



## Our Lady of Lourdes & St Gerard Majella

Linstock Hall - Preston - PR5 5AA

Parish Team Fr Joseph Gee & Sister Louise Shields RNDM

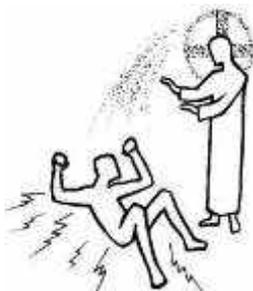
Parish Tel: (01772) 335387

Parish e-mail: office@saintgerards.org.uk

Facebook : @stgerardslostockhall Twitter : @stgerardslostoc Instagram : @stgerardslostock

4th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year B

31st January 2021



Where does authority come from? Why is one man regarded as a prophet, and another as a lunatic, and a third as a hypocrite? Jesus startles the crowds with a 'new teaching' today, but what amazes them so much is not the message but the authority behind it: they are convinced because what he does somehow adds credibility to what he says. It's the old situation that we are all familiar with - we look through words to see the actions, which show us the real message. The scribes did not heal or work miracles, but simply talked about God. Jesus talks about the Kingdom of God, but also shows the people what it is - a Kingdom where all that damages human happiness is abolished. The other side to this is that we must listen to a prophet or teacher when they are backed by such authority; we may not "harden our hearts" and ignore the message when we have recognised that the messenger is sent by God. This is the hard part, because it demands that we too show, by our actions, that we have heard.

**Please Pray for the Recently Deceased:  
Ryden Cross, Frank Cutler, Jean Willis,  
Edward Clayton, Mary Josephine Crook  
& John Walne R.I.P.**

**Retrouvaille Marriage Support** - Covid19 is a challenging time for many marriages. So much uncertainty around, health, income, employment, vulnerable family members, children, housing.. Different ways of seeing things, coping with change, managing fears can be a source of conflict and stress. It can be difficult to talk, to listen to support and comfort when there is so much uncertainty. Being together all the time, brings even more challenges. You just can't cope, would be better apart you wonder. Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples, it brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage ...and you don't need to leave home, it comes to you! For confidential information about Retrouvaille', or to register for the next programme, a Virtual weekend commencing on 25<sup>th</sup>- 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021 Call or text 0788 7296983 or 0797 3380443. Email: [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) - or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

### Caritas Sunday 2021 - 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021.

Caritas have made it easier for parishioners to make individual one off debit or credit card donations online via their secure website <https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/donate/> or set up a direct debit mandate if they wish. You can also call Rachel Taylor on 0161 817 2285 if you would rather donate that way. Caritas are pleased to share with us the Caritas Diocese of Salford Impact Report 2020 that highlights the charitable work Caritas Salford has carried out last year across the Diocese. The report can be found at <https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/news/caritas-impact-report-2020/> if you would like to read about their work in the diocese.

**CHURCHES STAY OPEN** - There seems to be an effort, on the part of just a small number of local authorities, to ask for the closure of churches. They have no authority to insist on this. The Government website and the clarifications from the Bishops' Conference, which are drawn from government and medical experts, are pretty comprehensive and allow for the safe opening of places of worship. It is therefore of utmost importance that we all follow the guidelines and regulations with regard social distancing, sanitation, bubbles and the **IMMEDIATELY LEAVING OF THE PREMISES INCLUDING BOTH THE BUILDING AND THE GROUNDS OUTSIDE** WITHOUT LINGERING TO CHAT TO OTHERS. **Face Masks must be worn and cover the Face and Mouth** (Unless medically exempt or under 12)

**Altar Servers Online Retreat – 'Serving God and our neighbour in the everyday'**  
**Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2021** – 10am-12pm (Ages 8-11) and 1pm-3pm (Ages 12-17) - Servers aged 18 and over please email the address below. The day includes a keynote from Bishop John on the ministry of serving during this time and in the future, times of prayer, a recommissioning service and workshops on 'Challenges & Opportunities', 'Prayer - A Friendship with Jesus', and 'Called to Serve'. To register your place or for more information email [formation@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:formation@dioceseofsalford.org.uk) An under 18's videoconferencing consent form must be downloaded, completed by parents/carers and returned to the above email address. Download from <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/altar-server-retreat/>, The retreat will take place on Zoom.

**The Global Catholic Movement invites you to "Global Healing."**- In 2015, Pope Francis published his ground-breaking letter on the environment *Laudato Si'*. Since then, millions of people worldwide have joined the global movement to address the environmental crisis our world is facing. This Lent, we are inviting YOU to join us for a series of reflective evenings with inspiring speakers, prayer and discussion, using the film-based resource "Global Healing". These engaging documentaries will inform and challenge people to respond to Pope Francis' call to Care for Our Common Home. Suitable for all who are concerned about what is happening to our world and who want to take action. **When?** Six Thursdays from 18<sup>th</sup> February – 25<sup>th</sup> March 2021, 7.30pm – 8.30pm **How to join?** To register please click [HERE](#) or email [jane@catholicclimatemovement.global](mailto:jane@catholicclimatemovement.global)

**Fr Cassian Dickie OSB:**

Please pray for Fr Cassian, formerly at St Mary's Brownedge. He is seriously ill and in need of our prayers. He is in residence with Fr Jonathan and Fr Bernard at St Mary's, Leyland.

**Altar Candle & Mass Intentions** -- If you would like to have a Mass intention or Candle intention please leave a note at the Presbytery clearly stating the Mass Intention or Location for your Candle. For the Candles we are suggesting a minimum donation of £5 per candle.

**Year of St Joseph** - Pope Francis has announced a Year of St Joseph in a new Apostolic Letter entitled **Patris corde** ("With a Father's Heart") He describes St Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an abedient father, an accepting father, a father who is courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows. He gives us this new prayer to St Joseph. *"Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary. To you God entrusted his only Son; in you Mary placed her trust; with you Christ became man. Blessed Joseph, to us too, show yourself a father and guide us in the path of life. Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage, and defend us from every evil. "Amen"*

St Gerard's, Lostock Hall			
Sat	30th Jan Vigil	18:00	
Sun	31st Jan	10:00	<b>4th Sunday of the Year</b> The Parish
Mon	1st Feb	6:30 pm	Requiem Mass for Gerald Ellison R.I.P.
Tues	2nd Feb	9:15 am	Presentation of the Lord (F) Blessed Sacrament Guild
Wed	3rd Feb	9:15 am	Ronnie Jackson R.I.P.
Thurs	4th Feb		NO MASS
Fri	5th Feb		St Agatha NO MASS (M)
Sat	6th Feb Vigil	18:00	Ss Paul Miki & Comp Sacred Heart Guild (M)
Sun	7th Feb	10:00	<b>4th Sunday of the Year</b> The Parish

St Mary's, Brownedge <b>Live Streaming Times</b> <a href="https://www.churchservices.tv/bamberbridge">https://www.churchservices.tv/bamberbridge</a>		
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Mass</b>	9:30 am 11:00 & 6:30 pm
<b>Monday to Friday</b>	<b>Mass</b>	9:30 am
<b>Open for Private Prayer</b>	<b>Tuesday Thursday</b>	3:00 pm to 4:00 pm 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm
	<b>Rosary</b>	8.00 pm
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Mass</b>	9:30 am 7 pm Vigil
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Mass</b>	9:30 am 11:00 & 6:30 pm

**Christian Leadership Formation Programme** - Salford Diocese **Christian Leadership Formation programme**, offered in partnership with St Mary's University, Twickenham and the Catholic Union of Great Britain, is now open to applications. The programme is offered to students in Lower Sixth who are committed to their faith and aspiring to some form of public life. Students will require the support of their schools and religious minister in applying. For info and application forms: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/clf/>

F	O	N	N	R	T	I	T	P	S
Q	O	A	S	E	B	I	R	C	S
U	M	L	I	C	R	I	A	H	S
I	N	U	L	I	R	P	Y	T	R
Y	Q	C	P	O	E	Y	E	A	E
O	L	S	L	R	W	A	E	B	D
H	H	O	N	E	C	E	R	B	R
M	N	A	H	H	A	O	R	A	O
E	U	G	O	G	A	N	Y	S	N
M	Y	O	R	T	S	E	D	E	O

CAPERNAUM	SABBATH	SYNAGOGUE
TEACH	SCRIBES	UNCLEAN
SPIRIT	DESTROY	HOLY
QUIET	ORDERS	OBEY



**Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound and for those who have asked for your Prayers.**