



## ST MARY'S BROWNEDGE

Founded c1780      SDTRTR No. 250037  
 St Mary's Priory, Brownedge Lane, Bamber Bridge, Preston PR5 6SP  
[www.stmarysbrownedge.org.uk](http://www.stmarysbrownedge.org.uk)    Facebook: @stmarysbrownedge  
 Live Streaming via website (churchservices.tv)  
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## Our Lady of Lourdes & St Gerard Majella

Lostock Hall - Preston - PR5 5AA  
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 Parish e-mail: office@saintgerards.org.uk

Facebook : @stgerardslostockhall    Twitter : @stgerardslostoc    Instagram : @stgerardsslostock



Parish Clergy: Fr Mark Harold (Rural Dean & Parish Priest),  
 Tel: 01772 332050; email: pp@stmarysbrownedge.org.uk    Fr Colin Battell OSB. Tel: 01772 321201.

### 2nd Sunday of Advent (Year B)

10th December 2023

St Mary's, Brownedge			
Sat	9th Dec Vigil	7:00 pm	2nd Sunday of Advent Ben Eccles
Sun	10th Dec	9:30 am 6:30 pm	2nd Sunday of Advent Joan Costello The Parish
Mon	11th Dec	9.30 am	St Damascus I (OM) Robert, Nellie & Joseph Delaney
Tues	12th Dec	9:30 am	Our Lady of Guadalupe (OM) Richard & Mary Lloyd
Wed	13th Dec	9:30 am 2:30 pm 6:30 pm	St Lucy (M) Jake Sanderson SC Hospice - Int of Josie Francis Salford Primary Schools' Carol Service
Thurs	14th Dec	9:30 am	St John of the Cross (M) Swarbrick & Whiteley Families
Friday	15th Dec	9:30 am	Fr P.G. McNally & Fr Davies OSB
Sat	16th Dec Vigil	7:00 pm	3rd Sunday of Advent Elizabeth Prescott
Sun	17th Dec	9:30 am 11:00 am 2:00 pm 6:30 pm	3rd Sunday of Advent "GAUDETE" Sunday Jim & Joan Hankinson Baptism of James Martindale St Catherines Carol Service The Parish

St Gerard's, Lostock Hall			
Sat	9th Dec Vigil	5:30 pm	2nd Sunday of Advent Bill Smith (Anniversary)
Sun	10th Dec	10:30 am	2nd Sunday of Advent The Parish
Mon	11th Dec	6:30 pm	Celebration of the Word & Holy Communion
Tues	12th Dec	9:15 am	Our Lady of Guadalupe (OM) Holy Souls
Wed	13th Dec	9:15 am	Celebration of the Word & Holy Communion
Thurs	14th Dec	9:15 am	St John of the Cross (M) Fr Vincent Naylor R.I.P.
Friday	15th Dec		No MASS
Sat	16th Dec Vigil	5:30 pm	3rd Sunday of Advent Mary & Herbert Jackson
Sun	17th Dec	10:30 am	3rd Sunday of Advent "GAUDETE" Sunday The Parish

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

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Mary's**  
 Tuesday & Thursday 3 pm to 4 pm

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 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)

### Prayers for the Diocese:

9th / 10th December - This week we pray for the people of the parish of the Holy Spirit, East Manchester, with Fr. Matthias Odaudu, CSSp, and the Spiritan fathers. We pray for their parish primary schools and for all assisted by the Mary and Joseph Home.

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](http://www.stmarysbrownedge.org.uk) or  
[www.saintgerards.org.uk](http://www.saintgerards.org.uk) or  
[www.churchservices.tv](http://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. It is a great source of spiritual support for those who cannot go to church.

### Prayer for Spiritual Communion.

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen

# Our Lady & St Gerard's Notices

**Refreshments** - Refreshments after Mass on Sunday morning this week will be in the Shields Centre where you will be able to find out more about the Diocesan Synod

**The Big Listen** - The Diocesan Synod is coming to our parish! Our Synod members, Gus and Anna would like to invite you to take part in The "Big Listen" session on the **9th and 10th December 2023**. (Saturday after the Vigil Mass and Sunday after the 10.30 am Mass in the Shields Centre). We will gather in a prayerful atmosphere where you will be asked to respond to some questions and see what thoughts will occur.

**Christmas Fair** - The Christmas Fair last Sunday was a wonderful success with £1500 being raised for the Parish, in the current climate every penny we raise helps to keep our church warm (reasonably), Thank you to all the volunteers and helpers for organising and assisting on the day.

**Christmas Raffle** - Tickets are now on sale for the **Fund Raising Christmas Raffle**. Tickets are £1 each or **£5 per book**. 1st Prize £100, plus other cash prizes and Hampers. **Please take a few books to sell for us. Good Quality Raffle Prizes donations are needed.** This raffle will be **drawn at the Christmas Fair on 3rd December**.

**Piety Stall** - Our **Christmas stock has arrived** along with cards and are now on display in the Piety shop. Father Mark talked a while ago about a **statue of the "Sleeping St Joseph"**. The shop now have some for sale and can order others if anyone wants one. Please call into the shop on a Saturday evening or phone and speak to either Jennifer or Vivienne.

**Parish Lottery** - **New Sign Up Forms for 2024 are now available in the Porch**. If you are an **existing member you only need to the required amount into the office**. If you are not already a member of the Lottery please consider taking out a subscription which remains £60.00 for the full year - payable by 1st January. £30.00 6 monthly - payable by the 1st January and July or £15.00 quarterly - payable by 1st January, April, July, and Oct.

**Bingo** - **Advanced Notice** - Wednesday Bingo will take a short Break over the Christmas Period. Last eyes down for this year will be on 20th December and re-start in the New Year on 10th January.

**CAFOD** world gifts catalogues are at the back of the church. Please could parishioners take one home and consider buying a Christmas gift to help the work of CAFOD in the developing world. This is particularly important given the unfolding humanitarian crisis in Gaza where CAFOD are trying to support the overwhelming number of refugees who will soon be facing winter. There is a winter survival kit in the catalogue which would be particularly useful in the area as these desperate refugees face the coming months.

**Parish memories** - There is a display of varied photos in the porch. It includes First Communions 1988, Preston Guild 1992, Our Lady and St Gerard's school centenary, the visit from Cardinal Hume 1996 and a range of Liturgy Group gatherings. There are some familiar faces to be seen!

**Piety Shop Raffle** - The Raffle draw took place at the Christmas Fair and all three prizes have been claimed. Thank you to all who purchase tickets. We will publish the amount raised as soon as we have it.



Offertory 2nd / 3rd December 2023			
Offertory Loose	£400.71		
Offertory Envelopes	£205.55		
Attendance	163		
Bingo Jackpots for 13/12/2023			
£25	£39	£30	£27

Parish Lottery No. 589 6/12/2023 Super Draw			
1st	£60	No. 17	Mrs P Clunan
2nd	£40	No. 25	Mr / Mrs Walsh
3rd	£10	No. 75	Mr / Mrs A Hawarden
3rd	£10	No. 84	Mrs S Russo
3rd	£10	No. 72	Mr M Nlsbet

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

# St Mary's Brownedge Notices

**Offertory Procession:** Next Sunday 17th December 9:30 am Mass: Children. Volunteers are needed for bringing up the offertory gifts at all the Masses.

**First Reconciliation:** Congratulations to all those children who complete the next stage of their journey towards First Holy Communion by making their First Reconciliation this weekend.

**Giving Tree 2023:** This is the last weekend for gifts as we will be delivering on Monday 11th December to the charities we support. Thank you and God bless you all.

**Mothers Prayers – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December - 1pm – St Mary's Priory.**

**Churches Together Community Christmas Carols: Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December 1.30pm –** Outside Morrisons in Bamber Bridge. Please advertise as widely as possible and encourage folk to come along and sing.

**Brownedge St Mary's High School Carol Service:** Monday 18th December in St Mary's, Brownedge Church at 7pm. ALL WELCOME!

**CAFOD** - From the recent coffee morning and raffle we collected £263, from the buckets in November £119, a donation from Jeanette Tolentino and two friends who celebrated their birthdays together £160 and sale of jewellery £18. Many thanks to all who are so generous in supporting those in need. A special thank you to Mary & David for supplying and selling the hyacinth pots and to all who bought them. A fantastic £478.50 was raised.! This Christmas we will be buying some World Gifts to the value of £544. These include Winter Survival Kits, Super Soup Kitchens, Safe place to call home and Teach Someone to Read. World Gifts are a great way of giving a Christmas present and helping reach out to people who experience poverty and injustice.

Mary Waldron, a regular supporter at the coffee morning, wishes to thank everyone for celebrating her birthday with a cake, candles and cards.

Hope, Peace Joy & Love to all during Advent and Many Blessings for Christmas. Next coffee morning Friday 5th January 2024!

**Diocesan Fundraising Strategy:** Thanks to those who completed the questionnaire about raising funds for our parishes. They have been returned to the diocese to be assessed.

**Salford Diocesan Almanac 2024:** The new yearbook, listing all the parishes, clergy and mass times is now available from the Piety Stall @ £3.50.

**Piety Stall:** There are also Christmas Cards—real **Christmas** cards not just snowmen or robins! If no one is there to take your money, there is a wall box for cash payment or you may also use card machine -write a note with "Piety" on it and the amount you have paid and put the note in the wall safe.

**200 Club** - The Christmas Hamper Draw takes place on **17th December**, Good Luck and may we wish all of our members a Happy & Holy Christmas.

**SVP Christmas Appeal:** At St. Mary's, Brownedge, we always show great kindness in supporting the disadvantaged in our parish, our community, our country and in far-flung countries. Your support is even more vital this year as the number of calls to the SVP support line have increased **150%**, thus, the SVP is running a special Christmas campaign to help struggling families and individuals. **EVERY £1 YOU DONATE WILL BE MATCHED BY A FURTHER £1** Your act of kindness could make a world of difference for a family like Anna's, who were struggling to provide daily meals. when a death in the family left them facing funeral expenses. Extra costs of utility bills during the family member's illness had pushed them into substantial debt. The SVP provided a grant to their specific needs, such as replacing broken kitchen appliances and a special bed for one of the children.

*"I am extremely thankful that we have you. You have helped my family in ways you cannot imagine...these things may seem small, but they have allowed me to sleep peacefully at night. Your support goes beyond just tangible help."* Anna

We can make a profound impact on the lives of many others. Let us bring the light and joy of Christmas into the lives of people in need. To donate online visit: **[fundraising.svp.org.uk/kindness](https://fundraising.svp.org.uk/kindness)** or call **07593384429**

**Parish Dinner** - The Parish Diner will be held on **Sunday 28th January 2024** in the Parochial Centre at St Gerard's. Menu and Order form will be available after Christmas.

**Mass Intentions:** If you would like a Mass Intention either for the weekend or during the week or for a date this year and for 2024 please get it in as soon as possible as the Diary of available masses is filling up already. We cannot always guarantee an exact date, as funeral Masses or absences may occur, but we try our best to accommodate a chosen date for a Mass intention.

**Advent Candle Two: "Faith":** On the Second Sunday, we hear the preaching of John the Baptist, who came to "prepare the way of the Lord". May we hear his call and be invigorated in our faith.

Mass Attendance: Our attendance last weekend is shown below.	
7 pm Vigil	55
9:30 am	156
6:30 p.m..	50
<b>Total</b>	<b>261</b>

Sanctuary Lamps Week 2	
1	Richard & Margaret Proctor, James & Teresa Lawson, Winifred Woodruff
2	Amanda Carney
3	Peter Richardson, Mabel (Watkins) Richardson

## Joint Notices



### Second Sunday of Advent:

Two of the Main characters of Advent are the Prophet Isaiah and John the

Baptist. Today in the gospel we hear the voice of John the Baptist who was foretold by the prophet Isaiah in the First Reading, as one who will come as a voice crying in the wilderness, "Prepare a way for the Lord! Make a straight highway for our God across the desert. Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low. Let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges a valley; then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all mankind shall see it. In other words, GET READY FOR GOD! Reflect about what you do to facilitate your relationship with God; how to you make the path easier, or more difficult, for him to reach you?

**Gaudete Sunday:** Next Sunday, on the Third Sunday of Advent, we will celebrate "Bambinelli Sunday". Everyone is invited to bring their crib figures of the baby Jesus to Mass and they will receive a special blessing.

**St Catherine's Hospice Carol Service – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December - 2pm- St Mary's Brownedge**

**Advent Reconciliation Service:** there will be a joint Reconciliation Service for both our parishes to be held at St Mary's Brownedge Church on **Wednesday 20th December at 7pm**. Please encourage your families and friend to come.

**Occento Choir - Monday 18th December 7 pm "A Blessed Messiah is Born"** You are invited to a performance of sacred music in preparation for Christmas at St Joseph's Church, 78 Skeffington Road, Preston, PR1 5UQ. The concert is performed by **Occento choir conducted by Nathan Smith**, with the repertoire including pieces such as: Away in a Manger, *The Crown of Roses*, *In Dulci Jubilo* and *Gabriel's Message*. The concert is free of charge with donations welcome

**POINSETTIAS –** For Christmas, we would like to decorate the sanctuaries of both our churches at St Gerard's and St Mary's with poinsettias. We are asking parishioners to donate poinsettias to help us to make the Altars at St Gerard's and St Mary's beautiful. Please drop off your Poinsettias between Thursday 21st and the morning Masses on Christmas Eve. If no-one is around please leave them by the Sacred Heart side entrance at St Mary's and by the Church door at St Gerard's.

**Joint Parish Baptism Preparation Course:** The next course starts on Tuesday 16th January 2024 - If you would like to have your child Baptised at Our Lady & St Gerard's Church or St Mary's Brownedge then please collect an enrolment form from Church and return it to either Parish Office

**Website New Pages** - We now have "How Do I" pages on our websites. Here you can access information on how to arrange a Baptism, Wedding or Funeral. There is information on how to setup a Standing Order for regular giving and how to join the Gift Aid Scheme. If you need to obtain a copy Baptismal Certificate it will explain how to do that as well. The pages can be accessed via this QR Code or via either of our parish websites and searching within them for 'How Do I' Further information can be added and ideas for inclusion are always welcome.



**Schools Singing Programme Carol Service – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December: 6:30pm St Mary's Brownedge. EVERYONE WELCOME!**

**Parish Christmas Card:** We have a printed a parish card for each household to take home. It includes a message from Pope Francis and from Fr Mark & Fr Colin and has the times of our Christmas Masses. Collect from the back of the church.

**KSC Christmas Posters:** Once again we have available, Christmas Posters, produced by the Knights of St Columba. Please take one home and place in your window as a sign of the true significance of Christmas.

### ✱ CHRISTMAS MASSES ✱

#### Masses of 4th Sunday of Advent:

**Saturday 23 Dec:** St Gerard's: 5.30pm, St Mary's: 7pm

**Sunday 24 Dec:** St Mary's: 9.30 am St Gerard's: 10.30 am

*There is not a 6.30pm "Sunday" Mass*

#### CHRISTMAS EVE:

St Gerard's First Mass of Christmas: 5:30 pm with Carols from 5 pm.

St Mary's First Mass of Christmas: 7.00 pm.

St Mary's: Midnight Mass with Carols by Candlelight from 11:30 pm.

#### CHRISTMAS DAY:

St Mary's Christmas Day Mass: 9:30 am

St Gerard's Christmas Day Mass: 10:30 am

#### BOXING DAY: (The Feast of St Stephen)

St Mary's: 10.00 am; St Gerard's: 10.00 am.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR

**The sick, and those who care for them:**  
Christopher Beckett Snr. Fr Jonathan Cotton,  
Carina Clough, Sam Hull.

**All Those who have Recently Died:**  
Marion Parkinson, Father Vincent Naylor,  
Nirmala Bhatti, Samuel Leslie, Lillian Gibbens.