thank you so much for the many kind wishes and prayers following my recent admission to hospital. They were hugely appreciated. God bless you all!
Michael Cronin

Recently Deceased: Please pray for the soul of Valerie Jeffrey whose Requiem Mass is on Thursday 9th April 2026 at 12 noon. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

W/C 29/03/26	This Weeks Intentions
Sanctuary	Yvonne Jeffrey
St Gerard Majella	John & Margaret Guinan Wedding Anniversary

St Gerard's Parish Lottery No. 617 25/03/26			
1st	£100	65	Mr J Corrigan
2nd	£40	84	Ms S Russo
3rd	£20	13	Mrs D Gardner

Offertory 14th / 15th March 2026		
Loose	Envelopes	Total Attendance
£277.92	£171.80	170

Bingo Jackpots for 15/04/2026			
£25	£33	£56	£30

St Mary's Brownedge Notices

Offertory Procession: Next Sunday 5th April 9:30 am Mass: Vivas Family.

Cafod - Many thanks to all who supported our coffee mornings and raffles during Lent, we have raised a wonderful £1,160. We have also received a generous anonymous donation of £100 and from our Parish Community Walk have given David Gorman £125 towards his Big Lent Walk. From the buckets and sale of goods on the Cafod stall during March, £165. Unclaimed raffle tickets from last week, orange 788, 96, 627, prizes on the trolley in the Narthex. Thank you for standing in love and solidarity with our global family, blessings of Easter to you all

Cafod's Big Lent Walk - CAFOD'S Big Lent Walk 2026: Dave Gorman is, for the 5th consecutive year, 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-fundraising-page4>

Cafod Family Fast Day - Thank you for your generous donations of £700 for Cafod's Family Fast Day Appeal this Lent, with Gift Aid the final total is £786. This will help families who either have too much water or not enough hence their crops fail and they are unable to feed their children. In God's eyes, we are one global family, called to be neighbours to stand in love and solidarity. Thank you for your support

On Good Friday, 3rd April, after the Ecumenical Service outside Morrison's, Bamber Bridge, Methodist Parishioners invite us to join them for tea/coffee and hot cross buns at their Church. All welcome.

Mothers Prayers - The next meeting is on Wednesday 15th April at 1 pm in the Priory.

Recently Deceased: Please pray for the soul of Ann Barnes (Nee Foy) whose Funeral Service will be on Monday 13th April at 11:30 am. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

Legacies: We are extremely grateful to the late Elsie Smith and Jack Lawson who have left some money to the parish as part of their legacies. It is a wonderful testament to their faith and sense of mission for the future of the Church. R.I.P.

Sanctuary Lamps Week 29/03/26	
1	Deceased Members of the Lees & Spencer Families
2	Deceased Members of the Monaghan Family

Mass Attendance: Our Attendance last weekend			
7 pm Vigil	9:30 am	6:30 pm	Total
78	195	72	345