

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 FAX 332054 **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), Fr Colin Battell OSB.
 Tel: Fr Mark 332050; Fr Colin 321201.

The Nativity of the Lord

25th December 2022

St Mary's, Brownedge			
Sat	24th Dec Vigil	7:00 pm 11:30 pm Midnight	Nativity of the Lord Peter Haythornthwaite Carols by Candlelight Ann & Charles Sergeant
Sun	25th Dec	9:30 am	Nativity of the Lord The Parish
Mon	26th Dec	10:00 am 11:00 am	St Stephen (F) Michael Jones Baptism of Jack David Robinson
Tues	27th Dec	10:00 am	St John the Evangelist (F) Harold & Ella Dixon
Wed	28th Dec	10:00 am	The Holy Innocents (F) Denis, Michael Bibby & Susan Cole
Thurs	29th Dec	10:00 am	St Thomas of Canterbury (F) Intentions of Josie Francis
Friday	30th Dec	10:00 am 11:15 am	The Holy Family (F) Patrick Carmody Funeral of David Hattemore
Sat	31st Dec Vigil	7:00 pm	Mary, Holy Mother of God Chris Nihill
Sun	1st Jan 2023	9:30 am 6:30 pm	Mary, Holy Mother of God The Parish Judy Pinto (LD)

St Gerard's, Lostock Hall			
Sat	24th Dec Vigil	5:00 pm 5:30 pm	Nativity of the Lord Carols Susan Swarbrick & Family
Sun	25th Dec	10:30 am	Nativity of the Lord The Parish
Mon	26th Dec	10:00 am	St Stephen (F)
Tues	27th Dec	9:15 am	St John the Evangelist (F) Teresa Yates RIP
Wed	28th Dec	9:15 am	Celebration of the Word & Holy Communion
Thurs	29th Dec	9:15 am	St Thomas of Canterbury (F) Francis Tipping-Alston RIP & George Rogen
Friday	30th Dec		No MASS
Sat	31st Dec Vigil	5:30 pm	Mary, Holy Mother of God Gordon Hunt RIP
Sun	1st Jan 2023	10:30 am	Mary, Holy Mother of God The Parish

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at St. Mary's
 Tuesday & Thursday 3 pm to 4 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 8 pm each evening

Services at St. Mary's can be viewed live or on playback at any time on:

www.stmarysbrownedge.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. It is a great source of spiritual support for those who cannot go to church.

CYCLE OF PRAYER 24th / 25th December - Let us pray for the parish of Our Lady of Grace, Prestwich, for Father Philip Caldwell, their parish priest, Mgr John Allen, for their parish primary school, for the chaplaincy to Prestwich Hospital, and the Sisters of Our Lady of Sion. May the Child of Mary pour out his grace on the parish and on all whom they serve.

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

Piety Shop - The Piety Shop has a number of items on sale suitable for Christmas presents. Please spare some time to have a look and see what is on offer.

Children's Masses - Thank you to the children who read and helped at Mass recently for a beautiful celebration of "Bambinelli Sunday". If you would like your child(ren) to be considered for roles within children's Masses in the future please email Daniel Ballard dwdb27@yahoo.co.uk stating what they would be happy for their child(ren) to do? i.e. small reading; longer reading; prayer; offertory etc. It would be good to build up a group of children that we can call upon for these occasions and help them gain confidence in doing this. All children and young people are invited to take part in this.

Parish Register - We have had only one submission so far to update our Parish Register. Please complete a form if you have **moved home, had additions to the family or not completed one previously**. The forms are available in the porch, on our website or via the QR code here.



"The Letter" - a video on the environment by Pope Francis. In continuing to look at how we can care for our created world, we are encouraged to watch a beautifully-produced film called 'The letter'. It's on Youtube, is free to watch and focuses on Pope Francis's encyclical 'Laudato Si'. It's well worth watching as it exposes the huge problems facing all of us, especially those in the developing world who are on the front line of the effects of climate change.

Parish Bingo is now taking a break and will restart on in the New Year on January 4th 2023. Thank you for your continued support. If you would like to join us there is always room for a few more.

Lottery - If you pay annually at the end of December please remember to re-new your membership by the end of the month. If you are unsure about your renewal date we will be contacted you after Christmas.

If you would like to join New members are always welcome and application forms can be found in the porch or on our website.

LOST MOBILE - A parishioner has lost her Samsung Mobile phone. Believed to be from somewhere outside the Parochial Centre after the Senior Citizens Party on 3rd December. If anyone has found it the owner is offering a reward for its safe return. Please contact the Parish office and we will put you in touch with her.

Recently Deceased and Prayers for the Sick are now part of the Joint Notices on the back page.

W/C 25/12/2022	This Weeks Intentions
Sanctuary	The Robinson Family
St Gerard	In Thanksgiving
Our Lady	Isabel & Mary Ruth McGary
W/C 1/1/2023	
Sanctuary	Doreen & George Wane
St Gerard	Ruth

Offertory 17th / 18th December 2022			
Offertory Loose	£244.93		
Offertory Envelopes	£170.90		
Attendance	148		
Bingo Jackpots for 4/1/2023			
£39	£53	£43	£35

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.

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

St Mary's Brownedge Notices

Baptism: Welcome to Jack David Robinson who will be baptised into the Body of Christ on Monday 26th December at 11:00 am.

Offertory Procession: Next Sunday 1st January 9:30 am Mass: Ryles Family. Volunteers are needed for bringing up the offertory gifts at all the Masses.

Masses in the Octave Christmas: Mass from Monday 26th—Friday 30th Dec at St Mary's will be at 10am each day. As in previous years we will include Morning of the Church as part of the celebration of Mass during this week. Come along and continue to celebrate Christmas during these days.

Women's Refuge – After a very quiet few months we have had requests for Shampoo, Conditioner and toiletries. A box will be placed at the back of Church for donations, Thank you.

Parish Register - Submissions for the register have trickled to a stop in recent weeks. We are a large parish but the number of entries on the register do not represent it. Christmas is an ideal time to get our house in order and up to date so please if you haven't already completed the registration spare a little time over the holiday and complete it. The quickest method is on-line via the form mentioned below. We are asking every family to complete one of the forms (regardless of previous submissions) in the Porch and return it to the parish office. You can also complete the form on-line using the QR code or if you prefer by following this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/JJKiLyNCbG>. This is a big exercise and your support in completing the forms is appreciated. Please **do not** complete an on-line and a paper version as this causes unnecessary administration.



St Mary & St Benedict's Primary School - Could you set aside some time each week to volunteer within school and help our children with their learning? We are actively seeking for adults to listen to children read. We will ensure that everything is done to safeguard all concerned. If you have any questions, Tony Turner, a school governor and passionate advocate of school, or myself would be happy to answer them. Wishing you every blessing. Mr Daniel Ballard, Headteacher.

QR Code Easy donation: as well the contactless giving machine in church, we now have a new and easy way to donate to the parish: open the camera on your phone and focus on the QR code; then click on the link which appears on your screen, and it will take to a direct giving page for the parish. Enter your card details and the amount you wish to donate. If you pay tax, you can gift aid it as well! You can use the QR posters which are near the Church



entrances, or you can use the code here on this newsletter and do in the comfort of your own home. Thank you for supporting your parish.

World Youth Day 2023: Lisbon 31 July—7 August 2023, and is open to young adults between the ages of 18 and 35. **Two Altar Servers from St Gerard's have already signed up to go, if you would like to join them Speak to Fr Mark** or see www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/youth/how-to-get-involved/ **The parish will help to fundraise for any young person who wishes to go.**

Help the Diocese on its journey to net zero - the Diocese of Salford is working hard to reduce its carbon emissions. we would be very grateful if parishioners could complete a short survey to help us understand a little more about their own journeys to and from church. Please visit <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/travel-survey/> to find out more and to complete the survey.



Sanctuary Lamps Week 5	
1	Pregnant Mothers & mothers of Young
2	
Mass Attendance: Remember that we as Catholics we should attend Sunday Mass. Do encourage your friends and neighbours to return to Mass. Our attendance last weekend is shown below.	
7 pm Vigil	58
9:30 am	172
6:30 p.m..	49
Total	279

Joint Notices



Nativity of the Lord:

"The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light; on those who live in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. You have made their gladness greater, you have made

their joy increase". The opening words of the first reading of the Mass on Christmas Night lift our hearts with joy. There is much to reflect on in our lives and in world and for many people there is a darkness which causes such pain and anxiety. This night tells us that the darkness does win. God chooses to take on our flesh and become one of us. He takes on the darkness which is part of our experience and he conquers it. "For there is a child born for us, a son given to us and dominion is laid on his shoulders; and this is the name they give him: Wonder-Counsellor, Mighty-God, Eternal-Father, Prince-of-Peace". Here is something to celebrate!

A Happy and Holy Christmas!

Fr Mark & Fr Colin wish you all every blessing at this sacred time. Many thanks to everyone who helps in the parishes in so many ways. Your offerings of time, energy, creativity, financial support, participation, kindness, counsel and above all, your prayer, all contribute towards building true communion and the kingdom of God in our midst. May our celebration of Christmas demonstrate to us all that through the coming of the Child of Bethlehem, "God is with us"!

CHRISTMAS CARD - Our 'Call to Lead' youth have produced a Christmas Card for the two parishes. These are available in the church porches. **Please take one per family** (there should be enough based on Parish Register submissions). If you know of a parishioner who is housebound please take one for them as well.

Boxing Day, Feast of St Stephen: There will be Mass in both churches at 10am on 26th December. It will include a blessing for Altar Servers on the feast of St Stephen, Patron Saint of Altar Servers.

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.**

"Giving Tree": Another Amazing Year! Many Thanks for your very generous donations of Christmas presents for the Giving Tree. They were distributed on Monday to the following organisations who were extremely grateful for our continued support in these difficult times: Caritas, Recycling Lives, Women's Refuge, Bay 6 / Young Carers, Foxton Centre, SLEAP, The Spires, Wade

Hall Community Centre, Salvation Army and Metanoia.

St Catherine's Hospice Mass: Fr Mark & Fr Colin have been celebrating a weekly Mass in the lovely chapel at St Catherine's Hospice, but due to Covid, this has been for patients and relatives only. However from the New Year this will be open for anyone to attend. It would be good to have a rota to ensure that there is always someone there to help the priest. Please inform the office if you are willing to help with this. It is a very good thing to celebrate Mass for all the work which St Catherine's does for our community. The first one will be on **Wednesday 4th January at 2.30pm**, then each Wednesday at 2.30pm.

Call to Lead: A group for young people aged 13-18— Our next get together of: "A Call to Lead" is on Tuesday 10th January 2023 between 7:00pm until 8:00pm at "The Shields Centre" (located behind the Church and JR Boxing Gym on Brownedge Road, Lostock Hall PR5 5AA)

If you haven't been before then please join us. To those that were here at the November meeting, we discussed doing your journal to bring with you to the next session! This can be in a note book or exercise book and should reflect you as an individual.

Catholic Post: We have been sent 50 free copies of the Catholic Post for December for both churches. Please take one from the Porch.

Date for your Diary - The Annual Brownedge St Mary's Church Parish Dinner will be on **Sunday 29th January 2023** - Order forms are available to pick up from the church from 26th December.

Readings for Mass and the Divine Office: www.universalis.com has all the prayers and readings of Mass each day. Click on the link on our parish website homepage and it takes you to all the liturgies for that day. Scan this QR code with the camera on a smartphone and it will take you directly to the Mass readings of the day.



Christmas Greetings: Fr Jonathan Cotton OSB, sends Christmas greetings to everyone. Fr Jonathan is now working with the Focalare Movement at one of their centres near Florence. He is trying to keep a "Blog" about his experience which can be found online:

www.jonathancottonosb.blogspot.com

PLEASE PRAY FOR

The sick, and those who care for them:

Patrick Mackey (SG) Kath Kelly (SM),
Sr Louise Shields, Mary Yeomans. (SM)

All Those who have Recently Died:

Francis Parkinson (SG) David Hattemore (SM)
Michael Knapton (SG) Connie Dixon (SM)