

# Our Lady of Lourdes & St Gerard Majella

Lostock Hall - Preston - PR5 5AA

Parish Team Fr Joseph Gee & Sister Louise Shields RNDM

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24th Sunday of the Year

Year A

13th September 2020

Jesus tells a dramatic story in the Gospel, to make a very important point: the desperate need in our world for forgiveness and reconciliation. How many chances do we give each other? As many as seven? How often do we shut doors on people, even family and friends, saying 'That's it; you've just gone too far this time: never again?' When Jesus says that we must forgive seventy-seven times, he implies that we never stop forgiving, whatever happens. He doesn't just say this, however: even when they do the worst thing that could be done to him, nailing him to a cross, Jesus puts these words into practice: 'Father, forgive them...' As his disciples, we must do likewise.



**"I do not tell you to forgive seven times, but seventy seven times."**

**Please Pray for the Recently Deceased:**

**Ronald Pope, Brian Cain & Muriel Patterson**

**Advance Notice** - It is now two months since our Church was able to reopen for public celebration of Mass. As we move forward in these difficult times we need to be able to open Church for other sacramental services such as baptisms, marriages, funerals, Masses for those families who lost loved ones during the lockdown and the resumption of the children's sacramental programmes. As with our Mass celebration, under the current regulations all these services can only take place with the necessary volunteer stewards. To minimise the extra workload on the stewards that this would require, it has been decided to **suspend the 08.30am Mass on Sunday mornings**. A review of Mass attendance since reopening shows that there is the necessary capacity to accommodate all who attend weekend Mass at the Saturday vigil and Sunday 10.00am Masses. It is planned that this change will take place **from the weekend of 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> October**.

**Reconciliation / Confessions** - These can be arranged by appointment, please contact Father Joe at the Presbytery.

**Altar Candle Intentions** - We are recommencing the Altar Candle Intentions. If you would like to place an intention please drop a note in at the Presbytery clearly stating the Intention and at which location you would like the candle (The Sanctuary, Sacred Heart, Our Lady, St Joseph or St Gerard). Please also indicate the week you would like it and we will do our best to accommodate your wishes, if the requested date is already taken we will allocate the nearest free weekend. We are suggesting a minimum donation of £5 per candle. We are unable to display the Intentions list at the back of Church due to the current restrictions but each location will have the usual Display Card.

**GIFT AID STATEMENTS** — Gift Aid annual statements are now available for collection from the Presbytery Office during office hours.

**CHURCHES RE-OPENING SAFELY** - The Church wants to ensure that the safety of people is paramount so we will proceed with small steps and will require some trial and error. **Thus, there is no rush to return to Mass; the Sunday Mass obligation is still dispensed while we try to implement a safe way for us to celebrate.** Every church building must have a risk assessment and a calculation made as to how many people it can hold observing 2 metre social distancing. Saint Gerard's can accommodate approx **65** individual people with 2 metre safe distancing (3 single, two doubles (either end) or family bubble in each alternate row, stewards will direct). **Face Coverings** are now mandatory in church. People with respiratory issues, children under 11 years of age and some other people are exempt. Face-coverings can be removed by readers as they read the scriptures. The Priest needs only wear a face-covering when off the sanctuary and distributing Communion. Please adhere to the government and Diocesan Guidelines and observe the signage and directions of Stewards. **Thank you for your cooperation.**

**ONLINE RETREATS between September to December 2020** led by Donna Worthington. **The second retreat in this series is "THE ART OF LISTENING" and is on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September 6.30-9pm** - We will explore the art of listening through the wisdom of theatre, counselling techniques and the wisdom of our own bodies which can carry tension, stress, memory, other's pain – we can learn from the body's wisdom by becoming aware of what the body holds and the deeper knowledge it can offer. Participants do not

need to have any training / experience in any of these approaches – just a willingness to become better listeners, in order to be able to better listen to God, to each other and to our own selves and benefit our lives and those we encounter. Because of the nature of the topic explored, on this event, participants will be asked to join in with discussion and work with others.

**For bookings, please contact Donna Worthington: [drworthington@live.co.uk](mailto:drworthington@live.co.uk)**

*Details for October will be published nearer the time.*

**Family is Sacred Zoom Course – September 2020** - After the success of our first Family is Sacred Webinar in July we will be offering the full 14 week course online via zoom. The first session will take place on **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September**, 7:30pm-9pm and will run every other Wednesday for 14 weeks. The course is designed to enrich and support marriage and family life and the building up of the Domestic Church. There will be input from various speakers followed by small group discussion and Q&A. All Welcome! Register your free place by emailing [formation@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:formation@dioceseofsalford.org.uk) before Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September (Zoom details to follow).

**Brownedge Christians Together Food Bank** - At this time we are in need of URGENT help, due to Volunteer Retirements. We have vacancies in the roles of *Secretary to the Trustee meetings, Volunteers to give clerical support, Volunteers to checking food donation and filling food bags Volunteer drivers for Food delivery to Family homes.* The Food Bank is now making Home Deliveries as from September 2020 and we only ask volunteers to offer their help for two hours a week. Contacting us Text on 07811 457 866 or e mail on [geoff\\_bctfb36Jemail.com](mailto:geoff_bctfb36Jemail.com) Thank You.

Average Attendance at Mass	
Weekday	15
Saturday Vigil	33
Sunday 8:30 am	23
Sunday 10:00 am	32

St Gerard's, Lostock Hall			
Sat	12th Sept Vigil	18:00	
Sun	13th Sept	08:30 10:00	24th Sunday of the Year The Parish George & Doreen WANE R.I.P
Mon	14th Sept	09:15	The Exaltation of the Cross (F)
Tues	15th Sept	09.15	Our Lady of Sorrows (M)
Wed	16th Sept	09:15	St Cornelius & St Cyprian (M) Thomas Clancy R.I.P.
Thurs	17th Sept	09:15	
Fri	18th Sept		No MASS
Sat	19th Sept Vigil	18:00	Colette Bowman (Private INT)
Sun	20th Sept	08:30 10:00 11:00	25th Sunday of the Year The Parish Baptism of Thomas Davidson

St Mary's, Brownedge Live Streaming Times <a href="https://www.churchservices.tv/bamberbridge">https://www.churchservices.tv/bamberbridge</a>		
Sunday	Mass	9:30 am 11:00 & 6:30 pm
Monday to Friday	Mass	9:30 am
Private Prayer	Tuesday Thursday	5:00 pm to 6:00 pm 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm
	Rosary	8.00 pm
Saturday	Mass	9:30 am 7 pm Vigil
Sunday	Mass	9:30 am 11:00 & 6:30 pm

**PAROCHIAL CENTRE**

The Parochial Centre is open again for members and for PRIVATE FUNCTIONS, including Baptism and Funeral gatherings.

Please contact the Steward during opening hours to discuss arrangements and restrictions on number at the present time.

**For the Children**

D	E	N	I	I	R	A	N	E	D
N	E	R	D	L	I	H	C	I	E
I	A	R	V	R	E	S	S	N	B
M	S	R	E	R	U	T	R	O	T
P	I	D	Y	H	R	N	M	S	U
L	N	L	A	E	T	U	H	I	Y
O	E	O	S	A	S	O	E	R	R
R	V	S	T	R	O	C	R	P	R
E	E	P	I	T	Y	C	A	B	O
D	S	S	E	R	V	A	N	T	S



BROTHER  
SEVEN  
ACCOUNTS  
SERVANTS  
CHILDREN  
DEBT  
DENARII  
PRISON  
DISTRESSED  
PITY  
TOURERS  
HRT

Virtual Pilgrimage to Walsingham - 27th September

On 27th September there will be a virtual Pilgrimage of Reparation and Prayer for Hospital

**Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound especially those in**