



ST MARY'S BROWNEDGE

Founded c1780

SDTRTR No. 250037

St Mary's Priory, Brownedge Lane, Bamber Bridge, Preston PR5 6SP

www.stmarysbrownedge.org.uk Facebook: @stmarysbrownedge

Live Streaming via website (churchservices.tv)

Parish telephone (01772) 335168

Office Mobile 07442 385553

Parish Office email: office@stmarysbrownedge.org.uk

Our Lady of Lourdes & St Gerard Majella

Lostock Hall - Preston - PR5 5AA

Parish Tel: (01772) 335387

Office Mobile 07442 385553

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

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.

✠ 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: 10.00am; St Gerard's: 10.00am.

A Christmas Blessing:

Fr Mark & Fr Colin would like to wish all the people of our parishes every blessing in this Holy Season of Christmas. Many thanks for all that you do in helping us to build up the Kingdom of God in our community and in the wider world. May we recognise the presence of God in our midst and make Him known to those who are most in need. In the words of the final line of "A Christmas Carol" - *"as Tiny Tim observed, God bless Us, Every One!"*



For
Unto
us a
CHILD
is born
Unto us a Son
is given, and the
Government shall be
Upon His shoulders,
and His Name shall be called,
Wonderful, Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace!
Isaiah 9:6

Our Lady & St Gerard's Notices

Bingo - Wednesday Bingo is now on a short Break over the Christmas Period and will **re-start in the New Year on 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'. Happy a Happy and Holy Christmas.

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.

Hamper Winners: Our three hampers winners in the bonus drawer are 32 Mr K Bowman. 67 Mrs A Burke and 20 The Pindard Family. Congratulations to all three winners, next Bonus Draw will be in the Summer.

St Mary's Browndedge Notices

Offertory Procession: Next Sunday 29th December 9:30 am Mass: Agbewornu Family. On the 5th January the Ashe Family.

CAFOD - Thanks for the wonderful support we give to the work of CAFOD. The various efforts in the past month have raised over £1500! Many Blessings to everyone for Christmas. Next coffee morning Friday 3rd January 2025!

Parish Lunch, Sunday 26th January 2025: Order forms will be available from next weekend, 29th Dec. For further information ring David on 465313.

SVP Collection – The retiring collection at both Churches last weekend raised £236.16 thank you for your continued support.

Mission Red Boxes – This is the Pope's 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.

Christmas Giving Tree: Wow!! Once again a wonderful response to our appeal for Christmas gifts. Many thanks to everyone who contributed to our grand total of 396 presents (thanks to Bamber Bridge Post Office who added 4 more to make 400!). These were collected, organised into appropriate bags and delivered to the following organisations who were delighted and grateful for your continuous generosity. Women's refuge, Recycling lives, Bay 6, Lancashire Young Carers, Foxton Centre, The Spires, Kenmure Lodge, SLEAP, Plungington Community Centre. (Caritas), Salvation Army, Metanoia, and Wade Hall Family Centre. The blessings of Christmas to you all. A huge thank you also to those help organise and coordinate such a big operation.

St Gerard's Parish Lottery No. 602 27/12/24

1st	£100	62	Mr T Watson
2nd	£40	56	Mrs M Pails
3rd	£20	66	Mrs S Walker

W/C 22/12/2024	St Gerard's Candles:
Sanctuary	Yvonne Jeffrey
St Gerard	Norbert Hardacre
Our Lady	Norman Brown RIP
W/C 29/12/2024	
Sanctuary	Yvonne Jeffrey
St Gerard	Norbert Hardacre

St Marys Sanctuary Candles:

Week Commencing 23rd December

1. In Memory of the Deceased Members of the Choir
2. In Loving Memory of the Lancaster Family

Week Commencing 30th December

1. That MP's vote in favour of Pro-Life Issues
2. In Memory of all the friend and Family of Joan Ramsdale & Allan Swindlehurst

Make a regular financial contribution to your Church:

Our Parish Lotteries: St Mary's has a 200 Club and St Gerard's has a Parish Lottery. These are great fun ways in which we can financially support our Church. We know many people come to church at Christmas but not necessarily every week. However, **we do need regular weekly income in order to continue to exist**. Perhaps if you are not able to come more regularly, you could consider a way of making a regular financial contribution to the church: Join St Mary's 200 Club or St Gerard's Parish Lottery. Make a small commitment to support your church: A pound a week ... Send an email now to the Parish Office while you are in the Christmas spirit!

**office@stmarysbrowndedge.org.uk or
office@saintgerards.org.uk**

We will send you all the details.

Christmas Crackers:

Why couldn't the skeleton go to the Christmas party? He had no body to go with!
Who hides in the bakery at Christmas? A mince spy!
What do you call a blind reindeer? No eye deer!
What goes "Oh, oh, oh"? Santa walking backwards!
How did Mary and Joseph work out the weight of Baby Jesus when he was born?
They had a weigh in a manger! Merry 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

Joint Notices

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.

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.

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.

Salford Schools Singing Programme: The Carol Service last week was a great success; we have received a letter of thanks from Alex Patterson Cathedral Director of Music. He has also asked us to share the launch of the Salford Songbook at the Lowry, Salford Quays in May next year. The project has been in the making for a few years and it is hoped to bring the children together from across the Diocese for the occasion. There were a series of six services across the diocese: they have put together a video montage of all the children from the various schools involved in the programme singing the new hymn for the Jubilee Year, 'Pilgrims of Hope'. Tune in and view it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=viC6FxlkV0U>

Christmas Octave Morning Prayer: To celebrate the Octave of Christmas in a special way we will celebrate Morning Prayer of the Church together with Daily Mass at St Mary's at 10.00 am each day from Boxing Day until New Year's Eve. Note there will also be a Saturday morning Mass.

Masses to celebrate the New Year:

On **New Year's Eve**, Tuesday 31st December, there will be a Vigil Mass at **St Gerard's at 5.30pm** followed by refreshments.

On New Year's Day, Wednesday 1st January, there will be Mass at **St Mary's Browndegge at 12 noon** This will be followed by refreshments.

New Year's Day is the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Going to Mass is a great way to begin the New Year and pray for the intercession of Our Blessed Mother for the year that lies ahead.

New Diocesan Yearbook: This has been received this week. This year, the diocese has 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 ring bound version.

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 2025: A Jubilee Year is a year of hope and trust for our world; 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. Pope Francis will do this at 6pm (UK time) followed by the First Mass of Christmas at 6.30pm. This can be followed live on the Vatican YouTube Channel: YouTube - Search: Vatican Media Live—English. Link: [Vatican Media Live - English](#)

Salford Jubilee: Bishop Arnold will be launching the Jubilee in our Diocese on Sunday 29th December with Mass in Salford Cathedral (temporary church) at 2pm. All Welcome.

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!”



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.

Photographs may be taken during Services for display on Social Media, if you have any objections please let the photographer know at the end of the service.

Double Edition Newsletter for Sunday 22nd December & Sunday 29th December



4th Sunday of Advent: On the 4th Sunday of Advent we enter into the lives of Mary and Joseph and what happened in the gospels prior to the birth of Jesus. In this Year C, we hear of the Visitation by Mary to her cousin Elizabeth. That amazing meeting of two expectant mothers; John the Baptist leaping for joy in his mother's womb and the prophetic words of Elizabeth to Mary: "Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb!"



Feast of the Holy Family: On the Sunday after Christmas, (Dec 29) we celebrate the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph. Perhaps this year we can think in particular of how they had to take flight due to the persecution of Herod; they would have taken the road to Egypt which passes through the Gaza Strip. Because of this, the main Catholic Parish in Gaza is dedicated to the Holy Family. We pray for that community and most importantly, pray for peace!

St Mary's, Browndedge			
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
Mon	23rd Dec	9:30 am	St John of Kanty Intentions of Josie Francis (OM)
Tues	24th Dec	9:30 am 7:00 pm 11:30 pm Midnight	Ann & Charles Sergeant First Mass of Christmas Jake Sanderson Carols by Candlelight Midnight Mass The Parish
Wed	25th Dec	9:30 am	The Nativity of the Lord Christmas Day Mass Peter & Veronica Haythornthwaite
Thurs	26th Dec	10:00 am	St Stephen Harold & Ellen Dixon (F)
Fri	27th Dec	10:00 am	St John the Evangelist (F) Family of Allan Swindlehurst
Sat	28th Dec	10:00 am	The Holy Innocents (F) In memory of children who have died
	Vigil	7:00 pm	Feast of the Holy Family The Parish
Sun	29th Dec	9:30 am 6:30 pm	Feast of the Holy Family Anna Cross Jimmy Parkinson (Ann)
Mon	30th Dec	10:00 am	Frank Ogden
Tues	31st Dec	10:00 am	St Sylvester Audrey Gould
Wed	1st Jan	12 noon	Holy Mary, Mother of God (s) Andrew Sugden RIP
Thurs	2nd Jan	9.30 am	St Gregory Maria Swarbrick (M)
Friday	3rd Jan	9.30 am	Sheila Wood RIP
Sat	4th Jan Vigil	7:00 pm	The Epiphany of the Lord Michael & Catherine Carty & Mary & Michael McNamara
Sun	5th Jan	9:30 am 6:30 pm	The Epiphany of the Lord The Parish Ellen Bradley & Susan Harold

St Gerard's, Lostock Hall			
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
Mon	23rd Dec	6:00 pm 6:30 pm	Exposition Service of the Word and Holy Communion
Tues	24th Dec	5:00 pm 5:30 pm	Carols First Mass of Christmas Gordon Hunt
Wed	25th Dec	10:30 am	The Nativity of the Lord Christmas Day Mass The Parish
Thurs	26th Dec	10:00 am	St Stephen (F) William Gardner
Fri	27th Dec		NO SERVICES
Sat	28th Dec	5:30 pm	Feast of the Holy Family Josephine Topping
Sun	29th Dec	10:30 am	Feast of the Holy Family The Parish
Mon	30th Dec		NO SERVICES
Tues	31st Dec	5.30 pm	New Year's Eve Vigil Mass Holy Mary Mother of God (s) James & Letitia Harold
Wed	1st Jan		NO SERVICES
Thurs	2nd Jan	9:15 am	Sacred Heart Guild
Friday	3rd Jan		NO SERVICES
Sat	4th Jan Vigil	5:30 pm	The Epiphany of the Lord The Parish
Sun	5th Jan	10:30 am 12 noon	The Epiphany of the Lord Peter Craven (Ann) Baptism of Lucy Cole & Quincy Bruney

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)

Holy Rosary: Recorded Stream online at 8 pm each evening