



Our Lady of Lourdes & St Gerard Majella

Lostock Hall - Preston - PR5 5AA

Parish Team Fr Joseph Gee & Sister Louise Shields RNDM

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Second Sunday of Christmas

Year B

3rd January 2021



Our hope is in God, not in the sense of a generic religiosity or a fatalism cloaked in faith. We trust in God who revealed completely and definitively in Jesus Christ his desire to be with human beings, to share in our history, to guide us all to his Kingdom of love and life. And this great hope enlivens and at times corrects our human hopes. Three extraordinarily rich biblical Readings speak to us today of this revelation: chapter 24 of the Book of Ecclesiasticus, the opening hymn of St Paul's Letter to the Ephesians and the Prologue of John's Gospel. These texts affirm that God is not only the Creator of the universe, an aspect common to other religions too, but that he is the Father who "chose us in him before the foundation of the world He destined us in love to be his sons through Jesus Christ", and that for this reason he even, inconceivably, went so far as to make himself man: "the Word became flesh and dwelled among us".

(Pope Benedict XVI)

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

CHURCHES STAY OPEN

Lancashire has been placed in Tier 4 restrictions from Thursday 31st December. We can still open again for Public Masses thankfully. Please remember to maintain social distancing and follow the instructions from the stewards when attending. There is also the opportunity to attend St Mary's at Brownedge for Private Prayer on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3pm until 4pm. The live streaming of Holy Mass from St Mary's, and other churches, will continue via www.churchservices.tv

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

CAFOD

A donation has been made to Cafod on behalf of St Gerard's for a community water supply kit which will help a remote vulnerable community to establish their own supply of fresh clean water.



Altar Servers Online Retreat

- *'Serving God and our neighbour in the everyday'*
Saturday 27th 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 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.

BROWNEDGE ST MARY'S FOOD BANK



Thank you most sincerely for your ongoing generous support of the food bank. There is a particular need at the moment for donations of tinned potatoes, tinned carrots and long-life milk. Please leave all donations in the Priory porch at Brownedge Church, Bamber Bridge.

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

20 + C + M + B + 21

In many European Countries, Christians of all denominations follow the annual tradition of 'chalking the door'. Your local parish may provide blessed chalk the weekend before the epiphany. You may wish to write the following by your front door, this is a great witness to all who will see it:

- The first two and last two digits represents the new year: 2021.
- The letter C, M and B stand for the Latin phrase: Christus Mansionem Benedicat, which means: MAY CHRIST BLESS THIS HOUSE.
- It also helps you remember the names of the three Wise Men: Caspar (also known as Gaspar or Jaspas), Melchior and Balthasar.

Chalking the door of your house is a sign of hospitality and of welcoming God into your home and is a great way to start the New Year! The family could say together this prayer:

Let us pray: Bless, O Lord God almighty, this home, that in it there may be health, purity, the strength of victory, humility, goodness and mercy, the fulfilment of your law, the thanksgiving to God the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. And may this blessing remain upon this home and upon all who live here. Through Christ our Lord. Amen .

E	D	E	E	G	A	M	O	H	T
C	H	L	K	I	D	E	T	S	E
H	T	I	I	N	I	H	A	A	G
I	N	H	N	H	H	E	S	T	E
T	A	R	G	F	C	L	O	R	A
A	F	R	O	I	E	H	A	A	M
D	N	Y	L	A	L	T	A	S	O
E	I	M	D	R	S	E	R	R	H
S	K	E	T	A	D	B	D	Y	I
A	R	B	E	T	L	E	M	E	M

St Gerard's, Lostock Hall			
Sat	2nd Jan Vigil	18:00	St Basil & St Gregory (M) Sacred Heart Guild
Sun	3rd Jan	10:00	2nd Sunday of Christmas The Parish
Mon	4th Jan	6:30 pm	Blessed Sacrament Guild
Tues	5th Jan	Vigil 6:30 pm	The Epiphany of the Lord (S) Margaret & Peter Craven
Wed	6th Jan	9:15 am	The Epiphany of the Lord (S) The Parish
Thurs	7th Jan	09:15 am	
Fri	8th Jan		NO MASS
Sat	9th Jan Vigil	18:00	
Sun	10th Jan	10:00	The Baptism of the Lord The Parish

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



If you're planning to switch energy provider to avoid the upcoming price rises. You can save money and help us raise UP TO £25 for Our Lady of Lourdes and Saint Gerard Majella RC Church - it really works! Most of the big the comparison sites like uSwitch, Money Supermarket and Energyhelpline offer donations. Visit: www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/saintgerards/ and start your search from there.

- BETHLEHEM
- EAST
- INFANT
- KING
- STAR
- HOMAGE
- LEADER
- DATE
- CHILD
- DELIGHT
- GOLD
- MYRRH



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