



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)

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

27th September 2026

St Mary's, Brownedge			
Sat	26th Sep	9:30 am 12 noon	Ss Cosmas & Damian Priest's Intentions Baptism of Yumi and Yuni Aston
	Vigil	7:00 pm	26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Private Intention
Sun	27th Sep	9:30 am 11.00 am 6:30 pm	26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Harold & Ellen Dixon Baptism: Fraser & Meadow Towers / Keavey Rose Hartley John Hebert and Sister Elizabeth Hebert
Mon	28th Sep	9:30 am	St Wenceslaus Spicer & Dowbakin Families
Tues	29th Sep	9:30 am 7.00 pm	Ss Michael, Gabriel & Raphael Dorothy Whittle (Anniversary) Thanksgiving for those received into the church.
Wed	30th Sep	9:30 am 11.00 am	St Jerome Southworth Class; Philip Morris (Birthday) Requiem for Pauline Roberts
Thurs	1st Oct	9:30 am	St Therese of the Child Jesus Holy Souls
Fri	2nd Oct	9:30 am	The Holy Guardian Angels William Derek Wareing
Sat	3rd Oct	9:30 am Vigil 7:00 pm	Priest's Intentions 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Joan Murphy
Sun	4th Oct	9:30 am 6:30 pm	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Marie Spicer (Birthday) The Parish

St Gerard's, Lostock Hall			
Sat	26th Sep		Ss Cosmas & Damian 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time The Parish
	Vigil	5:30 pm	
Sun	27th Sep	10:30 am	26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Michael Cronin R.I.P.
Mon	28th Sep	6:00 pm 6:30 pm	St Wenceslaus Exposition Priest's Intentions
Tues	29th Sep	9.15 am	Ss Michael, Gabriel & Raphael Holy Souls School Mass Year 4
Wed	30th Sep	9:15 am	St Jerome Mary, Tom & Family, Frances & Siblings
Thurs	1st Oct	6:30 pm	St Therese of the Child Jesus For Stronger Faith & Protection
Fri	2nd Oct		The Holy Guardian Angels NO SERVICES
Sat	3rd Oct		27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
	Vigil	5:30 pm	Mark McNulty (Anniversary)
Sun	4th Oct	10:30 am 12 noon	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sacred Heart Guild Baptisms of Milo Bibby & Tobias Cunningham

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

St. Mary's: Tuesday and 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: Online at 8pm each evening from St Mary's.

Prayers For Salford Diocese

This week we pray for the parishes of Christ the Redeemer, Bolton and St. Vincent de Paul, Over Hulton, for Fr. Samson Ojekunle, OMD, and for their parish primary schools.



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.

Joint Notices

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Once a sinner, always a sinner." This seems to be the attitude of the self-righteous in the first reading and Gospel, who object to God giving sinners another chance. But God reminds us that true injustice is allowing prejudice and hardness of heart to stand in the way of repentance and forgiveness. Christ's words challenge us even today: "Prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you." Outward appearances mean little if they do not reflect what is in our hearts. Our words are meaningless if they are not matched by the way we live.

Mass of thanksgiving for Newly Received Catholics: Over the past couple of years we have received over twenty people into the church. We would like to celebrate this with a Mass of thanksgiving while launching a new programme of our Sycamore Course for new enquirers. This will be on **Tuesday 29th September at 7pm at St Mary's Brownedge**. We will present certificates of Baptism/Confirmation / Reception, as appropriate, to those who did not receive them at the time. There will be a social gathering after Mass in the Narthex.

The course for anyone wishing to become a Catholic or learn more about the faith will begin the following on **Tuesday 6th October at 7pm**. Please consider inviting family or friends to come along. Come with them—it can help somebody to respond if they have some friendly support and we can all learn a little bit more of our faith.

Altar Servers: We are grateful to the Knights of St Columba for hosting a pizza and games afternoon for the Altar Servers of both parishes last Sunday afternoon in the Shields Centre. Fortunately this year the weather stayed fine. We are always open to welcoming new altar servers.

St Gerard's Carpet Fitting - There will be **no Masses or Exposition at St Gerards from 5th to 9th October** whilst the remainder of the Church is recarpeted.

School Open Evenings:

St Mary's and St Benedict's Primary School: Open Day on **Monday 5th October: 9.30am - 10.30am ; 1.30pm —2.30pm; 3.30pm—5.30pm**.

Brownedge St Mary's High School: We are delighted to welcome local families to this year's Open Evening, taking place on **Thursday 1st October, 5.30 - 8.30pm**. Our pupils will be on hand to offer guided tours, and Headteacher Mrs Oddie will give two talks at 6 and 7pm. There is no need to book - please come along at your leisure. We look forward to welcoming you and showcasing what life is like as part of the Brownedge family, where all are supported to let their light shine

We encourage all our families to choose our Catholic schools for your children's education and growth in the true values of life.

Lego Build Extravaganza: On Saturday 12 September, A huge thank you to everyone who attended the Lego event at St Mary's last Saturday – Thank you for your kind support and contribution to the event – the event was a brilliant success and thank you to everyone for your support and the donations are still being counted but total so far raised stands at **£700** towards the Spire appeal. A special congratulations to Joseph Ashe along with his Mum & Dad and Ben for producing the magnificent model of the Church with so many amazing pieces of detail. Fantastic!

Ladyewell Pilgrimage: Many thanks to all those who supported the pilgrimage to Ladyewell last Saturday and to Barbara Hall and the SVP for organising it. There were about 50 parishioners from both our parishes making a lovely occasion.

Sick and Retired Clergy Appeal: There will be a retiring collection **next weekend** for our diocesan Sick & Retired Clergy Fund. There is a leaflet to take home today which explains this appeal. This fund ensures our retired priests can begin the next chapter of their vocation with confidence, knowing the Church they have served in active ministry will continue to accompany them in their retirement. Every gift to the fund helps to provide the care, dignity and practical support our priests deserve after years of dedicated service. Please remember our retired clergy in your prayers and if you can, make a gift to the appeal today. (Scan the QR code to go to the donation page.)

Supporting our Parish Finances: It is important that we are aware of the financial costs of running our parishes and take some responsibility to help provide the necessary support. Are you able to:

- **Give a little more each week to help with the cost of inflation;**
- **Create a Standing Order or use offertory envelopes;**
- **Gift Aid any money you give to the Church if you pay tax;**
- **Give via contactless card machine;**
- **Leave a legacy in your will;**
- **Consider acting as a benefactor with a large donation if you find you are in a position to do so;**
- **Help raise £32,000 for our Spire repairs.**

Spire Fundraising: Many thanks to all those who have contributed to the appeal; there has been an excellent response: We have launched a **"Crowdfunder"** page where people can donate directly and add gift aid; we have currently raised over £3500. Please encourage your family and friends to contribute—we want to reach all the community, including those who may not be Catholic but value the presence of our Church in the town. There is video message from Fr Mark to encourage people: Scan the QR Code or Visit:

www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/qr/Y1bBQBkI

Joint Notices

If we raise funds over £32,000, anything extra will be used for towards other church maintenance.

Grant: We are most grateful to the **Duchy of Lancaster Benevolent Fund** who have approved a grant of **£5000** towards the work. We are well on our way to meeting our target!

Could you be called to serve the church as a Permanent Deacon? - If you are a Catholic man interested in learning more about the Permanent Diaconate in the Diocese of Salford, please come along to the next 'Come and See' event, which takes place on Saturday 3 October 2026 between 10am and 2pm. The event will be held at St John Henry Newman Parish 5 Roseneath Road, Urmston, Manchester, M41 5AX. There will be opportunities to talk to some of our deacons and find out more about their journey and the ministry without committing to anything further. Email diaconate@dioceseofsalford.org.uk for more information

St Clare's Day of Renewal: '*Being Lost, being found*'. - **Saturday 3rd October** 10am to 4pm – Starting with Mass at 10am. The day will be lead by newly ordained priest for the diocese of Lancaster, Fr Stephen Bamber. Fr Stephen's personal story is a very power witness to overcoming adversity. St Clare's Church Sharoe Green Lane Preston PR2 9HH. Bring a packed lunch. Poster in Church.

Quiet Retreats for Adults: Castlerigg Manor is hosting a quiet retreat for adults during October half term, offering time for prayer, reflection, and relaxation in the Lake District. The retreat includes daily talks, Mass, and evening prayer. Book at [Castlerigg Manor Events](http://CastleriggManorEvents) or contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk.



SHAPE Lancashire is hosting a **free mobile cinema afternoon for over 50s** on **Wednesday 30th September 2026**, from **1.30pm to 4.30pm**. The event will take place at: **St James' Church Hall** Avondale Drive, Lostock Hall, PR5 5BQ. Attendees can **choose from a range of movies**, followed by **pie and peas for tea**. Places must be pre-booked. For more information and to book your place, please contact **Mandy on 07947 715123**.

Donations: Make an online Donation to support our parishes by scanning the QR Codes Here:



St Mary's, Brownedge



Our Lady & St Gerards

Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi:

This year is the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis.: **Monday 2nd November to Sunday 8th November**. Flights from Manchester; First three nights near Rome at the English College Villa, Palazzola with a day into Rome for a General Audience with Pope Leo; Other visits either into Rome or maybe taking the opportunity to visit Subiaco or Monte Cassino— both great abbeys associated with St Benedict. The exact itinerary will be firmed up later. We will spend three nights in Assisi visiting the great shrines of St Francis and St Clare as well the tomb of the newly canonised, St Carlo Acutis. A further possibility for the itinerary is a visit to Greccio on our journey from Rome to Assisi where St Francis created the first nativity scene. The cost will be £1249 per person sharing or £1499 for a single room (limited numbers). The provisional programme is available at the back of church.

We now have 25 people who have registered interest. To confirm your place, please complete the booking form and send to Northern Star Travel including £300 deposit.

We will email the booking form to those who given an email address and it can be completed electronically. Paper copies are at the back of church. Send to: info@northernstartravel.com

or post to: **Northern Star Travel 46-48 Long Street, Middleton Manchester. M24 6UQ**

The deposit can also be paid with a card over the phone: 0161 773 2115.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The sick, and those who care for them:

Sister Louise, Joseph O'Grady, Brian Morley, Jean Doran, Maureen Calderbank, Joseph Finch, Peter Clough, Eileen Lucas, Eileen McLaughlin, Marie Davis, Yuna & Yumi Aston, Anne Gill, Glenis Allen, Iolanda Walsh. Mary Lofthouse, Fr John Marsh.

All those who have died recently:

Herman Maliage, Fr Edgar Miller. Anthony Wilkinson, David Cotton, Pauline Roberts, Beryl Carter.

MARRIAGE MATTERS

"Maintain a common purpose"

Remember our courting days and the long, thrilling conversations we had about our future together. They were part of our falling in love and of establishing a common purpose in married life. St Paul reminds us of the mark of a Christian: "Be united in your convictions and your love, with a common purpose and a common mind."

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 keep submissions as short as possible at the moment as space is at a premium and it isn't always possible to include everything that is submitted. At times article will have to be made shorter and not be exactly as submitted.

Our Lady & St Gerard's Notices

Church Carpet: The fitting will take place in the week beginning 5th October and during that week from Monday to Friday there will be **NO MASSES**. We are extremely grateful to a most generous parishioner who has offered to pay for new carpet throughout the Church.

Coffee Morning: Autumn coffee morning on **Sunday 11th October** after the 10:30 am Mass. Please can people donate some prizes for the raffle; We will sell raffle tickets from Saturday 26th September after the weekend Masses and cakes can be brought on the morning of the 11th October.

CAFOD family fast day this year is on Friday 2nd October. An appeal will be made at both masses the weekend of 26th/27th Sept. Envelopes will be that weekend to be returned the following week. This year's appeal focuses on Tayla from northern Zimbabwe, where drought has caused severe food and water shortages. CAFOD and its partners are working to provide clean water and support for affected communities.

Sacramental Programme for Reconciliation & First Holy Communion 2026/27 – Children in Year 3 are invited to join the programme to prepare for their First Holy Communion. Older children who have not yet received First Holy Communion are also welcome. If your child is baptised in another Christian denomination or wishes to be baptised and become Catholic, please contact the Parish Office. The programme will begin in October/November, with application forms available next week from Our Lady & St Gerard's Primary School or the Parish Office.

Piety Shop - We are looking to recruit a volunteer Piety Shop attendant for Sunday mornings at Our Lady & St Gerard's Church – the volunteer will be required to open the shop 15 minutes before 10:30am Mass on Sundays – If anyone is interested in helping the Church Piety shop team on Sunday mornings - please get in touch with either the Parish secretary or speak to a member of the Piety shop team on Saturdays before or after 5:30pm Mass.

St Mary's Brownedge Notices

Offertory Procession: Next Sunday 4th October 9:30 am Mass: Ashe Family.

Final Spire Second Collection – 26th & 27th September – at all Masses.

Quiz Night for the "Spire Fund": There will be a Quiz Night and Raffle for the Spire Fund on **Friday 2nd October at 7.30pm** in Brownedge Catholic Club. Tickets £10 per person (Adult); £6 for children inc Hot Pot Supper. Tickets will be on sale on the weekends of 12th 19th and 26th September.

Cafod Thank You - Many thanks to all who supported our coffee morning and raffle which raised £265. From the buckets, jewellery, knitted items, jam and goods on the Cafod stall £110

Harvest Fast Day Friday 2nd October - Our thanks to Simon, from Cafod Salford, for his Fast Day presentation about Tayla, a twelve year old from northern Zimbabwe. Harvest Fast Day is on Friday 2nd October which is also our next coffee morning. There will be a short talk at all Masses on weekend 25th/26th September and envelopes for donations will be available after Mass. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

Church Offertory Rota - If anyone wishes to join the Rota for the Offertory procession at the 9.30. Mass - please could they contact the church office.

Sacramental Programme: Enrolment for next year begins in September. Baptised children in Year 3 or above are welcome to join. If your child is not baptised but wishes to receive First Holy Communion, please speak to Fr Mark about arranging Baptism.

Volunteers Needed for St Mary's Ashes Memorial Ground - The Ashes Memorial Ground at St Mary's, has recently become untidy, with stray weeds and loose pots affecting the appearance of this special place of remembrance. We are appealing for volunteer gardeners who may be able to spare a little time to help keep the area tidy and cared for. If you would like to help, please contact the Parish Office. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

Become a CAFOD School Volunteer - Do you have a passion for faith, justice, and inspiring young people? - CAFOD are seeking volunteers to visit local Catholic schools to lead assemblies and workshops about our work and mission. Help children and young people learn how they can make a positive difference in the world. Full training and support provided.

For further information, please contact Anna Letizia on 07710 094449 or email alletizia@cafod.org.uk.

Offertory 19th / 20th September 2026			
Loose	Envelopes		Total Attendance
£305.10	£355.58		145
Bingo Jackpots for 30/09/2026			
£30	£53	£76	£35

Sanctuary Lamps Week 26/09/26			
1	Privation Intention (D)		
2	Private Intention (K)		
Mass Attendance: Or Attendance last weekend			
7 pm Vigil	9:30 am	6:30 pm	Total
52	188	61	301