



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)

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

4th October 2026

St Mary's, Brownedge				St Gerard's, Lostock Hall			
Sat	3rd Oct	9:30 am	Priest's Intentions	Sat	3rd Oct		27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
	Vigil	7:00 pm	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Joan Murphy		Vigil	5:30 pm	Mark McNulty (Anniversary)
Sun	4th Oct	9:30 am 6:30 pm	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Marie Spicer (Birthday) The Parish	Sun	4th Oct	10:30 am 12 noon	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Sacred Heart Guild Baptisms of Milo Bibby & Tobias Cunningham
Mon	5th Oct	9:30 am	Private Intention				
Tues	6th Oct	9:30 am	St Bruno Priest's Intentions	Mon	5th Oct		NO SERVICES
Wed	7th Oct	9:30 am	Our Lady of the Rosary Whole School Mass William & Mary Dowbakin & Ann Hall	Tues	6th Oct		NO SERVICES
Thurs	8th Oct	9:30 am	Pauline Roberts	Wed	7th Oct		NO SERVICES
Fri	9th Oct	9:30 am	St John Henry Newman (F) Priest's Intentions	Thurs	8th Oct		NO SERVICES
Sat	10th Oct	9:30 am 7:00 pm	St Denis & his Companions Private Intention 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Denis Hopwood	Fri	9th Oct		NO SERVICES
Sun	11th Oct	9:30 am 11:00 am 6:30 pm	28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Winifred Mary Livesey Baptisms of Florence & Milena Capper Priest's Intentions	Sat	10th Oct		St Denis & his Companions
					Vigil	5:30 pm	28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Gordon Hobson (Anniversary)
				Sun	11th Oct	10:30 am	28th Sunday in Ordinary Time The Parish

OM - Optional Memorial F - Feast
 M - Memorial S - Solemnity



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.

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

Prayers For Salford Diocese

Let us pray, this week for the parish of Corpus Christi,
 Bromley Cross, for Father Alfred Rebello, their parish
 priest, for their parish primary schools and for Fr Freddie
 Shanthikumar Fernando, chaplain to the Sri Lankan
 community.

Joint Notices

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today we focus on the vineyard: frequently we see the vineyard as an image or parable of the Kingdom of God. A vineyard takes a great deal of work, throughout the year; it must be tended, watered, pruned, cared for if there is to be any fruit - there are no quick results with vines. So the financial and labour investments made would create high expectations for a good crop. How heartbreaking when the fruit is as sour as vinegar! So it was with God and his people: he invested immense care and love on them, tending then and giving them what they needed - but the fruit was rotten and sour. What can God do? Hand the vineyard over to some tenants who will bring in a harvest. That is us, the new people of Israel: but what sort of harvest will we produce?

Sycamore Course - The course for anyone wishing to become a Catholic or learn more about the faith will begin on **Tuesday 6th October at 7pm at St Mary's Church in the Narthex**. 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 our faith.

St Gerard's Carpet Fitting - There will be **no Masses or Exposition at St Gerard's 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.

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

Sick and Retired Clergy Appeal: There will be a retiring collection **this 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.)

Month of the Holy Rosary: October is the month of the Rosary; please to make this beautiful catholic tradition a part of your daily prayer this month. Dig out the beads and get praying!

High School Mass for Kolbe House: On Friday at 2.10pm we will have a Mass in St Mary's Church for Kolbe House, one of the five houses of our High School. Any family members or former students who were in Kolbe House are welcome to join us. St Maximilian Kolbe; Pray for us!

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/q/YlbBQBkI

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.

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.

CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day: Thank you for you support of the Cafod Harvest Fast Day which took place on Friday 2nd October. Envelopes can be returned this week or next weekend.

Joint Notices

Feast of St Francis: 4th October is the Feast of St Francis and while the “liturgical feast” gets displaced by the Sunday, it remains an important day to remember this great saint of the Church. This weekend marks **800 years** since St Francis died in 1226. Let us pray for our created world.

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.

Dates for the Diary: Friday 30th October – KSC Bingo - for KSC Charities at St Gerard's Parochial Hall Club – Eyes down 7:30pm.

Sunday 20th December – Brass Band Christmas Concert at St Mary's Church – 3pm – Proceeds go to KSC Charities

Sunday 24th January 2027 – Annual Parish Lunch – St Gerard's Parochial Hall Club 12:30pm - Further details to follow

Homelessness - Write to your MP - As part of their latest campaign to support people in our diocese who are homeless, Caritas Salford - our diocesan charity - has put together information on how you can write to your MP to call for change. They are asking for help from people in our parishes, and would like as many as possible to call for Local Housing Allowance rates to be unfrozen and uplifted in line with local rents. The current rates are a significant driver of homelessness, and a letter to your MP could help bring about change to support local families and adults at risk. Find out more and access the free template letter and more on the Caritas website at: www.caritassalford.org.uk/EndHomelessness

RETREAT: BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD - 20th–23rd November 2026: Led by Fr Roger Dawson SJ, Liz Lord and Steve Noone, this residential retreat explores mindfulness, psychology and the Christian spiritual life. The weekend includes talks, contemplative prayer, Mass, Adoration and time to walk, rest and reflect in the peaceful surroundings of the Stonyhurst estate. Find out more and book: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/be-still-and-know-that-i-am-god/>

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. Joan & Allan Swindlehurst

All those who have died recently:

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

MARRIAGE MATTERS

“Loving and honouring each other and the Lord”

When you married you took each other for better, for worse. God experienced the ‘worse’ when his ‘bride’, the Jewish people, rejected him by worshipping other gods.

The ‘worse’ for you may be when your spouse mocks your beliefs. Have you shared your hurt, let them know your pain? Remember, though, that God has loved the ‘worst’ in you.

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.

Harvest: Next weekend we invite people to bring non perishable items of food to our Masses on Saturday and Sunday to celebrate harvest time. Also on Tuesday 13th October there will be a whole school Mass to celebrate Harvest. Food will go to support our local Foodbanks.

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.

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.

Mass Intentions - If you would like to have a Mass intention please leave a note at the Parish Office clearly stating the Mass Intention. Mass intentions will not be taken over the telephone to avoid spelling mistakes. If you would like to Gift Aid the Donation please let us know.

St Gerard's Parish Lottery No. 211 30/09/26			
1st	£100	49	Mrs C Hesmondhalgh
2nd	£40	76	Mr A Topping
3rd	£20	74	Mrs H Lyth

Offertory 26th / 27th September 2026			
Loose	Envelopes		Total Attendance
£153.10	£234.09		145
Bingo Jackpots for 06/10/2026			
£30	£53	£76	£35

St Mary's Brownedge Notices

Offertory Procession: Next Sunday 11th October 9:30 am Mass: Tolentino Family.

Brownedge St Mary's High School: On Wednesday 7th October at 5.30pm in the School Hall there will be a Mass of Welcome for the new Year 7 intake, and their families and friends. Please come along to pray for them and celebrate their transition into High School.

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.

Missio Red Boxes: A big Thank you to Mrs Mary Fell who is retiring from collection Missio boxes. She has been a loyal helper since 1968 and has decided it's time to take a rest – Thank you Mary & God Bless you. Thank you to everyone who took home a Missio box when Fr Noah was here – Please contact the Parish office if you would like a box for your home or contact Clare Haythornthwaite on 01772312558.

Grave Adornment Notice - Polite Notice regarding Grave & memorial decoration to be kept to a minimum – This is due to bad weather causing Grave adornments to become untidy and weather beaten. If these are left unattended, they become unsightly and not acceptable for our Graveyard. We pay garden contractors for regular upkeep & to mow the grass and keep our graveyard as tidy as possible but grave decorations make this maintenance difficult and some areas of the graveyard are being left unmaintained due to overflows of Grave decoration and ornaments – please can you respect the graves of other families and graves that are in close proximity to yours by ensuring that grave ornaments are kept to a minimum and are kept tidy. Any questions or queries regarding this please contact the Church office.

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.

Sanctuary Lamps Week 04/10/26			
1	For Private Intention (W)		
2	For Private Intention (Y)		
Mass Attendance: Or Attendance last weekend			
7 pm Vigil	9:30 am	6:30 pm	Total
60	130	63	253