



St Mary's Brownedge

Founded c1780 SDTRTR No. 250037
 St Mary's Priory, Brownedge Lane, Bamber Bridge, Preston PR5 6SP
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 Live Streaming via website (churchservices.tv)

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Our Lady of Lourdes & St Gerard Majella

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

**Parish Clergy: Fr Mark Harold (Rural Dean & Parish Priest),
 Tel: 01772 335168; email: pp@stmarysbrownedge.org.uk Fr Colin Battell OSB. Tel: 01772 321201.**

Third Sunday of Advent (C) GAUDETE SUNDAY 15th December 2024

St Mary's, Brownedge			
Sat	14th Dec Vigil	7:00 pm	Third Sunday of Advent Deceased Members of the Murphy & Wayne Families
Sun	15th Dec	9:30 am 6:30 pm	Third Sunday of Advent Gaudete Sunday Fr McNally & Fr Davies The Parish
Mon	16th Dec	9:30 am	Deceased Lancaster Family
Tues	17th Dec	9:30 am	Maria Swarbrick
Wed	18th Dec	9:30 am 7.00 pm	Family of Joan Ramsdale Advent Reconciliation Service
Thurs	19th Dec	9:30 am	Robert, Nellie & Joseph Delaney
Fri	20th Dec	9:30 am	Kath & Diane Harvey
Sat	21st Dec Vigil	7:00 pm	Fourth Sunday of Advent Hopwood Family
Sun	22nd Dec	9:30 am 6:30 pm	Fourth Sunday of Advent Michael Cox The Parish

St Gerard's, Lostock Hall			
Sat	14th Dec Vigil	5:30 pm	Third Sunday of Advent The Parish
Sun	15th Dec	10:30 am	Third Sunday of Advent Gaudete Sunday Martin Braford
Mon	16th Dec	7:30 pm	KTB Choir Christmas Carol Concert
Tues	17th Dec	9:15 am 2:00 pm	Doreen & George Wane RIP School KS2 Carol Concert
Wed	18th Dec	9:15 am	Celebration of the Word & Holy Communion
Thurs	19th Dec	11:45 pm	Requiem Mass for Margaret Guinan R.I.P.
Fri	20th Dec		NO SERVICES
Sat	21st Dec Vigil	5:30 pm	Fourth Sunday of Advent Mary & Herbert Jackson
Sun	22nd Dec	10:30 am	Fourth Sunday of Advent The Parish

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

Cycle of Prayer: During Advent and Christmastide we are asked to pray for Migrants and Refugees and Expectant Mothers.



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.

**Prayers for Salford Diocese:
 The Deanery of St John Southworth**

We pray this week for the people of the parish of St. Alban, Blackburn, for Canon Jude Harrison, Fr Paul Taylor OMI, and Fr. Joseph O'Carroll, for their parish primary schools and the Franciscan Missionaries of St. Joseph.

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.

Joint Notices

TODAY: Third Sunday of Advent



This Sunday is called "Gaudete" Sunday — "Rejoice Sunday". This comes from the readings we hear today, and it underlines an important point. In the Gospel, we hear John the Baptist telling different groups what to do - they

must repent, and change their lives. We might think of this as a rather joyless thing - something which is hard and unrewarding. The message of this Sunday is that repentance and changing our lives to welcome Jesus is something richly joyful. When we are planning to welcome anyone we love to our homes, we set about cleaning and preparing for their visit with enthusiasm - nothing is too much trouble for someone we care for greatly. Even scrubbing the bath or polishing the furniture can be a happy and joyful thing! The message of this Sunday is that preparing to welcome the Lord - even though it may involve hard work - is something utterly joyful, because of our love for Him, and His love for us.

Advent Candle Three: Joy!

As we continue to approach Christmas Day, our joy grows more and more. On "Joy Sunday," we light the third candle and rejoice like the shepherds who heard the "news of great joy". For this reason, the third candle of Advent is called the "Shepherd's Candle," and its colour is pink, the liturgical colour for joy.



Bambinelli Sunday: This Sunday, we will celebrate Bambinelli Sunday at St Mary's Brownedge at the 9.30 am Mass and on **22nd December** we will do the same at St Gerard's at the 10.30 am Mass. Everyone is invited to bring their crib figures of the baby Jesus to Mass and they will receive a special blessing.

SVP Collection – There will be an SVP retiring collection at both Churches this weekend **14th and 15th December**.

St Catherine's Hospice Carol Service: At the Bamber Bridge Methodist Church this Sunday **15th December at 2pm**. Everyone is welcome.

Brownedge St Mary's High School Carol Service - The Annual Carol Service will be held at St Mary's Brownedge on **Monday 16th December**. Everyone is warmly invited to attend. 'Let your light Shine'

KTB Choir & KTB Voice - Present 'Come to the Manger' at 7:30 pm on **Monday 16th December** at St Gerard's, Lostock Hall. Raffle and Refreshments, ticket can be obtained via wegottickets.com or in person from KTB Music. Adults £8, Juniors (12-18) £5, Under 12's FREE.

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 18th December at 7pm**. Please encourage your families and friend to come.

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 look festive. Please drop off your Poinsettias from the weekend before.

New Diocesan Yearbook: This has been received this week. This year, the diocese have combined two books into one: The Diocesan Ordo and the Almanac. The Ordo is at the back of the Yearbook and details which Mass/feast we should be celebrating each day; what the readings and prayers should be, and even what colour vestments the priest should wear! Copies are available at the back of Church priced £5 each or £6 for a ringbound version.

Cafod World Gifts for Christmas - This Christmas give your loved ones something exceptional & life changing. Buying Cafod's virtual World Gifts makes a real difference for our sisters & brothers facing the injustice of poverty around the world. Each gift represents a gift of hope. You can pick up a booklet from the Narthex or purchase World Gifts at www.worldgifts.cafod.org.uk. There is information about World Gifts on the notice board at the entrance to church. Thank You.

New Lectionary: This Advent we begin using the new translation of the Liturgy of the Word: The English Standard Version replaces the Jerusalem Bible translation. Many thanks to those who attended the talk last week by Maria Hall. It was an excellent presentation with a good attendance from across the deanery. It is available to view on the "Recordings" tab of St Mary's streaming service. It is recommended that all our readers should watch this.

R.C.I.A. Learning about the Catholic Faith: Our RCIA programme is taking a break during this busy season. We have been blessed with 14 excellent sessions over the past 3 months with a regular group of about 15 people of various ages coming together to learn a little bit more about the Catholic Faith. The course will resume in the New Year on **Tuesday 7th January**.

Jubilee Visits in Salford Diocese: The Diocese have nominated six churches as places of pilgrimage in the Jubilee Year. This includes St Mary's Brownedge as a place of pilgrimage. We are asked to make people welcome to visit our church during the Holy Year and offer opportunities for prayer and devotion. It would be good to have a team of people who would be willing to help with this. There is a booklet at the back of church detailing the six churches and the idea of being pilgrims of hope in the upcoming Jubilee Year.

Joint Notices

✂ CHRISTMAS MASSES ✂

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.

Year of Jubilee 2025:

In the Catholic Church, the concept of Jubilee or 'Holy Year' was used to declare special years for forgiveness and reconciliation. The first Jubilee was declared by Pope Boniface VIII in 1300 to mark the beginning of that century. He later recommended it occurring every 100 years. Various other Popes changed the length of the interval between the observances. But Pope Saint Paul II set the present 25-year interval in the 1500s. So Holy Years are "ordinary" when they occur at regular intervals (25 years in these modern times) and "extraordinary" when they are proclaimed for a very special reason. More recently a Great Jubilee was declared in 2000 by Pope Saint John Paul II to celebrate the new millennium. That Jubilee year brought the total number of universal Jubilee years to 28 that so far had been celebrated by the Church.



Parish Christmas Card: A Christmas Card from Fr Mark & Fr Colin is available to pick up from the back of church. This details the times of our Christmas Masses. Please share them with your Family & Friends.

Jubilee Mascot: "Luce" is the mascot for the Jubilee. Her name is the Italian for "Light" and she, like each of us, is a **Pilgrim of Hope**. Look out for her in the coming year! Her first message: "Let Jesus into our world this Christmas!"



Stand up for life - The second reading of the "Assisted Dying Bill" took place last Friday and the vote was in favour of moving to the next stage for debate. The Anscombe Centre have launched a set of resources to help and encourage people to engage on this issue. The Centre now have a new 'Resources' page about assisted suicide and euthanasia and the dangers that legitimising it will cause. Go to their website: www.bioethics.org.uk in the "Educational Resources" section. It gives excellent and clear guidance to us in the light of Catholic teaching.

Write to your MP: it is believed that at least 36 MPs voted in favour to allow for further debate but will vote against if not convinced. This would be enough to defeat the bill. Thus, there is still value in writing your MP; The debate will continue and we need to keep our voices heard. It does not have to be complicated: simply ask them to oppose the "The Assisted Dying Bill". Tell them you want a society which promotes the best possible support for all human life rather than dispensing with life as though it has become too burdensome for society to care. Email your MP: FYI: Paul Foster voted in favour of the bill and Maya Ellis voted against it.
Paul Foster MP for South Ribble:
paul.foster.mp@parliament.uk
Maya Ellis MP for Ribble Valley:
maya.ellis.mp@parliament.uk
Or, write to them at: The House of Commons London. SW1A 0AA. There are also postcards provided at the back of church to send to your MP.

The 2025 Jubilee, which has the theme of "Pilgrims of Hope" will be a year of hope and trust for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the increased threats to the climate. Intended as a time of conversion and emphasis on God's mercy and forgiveness of sins, Jubilees begin with the opening of the Holy Door in St. Peter's Basilica. Holy Doors at each of the four papal basilicas in Rome are destination points for pilgrims, who pass through seeking special graces.

Jubilee World Youth Day Rome 2025 - Are you aged 16-35? Are you looking for an unforgettable opportunity to share your faith with other young Catholics? Pope Francis has announced a special World Youth Day in Rome next summer to celebrate the Church's Year of Jubilee and our diocesan Youth Ministry team invites you to be part of this once-in-a-25-year event! The pilgrimage will take place between **28 July and 3 August**. For more information and to register your interest, speak to Fr Mark or please email Salford Youth Office: youth@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Jubilee Guide Book: Alive Publishing have produced a small booklet which has a lovely explanation of the Jubilee Year including prayers and devotions. These are available at the back of Church for £1.50. Also, Mgr John Allen has produced a Jubilee guide to places in our Diocese that we can visit. We hope to have copies of this available before Christmas.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The sick, and those who care for them:

Sister Louise, Peter Clough, Dorothy Whittle, Jean Doran, Yvonne Jeffrey, Joseph O'Grady, John Stringfellow

All those who have recently died:

Andrew Sugden, Norman Brown, Christopher Ashton, Rita Swarbrick, Philomena Hanlon, Margaret Guinan

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

Our Lady & St Gerard's Notices

The Week: The Eucharistic service & Exposition planned for **Monday 16th December has been cancelled in place of the KTB Carol Concert at 7:30pm** – sorry for any inconvenience caused.

Mass on **Thursday 19th December will be at 11:45 am** and a Requiem for Margaret Guinan R.I.P.

Parish Lottery - If your membership runs from January to January please get in touch with the office if you'd like to continue. Parish Lottery subscription are still £60 for the year – Prizes are drawn monthly, and you can win excellent cash prizes (£100, £40 & £ 20) with extra prize draws during the year.

Piety Shop Christmas Raffle - The proceeds from the Piety shop which raised £260.00 which will go towards our church funds. Thanks again to all those who continually support us. Wishing you all a Happy and Peaceful Christmas. The Piety Team.

Wednesday Night Bingo - The Bingo Team are taking a well deserved break over the Christmas and New Year, Last eyes down for this year is on **18th December** with the first games of 2025 being on **Wednesday 15th January**. If you would like to help this wonderful team raise funds for the parish please come along and speak to one of the team members especially if you would like to lend a hand at 'calling'. The December Parish Lottery will be drawn that night along with the Christmas Hamper Bonus Draw.

CAFOD: As Christmas is approaching, please consider giving your friends a world gift outlined in the **CAFOD World gift catalogue** available at the back of church.

Primary School Carol Concert: Carol Concert with our KS2 Classes: Tuesday 17th December at 2pm

www.universalis.com: The readings for Mass and the Divine Office:
Scan this QR code with your camera:



St Mary's Brownedge Notices

Offertory Procession: Next Sunday 22nd December 9:30 am Mass: Worcester Family

Giving Tree 2024: This is the final weekend when we can receive presents for our Giving Tree. Gifts need to be returned with the tags on this weekend. We will be delivering to the charities we support on Monday 16th December.

SVP Collection – There will be an SVP retiring collection at both Churches on the weekend of 14th and 15th December.

Mission Red Boxes – This is the Popes chosen Charity. Thank you also to all the Collectors for their brilliant help – Anyone who would like a Red Box in their home Please contact Clare Haythornthwaite or the Parish Office.

Cafod Thank You - Many thanks to all who supported our recent coffee morning and raffle which raised £253. Name the doll, which was donated by Teresa Worden, raised £30 and was won by John Kirkwood who named her Christina. Thank you to all who supported this. Many thanks to Mary & David who supplied us with hyacinth pots, and to all who bought them, we raised a fantastic £500. It was decided that we would buy 2 World Gifts, a Community Water Supply, £750, to help a remote community establish their own supply of clean, safe water & a Medical Outreach Team, £300, to bring essential healthcare services to the most remote communities.

This Advent we are also helping families in Ukraine threatened by cold, by rebuilding walls, fixing windows and providing fuel so families can cook and keep warm. We are donating £1,000 to Cafod's Ukraine Team to help our brothers and sisters and their families stay warm this winter. Many thanks for all the support for Cafod during 2024. Wishing you all the Blessings of Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

200 Club November Winners: 1st £200 No 332 **Maureen Ogden**; 2nd £100 No 336 **Jeanette Morris**; 3rd £50 No 3 **Patricia Kelly**.

The Christmas Hamper Draw takes place this weekend. Looking for a Christmas present? Why not join in! May we wish you all a Blessed Christmas.

Chris Ashton RIP: Stella and the family would like to thank everyone for your support, kindness and prayers for Chris at this time.

W/C 07/12/2024	This Weeks Intentions
Sanctuary	Yvonne Jeffrey

Offertory 7th / 8th December 2024			
Offertory Loose	£335.46		
Offertory Envelopes	£179.07		
Attendance	140		
Bingo Jackpots for 18/12/2024			
£32	£66	£77	£26

Mass Attendance: Our attendance last weekend	
7 pm Vigil	46
9:30 am	150
6:30 p.m..	66
Total	262

Sanctuary Lamps Week 15/12/24	
1	In Memory of the Deceased Members of the Choir
2	In Loving Memory of John & Mary Dearden