



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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 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
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Facebook : @stgerardslostockhall Twitter : @stgerardslostoc Instagram : @stgerardsslostock

Parish Clergy: Fr Mark Harold (Rural Dean & Parish Priest), Tel: 01772 335168 (Office)
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Assistant Priests: Fr Colin Battell OSB. Fr Charles Essien Tel: 01772 321201 (Monastery)

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (Year A)

3rd May 2026

St Mary's, Brownedge			
Sat	2nd May	9:30 am	St Athanasius (M) Sheila & Jack Allsop
	Vigil	7:00 pm	5th Sunday of Easter The Watson Family
Sun	3rd May	9:30 am	5th Sunday of Easter The deceased members of the Gorman Family
		6:30 pm	The Parish
Mon	4th May	9:30 am	The English Martyrs (F) Private Intention
Tues	5th May	9:30 am	Julie Watson
Wed	6th May	9:30 am	John Gilbert R.I.P. School Mass
Thurs	7th May	9.30 am	Sheila Allsop
Fri	8th May	9:30 am	Angelito Zarsadias (Ann)
Sat	9th May	12 noon	6th Sunday of Easter Mass of Anointing of the Sick John Anthony Lawson R.I.P.
	Vigil	7:00 pm	Father Jonathon Cotton OSB
Sun	10th May	9:30 am	6th Sunday of Easter Simon Fender
		11:00 am	Baptism of Henri H Dolphin
		6:30 pm	Intentions of Mothers Prayers

St Gerard's, Lostock Hall			
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
Mon	4th May	6:00 pm 6:30 pm	The English Martyrs (F) Exposition Holy Souls
Tues	5th May	9:15 am	Priests Intentions School Mass
Wed	6th May	9:15 am	Harry & Jean Wilson (65th Wedding Anniversary)
Thurs	7th May	11:00 am	Requiem Mass for John Barrie Littler R.I.P.
Fri	8th May		NO SERVICES
Sat	9th May	5:30 pm	6th Sunday of Easter James Stokes R.I.P. (B'day)
Sun	10th May	10:30 am	6th Sunday of Easter The Parish

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.

Prayers For Salford Diocese

Let us pray this week for the people of the Parish of the Divine Mercy, Chadderton and Hollinwood, and for Fr. Lawrence Imoisili, CM. We pray for the Missionary Sisters of Christ the King, for the parish primary schools and for St. John Henry Newman High School, Oldham.

Joint Notices

Fifth Sunday of Easter

We continue to explore the meaning of baptism, of membership of the Church, of living a life which has been immersed in the life and death of Jesus Christ: in other words, we continue our 'Mystagogy' - our training in the mystery of Baptism and the other Sacraments. We hear more about 'who Jesus is', with another 'I am' statement: "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life". We are baptised into his way, his truth and his life. We hear about the earliest community struggling with the life they are called to by baptism, and Peter again reminds us that baptism builds us into a 'spiritual house' with Jesus as our cornerstone. The mystery of the Church is clearly before us today: the Church is the community of those baptised in Christ, the pilgrim people walking with Christ (who has shown us the Father) to the place he has prepared for us. Today's reading can perhaps make us think a little about how we form part of this 'spiritual house', the Church, as we journey to the Father.

Mass of Anointing: The SVP invite everyone to a Mass with the **Anointing of the Sick** at St. Mary's Church on Saturday May 9th at 12 noon followed by light refreshments. This is especially for the housebound, the sick, their carers and the disabled. If you know anyone who would like to attend but needs help to so, please let the office know.

Recently Deceased - Please pray for the soul of Grace Gee, Father Joe's mother, who died last Sunday. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

Walking the Camino de Ingles: "The Camino to Santiago Compostela" has many routes depending on where you start from; "The Camino Ingles" route is so called because it follows the English pilgrims' path to Santiago from ancient times, starting from where they landed by boat in the north west corner of Spain in Ferrol. This Camino Ingles route comes in at 118km and so enough to qualify for the Compostela Certificate (minimum 100km) Barbara Hall has completed the route in 6 days with 18 other SVP pilgrims from around the UK. It 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'.

Another parishioner, Glynn Watson, is doing the Camino Frances (772 Km over 33 days). He started on Easter Monday and he should arrive in Santiago next Friday. Keep him and his late wife in your prayers. Pilgrimage is a very ancient way of praying and communicating with God; "Did not our hearts burn within us as He talked to us on the road". There is a current series of "The Pilgrimage" where a group of people are walking to Lindisfarne.

Knights of St Columba Bingo Night: 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.

Crowning of Our Lady: May is the traditional month of honour to Mary Our Blessed Mother. To mark this in a special way we will have a procession and the crowning of Our Lady's Statue of the next two Sunday in our parishes: **On Sunday 3 May at the 9.30 Mass at St Mary's Brownedge and Sunday 10th May at St Gerard's at the 10.30am Mass.** These Masses also are part of the First Holy Communion Programme; this is one of the final sessions before the First Holy Communion so it will be a lovely way for the children to prepare for the Sacrament by honouring Our Lady.

SVP Meeting: Monday 11th May 6:30pm St Mary's Priory.

SVP Collection: Saturday 16th / Sunday 17th May at the end of all Masses.

Confirmation Programme 2026: The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on **Wednesday 13th May at 7pm** in St Mary's Brownedge Church by the Bishop of Salford. We have a group of 43 young people from across the local parishes. Please pray for them.

Baptism: Congratulations to Poyraz Andrew Baydak who was baptised on Friday. Poyraz is in Year 11 at Brownedge High School and through the experience of being part of the catholic community asked to be received into the church. A great testament to him and to our school community.

First Holy Communion: Four young people from High School will be receiving First Holy Communion this Sunday at 9.30 am Mass. They will then be part of the group to be confirmed in the following week.

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.

Supporting our Parish Finances: Salford Diocese have asked St Mary's Brownedge to pilot a programme to inform parishes of the financial cost of running our parishes; this will strive to make us more aware of the needs of our parishes and how we can foster a deeper sense of responsibility for meeting those needs. The appeal is over three weekends: 9/10 May: "Our call to stewardship"; 16/17 May: "Our Parish, Our responsibility"; 23/24 May: Our Financial Report. There will be a leaflet each weekend with different elements of parish life.

There will be a meeting to review the finances on **Tuesday 19th May at 7pm in the Narthex.** We hope this three week appeal will help us all to recognise the need to support our parishes both in the present day and for future generations.

We will do something similar at St Gerard's in the coming months.

Joint Notices

Newsletter deadlines - Notices for the newsletter each week should in the case of St Gerards be with the office before noon on Thursdays. For St Mary's these should be with the office before 3 pm. This will ensure that they are included in that weeks notices. Anything received after these time MAY get in but it is not guaranteed. This allows for production, checking and printing on Friday before the office closes for the weekend. Thank you.

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.

A parishioner recommends "*Reasons to Believe*" by Scott Hahn, published by Darton-Longman-Todd. This book is a sound exploration and defence of the Catholic faith. Hahn is a former Presbyterian minister who became a Catholic and has written widely on the faith in an accessible manner. The story of his conversion is found in "Rome Sweet Home". Last year one of his sons was ordained as Catholic priest.

Youth Ministry Gap Year Opportunity: Do you know anyone aged 18-25 who is looking for a new challenge? The Diocese of Lancaster has a Youth Ministry team based in Keswick in the Lake District. They run retreats at Castlerigg Manor and also work in Churches and schools around the area. The 'Youth Ministry Internship' scheme comes with high quality training, experience, and recognised qualifications and gives young people the chance to join a welcoming community and a vibrant team doing some amazing work. **Interested?** Contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk or look up: www.castleriggmanor.com

Pilgrimage Walk (Ave Maria) from St Albans Blackburn to St Mary's Brownedge – Wednesday 13th May – Starting at St Albans Blackburn BB1 6HN at 9am For further information please contact Julian via text on 07761 702646 – The Pilgrimage walk will be cancelled if there is bad weather – please bring your own food & drink for the day – Free parking available at St Albans Blackburn.

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>

CARITAS - Many thanks to everyone who contributed so generously to the annual Caritas 'Love in Action' collection at St Gerard's a few weeks ago, the amount came to £302.60 and with almost £150 of that Gift Aided the final amount will be around £350. Please take a copy of April's 'Caritas' magazine at the back of church. This outlines some of the many projects around the diocese which your contributions help to support.

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



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, Yumi & Yuna Aston.

All those who have died recently:

Ann Barnes, Mick Green, Sister Anne Hewitt, John Littler, Grace Gee, Stella Hollebhone, Dr Judith Champ.

MARRIAGE MATTERS

"I am in you and you are in me"

Jesus says, "To have seen me is to have seen the Father". In our married life, through the visible sign of the way we love each other, when people meet one of us we can be a sign that 'when seeing me, you see the one I love, in me and with me', thus emulating Jesus' relationship with His Father.

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 - Next Sunday at the 10:30 am Mass we welcome the children on the sacramental programme with their parents for Unit 7 of the programme "We receive the Bread of Life"

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.

Offertory Collection - Over recent weeks we have received a number of football coins in the offertory envelopes. These coins look like new 10 pence pieces and have obviously been mistaken for them but unfortunately they play havoc with our counting machine. Please check coinage before placing them in the envelopes or in the offertory baskets as unfortunately we still get euro's and other foreign coins on a regular basis. (Foreign currency as Notes are acceptable as we can exchange these) Thank you.

W/C 03/05/26	This Weeks Intentions
Sanctuary	Yvonne Jeffrey

Offertory 25th / 26th April 2026			
Loose	Envelopes	Total Attendance	
£297.85	£129.85	200	
Bingo Jackpots for 6/05/2026			
£27	£35	£58	£32

St Mary's Brownedge Notices

Offertory Procession: Next Sunday 10th May 9:30 am Mass: Taylor family

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".

Message from Caritas: Thank you so very much to the Parishioners of St Mary's Bamber Bridge for your response to the growing levels of poverty and homelessness across our Diocese. We have received your very generous collection of £747.38 for the Caritas Sunday appeal in March and understand that a further £140.00 has been collected on the Parish Card machine.

Mass next Saturday: On Saturday 9th May there will be no 9:30 Mass. Instead, Mass and Anointing of the sick will take place at **12 noon**.

200 Club - 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.

Missio: In the last year we have raised a marvellous total of £2489.97. On behalf of Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries a great big Thank you There is a poster at the back of Church showing 3 sisters of the Blessed Sacrament that we are helping in Myanmar. If you don't already have a Red Mission Box and would like one please ring the parish office or Clare on 01772 312558

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

Sanctuary Lamps Week 03/05/26	
1	Intentions of the Birchall Family
2	For Michael Cox, Kai & Jake Sanderson

Mass Attendance: Our Attendance last weekend			
7 pm Vigil	9:30 am	6:30 pm	Total
59	153	65	277