



Our Lady and St Gerard's Lostock Hall

NEWS AND VIEWS

THE ORIGINS OF THE ROSARY

There is debate about the historical origins of the rosary. Legend has it that St Dominic, the founder of the Dominican Order, received a vision from Mary who handed him rosary beads, but there are indications that Christians were using rosary beads to pray long before St Dominic was born.

The word rosary comes from Latin the 'rosarium' meaning 'rose garden', in Medieval Latin it means a 'garland' of roses. The rose is symbolic of the Virgin Mary and as the rosary is a collection of prayers, the rosary itself is likened to a collection of flowers offered to the Blessed Mother, just how we might give roses to our earthly mother.

If we go really far back however, chains of beads themselves are among the oldest of human creations, the oldest example of this being shell beads from Africa dated around 10,000 BC. And beads are used as a type of formal prayer by many faiths.

Issue No 640 May 2021



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Josephine Mann 14th May 1931 to 3rd April 2021

It was very sad to announce last month on Holy Saturday that Josephine Mann had been taken to the Lord that morning. Her Requiem Mass of course was restricted in numbers and many people who would have liked to have attended couldn't. The family have kindly agreed to share her Eulogy with the Parish.



Josephine, Josie to her friends was born just across the road at No 11 Lourdes Ave. In her own words she was a Tom Boy - always climbing and hurting herself. She and her brother Lawrence used to throw a ball to each other ... over the house! A skill she taught her daughters. Josephine began her education at the school she would later become Deputy Head - St Gerard's Primary School. From there she went to Lark Hill House Convent where she excelled not only academically but at netball too. She was in the net ball team which won endless trophies. Years later when we would meet Sr. Mary Joseph (Banjo) the netball coach she would always tell us the story of Josephine spraining her ankle in a final - an absolute disaster - but bandaged up she came back on to score the winning 'basket'. With each telling this story would grow until ... And... Josephine came on with a broken ankle and singlehandedly won the game!!

Her love of netball continued when she went to Fenham Teacher Training College, regularly playing for Newcastle County. Josephine studied hard and qualified as a Primary School Teacher in 1952. She loved Newcastle and as with everywhere she went she made life-long friends to whom she continued to visit up until only a few years ago. Josephine's first teaching post was at Brindle, quite a way but she would cycle from here most days.

At around this time Josephine was a member of St. Gerard's Dramatic Society and proved a talented actress.

She also at this time met the love of her life - Joe! They were married at this church on April 22nd 1956 and she moved from number 11 to number 5 - even closer to the church and school if that's possible! In 1958 their first daughter Pauline was born and in 1959 saw the arrival of Judith their second child-what more could

they have asked for!! Josephine became a teacher at St Gerard's shortly after. Working her way up from class teacher to deputy-head, she was there for over 30 years, putting her talents, care and determination to the benefit of many hundreds of children including her own 2 daughters, her nieces and nephews, children of many friends and Sarah her granddaughter - you'd hear:- "mum", "aunt Josephine", "Josephine", "grandma" - it's Mrs Mann, came the reply!! Her dedication to the school was unflinching. It was often said that No 5 was the second staff-room! And actually in holiday times it was a classroom too, as almost every day of every holiday for 12 - 14 years she looked after her good friends Celia and Alex's 4 children-her extended family, and in 1982 her actual family when Judith married one of the 'children' - Louis.

Josephine was involved in almost all aspects of Parish and Community life. She and Joe along with others helped to run the local youth club, jumble sales, Christmas fairs, parish committees, fund raising events, guilds, flower arranging, playing the piano at Masses and the list goes on .

Josephine and Joe loved days out and holidays, travelling the majority of England and Wales. Every weekend and bank holiday would see them get into cars with family and friends to go "Up the Whalley Road" or into the Lake District. They were one of the first to take advantage of package holidays to Spain. Once the girls were old enough to go their own way, off they went to Austria (to get her fix of snow-how she loved snow!), to the old Yugoslavia, Italy, trips to Lourdes and many more countries.

Still working full time Josie (and Joe) began working as volunteers at St. Catherine's Hospice. She had a heartfelt belief in what St. Catherine's is all about, a sincere love and genuine concern for others in their time of need. Josephine's creative and artistic skills were put to great use making cards for the shop, and her immaculate calligraphy in the Books of Remembrance for both the Hospice and the Church - such an honour and responsibility were a labour of love. Not to mention the 1,000's of school certificates she must have written! Josephine (and Joe) were honoured at the Mansion House in London with the Order Of Mercy for exceptional voluntary contribution to St. Catherine's for 30 years (each), the only couple to have been honoured with that distinction. They went on to do another 5 years! The family could not have been prouder!

The unbelievable outpouring of love and affection everyone had for Josephine is evident in all the beautiful cards and letters Joe and the girls have received, all echoing the same thing;- what a wonderful, lovely and caring lady she was - truly an inspiration to us all.

Josephine loved her family, everything revolved around them, she especially loved her 6 grandchildren Peter, Sarah, Helen, Simon, Oliver and Alex, and also her 9 great-grandchildren:- Beth, Harvey, Jacob, Anna, Thomas, Ava, Arthur, Leah and Jos, who only 3 days before she died had been introduced to her - we thank God for that.

But they couldn't let you go 'grandma' without recalling just a few memories of you!

Remember we mentioned her love of snow -

Simon:- I remember one Boxing day, when dad (Kevin her caring son-in- law) threw a snowball at her and it landed smack in between her eye and glasses - she found it so funny and even waited for us to take a picture!

Oliver:- I remember the fabulous Christmas dinners and the Rupert annuals I got each year.

Alex:- I remember with fondness all the newsy letters with the incredible handwriting which always had words of encouragement and support in whatever adventure or endeavour I was on, and also how I was spoilt rotten with bowls of rice-crispies, hot milk and loads of sugar!!

Helen:- I could write a book about my fantastic memories but especially how grandma told me to follow my passion, whether it was art, music or reading.

Sarah:- I remember she told me the importance of moisturising, how to play hide the thimble and when I was 7, in her class, she got us to be pen pals with some aliens called SATIS - it was years later before I learned they weren't real!

Peter :- I remember grandma always making sure we were snug at night, so there was always a hot water bottle in our beds. Even when I

stayed a few years ago after a work training session in Preston, aged 33, there was a hot water bottle waiting for me and as always I had a wonderful night's sleep.

Beth:- I remember having apple juice in her fancy glasses.

Anna:- I remember running round great-grandma's garden!

They all remember her incredible kindness, encouragement, generosity and how loving and caring she was. We love you grandma you made everything perfect, Night -night and God Bless.

The Easter Vigil homily of Pope Francis, delivered April 3 at St. Peter's Basilica.

The women thought they would find a body to anoint; instead they found an empty tomb. They went to mourn the dead; instead they heard a proclamation of life.



For this reason, the Gospel tells us, the women “were seized with trembling and amazement” (Mk 16:8). Full of fear, trembling, and full of amazement. A fear mingled with joy that took their hearts by surprise when they saw the great stone before the tomb rolled away and inside a young man in a white robe.

Wonder at hearing the words: “Do not be afraid! You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen.” And a message: “He is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.”

May we too accept this message, the message of Easter. Let us go to Galilee, where the Risen Lord has gone ahead of us. Yet what does it mean “to go to Galilee?”

To go to Galilee means, first, to begin anew. For the disciples it meant going back to the place where the Lord first sought them out and called them to follow him. The place of their first encounter and the place of their first love.

From that moment on, leaving their nets behind, they followed Jesus, listening to his preaching and witnessing the miracles he performed. Yet, though they were always with him, they did not fully understand him. Frequently they misunderstood his words and in the face of the cross they abandoned him and fled.

Even so, the Risen Lord once more appears as the one who goes ahead of them to Galilee. He precedes them. He stands before them and constantly calls them to follow him. He says to them: "Let us start over from where we began. Let us begin anew. I want you to be with me again, in spite of everything".

In this Galilee, we learn to be amazed by the Lord's infinite love, which opens new trails along the path of our defeats. He is like this, and he invites us to Galilee to be like this.



This is the first Easter message that I would offer you: it is always possible to begin anew, because there is always a new life that God can awaken in us in spite of all our failures.

Even from the rubble of our hearts — each of us knows, knows the rubble of his own heart. From the rubble of our hearts, God can create a work of art; from the ruined remnants of our humanity, God can prepare a new history. He never ceases to go ahead of us: in the cross of suffering, desolation and death, and in the glory of a life that rises again, a history that changes, a hope that is reborn. In these dark months of the pandemic, let us listen to the Risen Lord as he invites us to begin anew and never lose hope.

Going to Galilee also means setting out on new paths. It means walking away from the tomb. The women were looking for Jesus in the tomb; they went to recall what they had experienced with him, which was now gone forever. They went to indulge in their grief.

There is a kind of faith that can become the memory of something once beautiful, now simply to be recalled. Many people — we too — experience such a "faith of memories," as if Jesus were someone from the past, an old friend from their youth who is now far distant, an event that took place long ago, when they attended catechism as a child. A faith made up of habits, things from the past, lovely

childhood memories, but no longer a faith that moves me, or challenges me.

Going to Galilee, on the other hand, means realizing that faith, if it is to be alive, must get back on the road. It must daily renew the first steps of the journey, the amazement of the first encounter. And it must continue to trust, not thinking it already knows everything, but embracing the humility of those who let themselves be surprised by God's ways.

We are afraid of God's surprises; we are often afraid that God will surprise us. And today the Lord invites us to let ourselves be surprised.

Let us go to Galilee, then, to discover that God cannot be filed away among our childhood memories, but is alive and filled with surprises. Risen from the dead, Jesus never ceases to amaze us.

This, then, is the second message of Easter: faith is not an album of past memories; Jesus is not outdated. He is alive here and now. He walks beside you each day, in every situation you are experiencing, in every trial you have to endure, in your deepest hopes and dreams. He opens new doors when you least expect it, he urges you not to indulge in nostalgia for the past or cynicism about the present. Even if you feel that all is lost, please let yourself be open to amazement at the newness Jesus brings: he will surely surprise you.

Going to Galilee also means going to the peripheries. Galilee was an outpost: the people living in that diverse and disparate region were those farthest from the ritual purity of Jerusalem. Yet that is where Jesus began his mission. There he brought his message to those struggling to live from day to day, proclaiming this message to the excluded, the vulnerable and the poor. There he brought the face and presence of God, who tirelessly seeks out those who are discouraged or lost, who goes to the very peripheries of existence, since in his eyes no one is least, no one is excluded.

The Risen Lord is asking his disciples to go there even today. He asks us to go to Galilee, to this "real Galilee". It is the settings of daily life, the streets we travel every day, the corners of our cities. There the Lord goes ahead of us and makes himself present in the lives of those around us, those who share in our day, our home, our work, our difficulties and hopes.

In Galilee we learn that we can find the Risen One in the faces of our brothers and sisters, in the enthusiasm of those who dream and the resignation of those who are discouraged, in the smiles of those who rejoice and the tears of those who suffer, and above all in the poor and those on the fringes. We will be amazed how the greatness of God is revealed in littleness, how his beauty shines forth in the poor and simple.

And this is the third message of Easter: Jesus, the Risen Lord, loves us without limits and is there at every moment of our lives. Having made himself present in the heart of our world, he invites us to overcome barriers, banish prejudices and draw near to those around us every day in order to rediscover the grace of everyday life.



Let us recognize him here present in our Galilees, in everyday life. With him, life will change. For beyond all defeats, evil and violence, beyond all suffering and death, the Risen One lives and the Risen One guides history.

Sister, brother, if on this night you are experiencing an hour of darkness, a day that has not yet dawned, a light dimmed or a dream shattered, go open your heart with amazement to the message of Easter: "Do not be afraid, he has risen! He awaits you in Galilee".

Your expectations will not remain unfulfilled, your tears will be dried, your fears will be replaced by hope. For the Lord always goes ahead of you, he always walks before you. And, with Him, life always begins anew.

The Ascension of the Lord - Holy Day of Obligation

Ascension Thursday, also known as the **Feast of the Ascension** of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, falls on the Thursday following the Sixth Sunday after Easter and is a **Holy Day of Obligation** for Catholics around the world. On this **day**, the faithful celebrate Christ's **ascension** into Heaven on the 40th **day** after Resurrection.

CAFOD – PARLIAMENT IN YOUR PARISH

Firstly, a massive “thank you” to all those who all those who took part in, or donated to our Walk for Water appeal. The final total was £1,300 which Cafod will now use to build wells to help remote areas in the developing world access clean water safely.

Cafod’s projects are now centred on reclaiming our common home guided by Pope Francis who says that in this moment of extraordinary turmoil we must rethink the future of our planet, which is a gift from God and a reminder of our shared humanity. We are campaigning to achieve three major goals:

Tackling the climate crisis – Global solidarity

Ending unjust debts – Global justice

Holding business accountable – Global responsibility

During 2021 Britain is hosting the G7 Summit meeting when leaders of the 7 richest countries will gather to discuss how to rebuild from the pandemic. Also, the UN COP26 climate talks will be held in November in Glasgow to agree the next steps to tackle the climate crisis.

We are therefore inviting parishioners to take part in a virtual meeting with our MP Nigel Evans to discuss vital issues such as climate change and unjust foreign debts. Mr Evans has already agreed to meet us, subject to identifying a suitable date, so please watch the parish notice sheet for updates. Further details will be given regarding the necessary zoom link for the meeting which will last for 40 minutes. You will need to supply us with your email address to take part.

Our link parish St Mary’s Bamber Bridge are also being kept informed to ensure as many parishioners attend as possible.

Thank you again for all your support.

Margaret Cronin



Walking Route Cards

We usually publish monthly a list of Health Walks & Rambles in and around the Borough, but for the last few months these have not been happening. The walks of course are still there and the Walking route Cards are available via the South Ribble Website at <https://www.southribble.gov.uk/content/walking-route-cards>

Why not put your best foot forward and download one of these free Walking Route Guides?

The walks range in distance from 1.5 miles to almost 8 miles, with starting points to be found all over the borough.

Listed below are the walks you can download and the distances, the first four are very local and you probably know them

- 01. Farington Lodges Walk (1.5 miles)**
- 02. Farington Lodges Walk (3.5 miles)**
- 03. Hope Terrace Walk (5.5 miles)**
- 04. Tardy Gate Walk (1.5 miles)**
05. New Longton & Whitestake Walk (2.5 miles)
06. Longton Coastal Walk (5.0 miles)
07. Longton Brickcroft Walk (1.5 miles)
08. Hutton & Longton Coastal Walk (7.0 miles)
09. Penwortham Heritage Trail 1 (2.0 Miles)
10. Penwortham Heritage Trail 2 (2.5 miles)
11. Penwortham Heritage Trail 3 (4.3 miles)
12. Penwortham Heritage Trail - Howick & Hutton Circular (3 miles)
13. Penwortham & Howick Riverside Walk (4.1 miles)
- 14. Old Tram Road & Walton-le-Dale Walk (5 miles)**
- 15. Bamber Bridge & Walton Park Walk (5.5 miles)**
16. Gregson Lane & Coupe Green Walk (3.6 miles)
17. Nabs Head Samlesbury Walk (5 miles)
- 18. Lostock Hall Heritage Trail (3.5 miles)**
- 19. Lostock Hall and Farington Railway Heritage Trail (3.5 miles)**
- 20. St Mary's Parish Boundary Walk (7.7 miles)**
21. St Leonard's Parish Boundary Walk (5 miles)

Meaningful May 2021

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1. Make a list of what matters most to you and why	2. Do something kind for someone you really care about	3. Focus on what you can do rather than what you can't do	4. Take a step towards an important goal, however small	5. Send your friend a photo from a time you enjoyed together	6. Look for people doing good and reasons to be cheerful	7. Let someone know how much they mean to you and why
8. Set yourself a kindness mission to help others today	9. Notice the beauty in nature, even if you're stuck indoors	10. What values are important to you? Find ways to use them today	11. Be grateful for the little things, even in difficult times	12. Listen to a favourite piece of music and remember what it means to you	13. Look around for things that bring you a sense of awe and wonder	14. Find out about the values or traditions of another culture
15. Do something to contribute to your local community	16. Look up at the sky. Remember we are all part of something bigger	17. Show your gratitude to people who are helping to make things better	18. Find a way to make what you do today meaningful	19. Send a hand-written note to someone you care about	20. Reflect on what makes you feel valued and purposeful	21. Share photos of 3 things you find meaningful or memorable
22. Find a way to help a project or charity you care about	23. Share a quote you find inspiring to give others a boost	24. Recall three things you've done that you are proud of	25. Make choices that have a positive impact for others today	26. Ask someone else what matters most to them and why	27. Remember an event in your life that was really meaningful	28. Focus on how your actions make a difference for others
29. Do something special and revisit it in your memory tonight	30. Today do something to care for the natural world	31. Find three reasons to be hopeful about the future				

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ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

You should consult your Doctor or other health care professional before starting this or any other fitness program to determine if it is right for your needs.

Parish Directory

Father Joseph Gee
Sister Louise Shields RNDM
The Presbytery
17C Brownedge Road
Lostock Hall
Preston
PR5 5AA
Tel: 01772 335387

In an Emergency please phone
either
St Marys Brownedge 335168
St Mary's Leyland 455955
St Catherine's Farrington
421174
St Patricks W-L-Dale 253709 or
St Teresa's Penwortham on

Contacts

743337
The Primary School 335025

Weekly Services

Sundays:

Saturday Vigil 6:00 p.m.
Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Weekdays:

Monday 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday 9:15 a.m.
Wednesday 9:15 a.m.
Thursday 9:15 p.m.
Friday NO MASS.

Holydays:

Eve 6:30 p.m.
Day 9:15 a.m.

Reconciliation: Confessions
before Weekend Masses.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Monday 18:00 to 18:30

Baptisms

Are normally conducted on the first and third Sunday of each month at 12:00 noon. Baptism Preparations currently take place every few months on two successive Wednesday evenings at 7 pm. Please telephone the Parish Priest or Sister on 335387 for details.

No Priest! What do we do?

If there is an Emergency and no Priest is available for the weekend Masses, the Eucharistic Ministers, particularly those who have been trained, will perform a Holy Communion Service and this will replace the Mass. Please note that this is **Only in an Emergency** and there is no time to arrange for another priest or no other is Priest is available. There may be occasions when the 8.30am Mass on a Sunday is cancelled, but the Saturday 6pm and Sunday 10am Masses will be as usual.

Marriages

At least six months notification of Marriage is required. Pre-marriage instruction is mandatory and organised by the Diocese. Please tele-

Parish Organisations

CONTACT

Advertising	John Corrigan	316295
Altar Servers	David Walker	629701
A.P.F. & Sacristan	Christine Flanagan	334723
Blessed Sacrament Guild		335387
CAFOD	Margaret Cronin	336475
Catechists & Sacramental Programme		335387
Children's Liturgy Group	Bridget Nisbet	324740
Choir	Jim Stokes	316574
Organist	Neil Coupe	322976
Drama Group	Grace Robinson	337844
Eucharistic Ministers & Readers	Michael Quinlan	467306
Flowers	Carole Hesmondhalgh	339700
Football Club	Phil Tinsley	07775890667
Fund Raising Group		335387
Gift Aid	John Robinson	335387
News & Views, Website, Printers	David Walker	629701
Majella Companions	Sister Louise	335387
Marriage Registrars	Margaret Cronin	336475
	Ann Quinlan	467306
Parochial Centre	Frank Redfearn	338285
Piety Shop	Vivian Page	313910
P.T.A.	Ross Free	339691
Sacred Heart Guild	Mary Hardman	468311
Safeguarding Officer	Colette Kingswood	07769690874
	or Colette.kingswood@virginmedia.com	
School (Staff, Ancillaries & Governors)	Jackie McNally	335025
Senior Citizens Organisers	Linda Walsh	311654
	Gloria Duffell	339966
Youth Representative	Lee McNulty	07478703414

Items for News & Views can be left at the Presbytery or emailed to the editor at newsviews@saintgerards.org.uk. The last day for submissions is the 20th of each month.

www.saintgerards.org.uk

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St Mary's, Brownedge
Live Streaming Times
<https://www.churchservices.tv/bamberbridge>

Sunday	Mass	9:30 am 11:00 & 6:30 pm
Monday to Friday	Mass	9:30 am
Private Prayer	Tuesday Thursday	3:00 pm to 4:00 pm 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm
	Rosary	8.00 pm
Saturday	Mass	9:30 am 7 pm Vigil
Sunday	Mass	9:30 am 11:00 & 6:30 pm

Parish Diary

2nd May	5th Sunday of Easter	27th	Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest
3rd	SS Philip & James	30th	The Most Holy Trinity
4th	The English Martyrs	1st June	St Justin
9th	6th Sunday of Easter	3rd	St Charles Lwanga & Companions
13th	The Ascension of the Lord — Holy Day of Obligation	5th	St Boniface
14th	St Matthias	6th	The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ
16th	7th Sunday of Easter		
23rd	Pentecost Sunday		
24th	Mary, Mother of the Church		
25th	St Bede the Venerable		
26th	St Philip Neri		

EMAIL ADDRESS

We have changed our parish email address and are introducing a few more contacts in the near future. The main email is now :

**office@saintgerards.org.uk
&**

**News and Views email is now:
newsview@saintgerards.org.**



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