



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)

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (Year A)

26th April 2026

St Mary's, Brownedge			
Sat	25th Apr	9:30 am	St Mark (F) John Anthony Lawson R.I.P.
	Vigil	7:00 pm	4th Sunday of Easter Derek Nickson R.I.P.
Sun	26th Apr	9:30 am	4th Sunday of Easter Jack & Nellie Holt, Robert James Holme & Christine Gainer.
		11:00 am	Baptism of Penelope Joanne Marshall
		6:30 pm	For Mothers Prayers.
Mon	27th Apr	9:30 am	Peter Haythornthwaite
Tues	28th Apr	9:30 am	St Peter Chabel (OM) Ann Sergeant (Anniversary)
Wed	29th Apr	9:30 am	St Catherine of Sienna (OM) Rhoda Turner (Birthday) School Mass
Thurs	30th Apr	9.30 am	St Pius V (OM) Harold & Ellen Dixon
Fri	1st May	9:30 am	St Joseph the Worker (OM) For Linda & Philip Swarbrick
Sat	2nd May	9:30 am	St Athanasius (M) Sheila & Jack Allsop
		Vigil	7:00 pm
Sun	3rd May	9:30 am	5th Sunday of Easter The deceased members of the Gorman Family
		6:30 pm	The Parish

St Gerard's, Lostock Hall			
Sat	25th Apr		St Mark (F) 4th Sunday of Easter Mick Green R.I.P.
	Vigil	5:30 pm	
Sun	26th Apr	10:30 am	4th Sunday of Easter The Parish
Mon	27th Apr	6:00 pm 6:30 pm	Exposition Susan Broadbent –in our prayers
Tues	28th Apr	9:15 am	St Peter Chabel (OM) Holy Souls School Mass Yr 6
Wed	29th Apr	9:15 am	St Catherine of Sienna (OM) Priests Intentions
Thurs	30th Apr	6.30 pm	St Pius V (OM) Denis Gallagher (Ann)
Fri	1st May	11:00 am	St Joseph the Worker (OM) Requiem Mass for Mick Green
Sat	2nd May	5:30 pm	St Athanasius (M) 5th Sunday of Easter Sacred Heart Guild
Sun	3rd May	10:30 am	5th Sunday of Easter Priests Intentions
		12 noon	Baptism of Isadora Duffell

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.



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.

Cycle of Prayer - This week we pray for the parish of the Holy Cross and St Helen, Ashton, and for Fr Jude Lemeh, and Fr. Joachin Nwaorgi, of the Vincentian Fathers, together with the Missionary Sisters of St. Michael the Archangel. We pray for the chaplaincy to Tameside General Hospital, for the parish primary schools and for St. Damian's Science College.

Joint Notices

Fourth Sunday of Easter



Today is traditionally called "Good Shepherd Sunday", when over the 3 year cycle of readings we hear almost the whole of Chapter 10 of John's Gospel. In this chapter Jesus repeatedly uses the image of the himself as the Good Shepherd. Because of this theme of "shepherding" it is

dedicated each year as the day of prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood. In this, Year A, we hear Jesus say: "*I am the gate of the sheepfold*". It is through our Baptism that we enter through the gate of the sheepfold, into the life of Jesus. This image is implied in all today's readings: the people listening to Peter find this gateway and enter through it: Peter writes to remind us that we have come back to the Good Shepherd, who heals us by his wounds.

Vocations Sunday - Please pray for our clergy, those in training and all those who are discerning their own vocation. You may also want to give a gift to the Clergy Educational Fund. Training for the priesthood and diaconate is lengthy, demanding, and expensive. It costs £25,000 a year to train a priest. Any contribution you can make will support the work of the diocese's Vocations team, so they can encourage and inspire those who hear God's call and will support the seminary fees and living costs of our Seminarians and those in formation for the diaconate. Please consider helping the diocese ensure the next generation of priests receive the formation, education and support they need to answer God's call. To make a donation, please head to <https://donate.mydona.com/diocese-of-salford> and select the option 'Clergy Fund'.

Welcome! Easter is traditionally a time for people to be received into the Church. We are greatly blessed that **nine adults** are becoming Catholics in our Parish this Easter. This follows a group of eight last Easter; this is a great sign of renewal and new life and the attractiveness of our community; welcome to: Edward Seed, Emily Baxter, Dan Butler, Glynn Watson, Sam Cruickshank, Shannon Wright, Molly Bottomley and Amrutha Nair were received at the Easter Vigil. Also Dan Taylor and Akram Ghasemkhani will be received in the coming weeks.

SVP: - **Walking the Camino de Ingles?** that is 121 km in 6 days with 18 other pilgrims from around the country was physically very demanding but spiritually uplifting and so an unforgettable and motivational experience. Thank you everyone who has donated to help those in need and for all your prayers, which definitely gave me 'winged feet' when needed! Donations can still be made until May 20th to www.justgiving.com/page/barbara-hall-1 or can be placed in the Church collections basket in an envelope marked 'Camino'.

Recommendations for Spiritual Reading: Easter time it is always good to reflect more deeply on the life of Jesus; Watching a religious documentary or a biblical movie can also lead us into deeper understanding of the Paschal Mystery. Also, currently on BBC iPlayer there is a good documentary about the winner of "The Traitors", called, "**Harry Clark goes to Rome**". A good portrayal of a young man seeking to deepen his faith. Well worth a watch. Encourage your families to tune and think about their faith a little more.

Knight of St Columba Bingo Night: The next Prize Bingo Night for KSC Charities will be on Friday 8th May 7pm for 7.30pm at St Gerard's Parochial Centre, Lostock Hall. Light refreshments will be provided at half time.

Prayer Group / Scripture Study Group: We have had several enquiries recently about prayer groups. If anyone is interested in this or might help to start up a group, even just by coming along, please get in touch with Fr Mark. A small group of leaders would share the load and help to facilitate it better.

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.

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. For 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.

Joint Notices

Catholic Family Holidays in The Lake District: Castlerigg Manor in Keswick (heart of the Lake District) is offering budget-friendly holidays for Catholic families during May, August, and early September. Breakfast and evening meal are included and there will be Mass on site. Guests have full use of the site including the grounds, games room, chapel, and lounges, and Castlerigg is just a short walk from Keswick and Lake Derwentwater. Ideal for individuals, couples, families, or groups of friends. Head to www.castleriggmanor.com >> stay with us or contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk / 017687 72711

Youth Pilgrimage to Lindisfarne - Following on from the success of last years pilgrimage to Lindisfarne, we are offering young people in Years 7, 8 and 9 another opportunity to go to Lindisfarne from Friday 22 May - Sunday 24 May 2026. The cost is £120 which includes travel by coach and full board accommodation. We will be staying on the island at the SVP Camp. For more information or if you have any questions, please contact youth@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Catholic Social Teaching (CST) - Caritas Salford is offering a free online webinar to introduce the basic principles of Catholic Social Teaching (CST) in an accessible way, with a particular focus on building hope, homes and a positive future for all. This will take place on Thursday 30th April 2026 from 6pm to 7:15pm - With local elections approaching in May, the time is right to raise our awareness of CST and reflect on how it can help to inform the decisions and choices we make in life. Register for your free place or find out more at: www.caritassalford.org.uk/events

BIG THANK YOU – Thank you to all the Parishioners & local businesses for donating Easier Eggs to the local Charities – There is a Thank you card from the Children at the Wish Centre at the back of Church. The charities supported by St Mary's donations were SLEAP, The Wish Centre, Bay 6, Young Carers and the local Foodbank and all were very grateful for your kindness, generosity & support.

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



MARRIAGE MATTERS

"Feeding your sheep"

John 10:10 describes us as 'sheep'. God watches over and feeds us with his Word, and in the Eucharist. With God's help we have created a few more sheep, so we pray for His help, read books, use the internet to protect our children from the harm done by the 'media' and many of today 'addictions'. That's being good shepherds.

London to Brighton Bike Ride - This summer, Rick, Keren & Archie Henderson from St Gerard's are taking on a huge challenge, the legendary London to Brighton Bike Ride. On 21st June they will be joining thousands of riders as they pedal from the capital to coast - in support of the Caritas Diocese of Salford.

Caritas provide a practical response to those in crisis, suffering hardship or at risk. They work alongside people to rebuild their lives for the long-term, enabling people to live in a safe, healthy and secure environment. We call for a better, more just world, where the voices of people experiencing poverty are heard and acted upon, and we positively influence the systems, decisions and resources that affect those in need.

Their Challenge, from the early morning start in London to the rolling countryside to the infamous climb up Ditchling Beacon (yes, it's as steep as everyone says!) to the Final, triumphant descent into Brighton. (Incidentally it's where Keren was born). We're determined with your support to make every mile count. If you can support us follow this link. <https://tinyurl.com/2afmx937>

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham - The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham will take place on Saturday 2nd May 2026. There are a few spaces left for the day trip picking up in Salford, Collyhurst and Oldham. The cost is £40. To book your place please contact the pilgrimage office at: walsingham.pilgrimage@dioceseofsalford.org.uk or on 0161 817 2209 by Monday 27th April. No bookings can be taken after this date.

Change to Parish Office Hours: From Tuesday 7th April the Parish Office Hours will be as follows:

St Gerard's 8:45 am to 11:45pm

St Mary's 12:15 pm to 3:15 pm

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The sick, and those who care for them:

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

All those who have died recently:

Marie Baron, Mary Lawson, Valerie Jeffrey, Ann Barnes, Magdalena Denby, Mick Green, Sister Anne Hewitt, John Littler

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

Chalices: We have sent 4 of our 6 chalices to be regilded as the original plating is wearing away. The cost of each one is £222 inc. VAT. One of our open Ciboria, which holds the hosts, is also being restored at a cost of £174. If we send the remaining 2 chalices the total cost will be £1506. If anyone would be willing to contribute to the cost of the restoration of one of them, perhaps in memory of a loved one it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you to those who have already made donations it is appreciated.

New Sanctuary Carpet: If anyone would like to make a donation to raise funds to carpet the remainder of the church it would be appreciated. We are still waiting for an estimated cost for this, when it arrives you may wish to sponsor a square metre or two!!

OLSG Primary School —There is a great way to support our Primary School. All you have to do is sign up to support us with easyfundraising and then when you do your normal online shopping, go via the easyfundraising website or app and you'll raise free donations for Our Lady and St Gerard's. There are over 8,000 retailers to choose from including Just Eat, eBay, John Lewis & Partners, Amazon and many more. Money raised supports the school to buy resources and helps to cover some costs of online subscriptions used for teaching and learning. <https://tinyurl.com/mw966hbp>

Piety Shop - Now have a selection of First Holy Communion and Confirmation gifts on display along with a variety of symbolic cards and money gift wallets.

Recently Deceased - Please pray for the soul of John Barrie Littler who has died. His Requiem Mass will be on Thursday 7th May at 11a.m John taught at our junior school until the early 1980's. May he Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.

W/C 26/04/26	This Weeks Intentions
Sanctuary	Yvonne Jeffrey
St Joseph	Graham Walton – Always in our prayers - Anniversary

St Gerard's Parish Lottery No. 618 23/04/26			
1st	£100	28	Ms M Waldron
2nd	£40	26	Mrs M Hunt
3rd	£20	84	Ms S Russo

Offertory 18th / 19th April 2026		
Loose	Envelopes	Total Attendance
£272.22	£166.40	

Bingo Jackpots for 6/05/2026			
£27	£35	£58	£32

St Mary's Brownedge Notices

Offertory Procession: Next Sunday 3rd May 9:30 am Mass: Children.

Cafod's Big Lent Walk - "CAFOD Big Lent Walk - In the 47 days between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday inclusive, I've walked 322km and raised a fantastic £1,377 excluding Gift Aid. I am truly humbled and grateful to everybody for their generosity, support and encouragement. Thank you so much. Dave Gorman".

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

Message from Caritas – 2nd April 2026 – Head of Fundraising – Thank you so very much to the Parishioners of St Mary's Bamber Bridge for your Compassionate and generous response to the growing levels of poverty and homelessness across our Diocese. We have received your very generous collection of £747.38 in response to the Caritas Sunday appeal in March and understand that a further £140.00 has been collected on the Parish donor machine plus lots of gift aid envelopes which are on the way to us – Please know that your kindness directly brings comfort, stability and hope to individuals and families at the very moment they need it most. Your generosity truly makes a difference.

200 Club Winners:		
1 st Prize - £200 Jan 26	No. 124	Joanne Weir
2 nd Prize -£100	No. 438	Joan Barnes
3 rd Prize - £50	No. 323	Pat Day
1 st Prize - £200 Feb 26	No.08	Joanne Weir
2 nd Prize -£100	No. 427	Pauline Watson
3 rd Prize - £50	No. 82	Mary Sergeant
1 st Prize - £200 Mar 26	No. 03	Patricia Kelly
2 nd Prize -£100	No. 278	Brian Walton
3 rd Prize - £50	No. 101	Rebecca Hankey
1 st Prize - £200 Easter	No. 67	Sheila Doherty
2 nd Prize -£100 Hampers	No. 38	Ted Ryles
3 rd Prize - £50	No. 121	Janet Smith

Could you please contact the 200 Club if you have changed your home address or your phone number so that we can update our contacts details database – We note that some house phone numbers have been discontinued. Thank you for all your continued support.

Sanctuary Lamps Week 26/04/26			
1	For the Deceased members of the Livesey, Richardson, Joyce and Aspinall Families		
2	In loving memory of the deceased Rogers & McEwan Families		
Mass Attendance: Our Attendance last weekend			
7 pm Vigil	9:30 am	6:30 pm	Total
67	170	87	324