



Our Lady of Lourdes & St Gerard Majella

Lostock Hall - Preston - PR5 5AA

Parish Team Fr Joseph Gee & Sister Louise Shields RNDM

Parish Tel: (01772) 335387

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

Facebook : @stgerardslostockhall Twitter : @stgerardslostoc Instagram : @stgerardslostock

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Year B

20th December 2020



Here we enter a new stage of Advent: having spent so much time on the Second Coming, now we look back, to remember the details of the Lord's First Coming. Today we focus on the character of Mary, and hear of the angel Gabriel being sent to her, to invite her to take her part in the mystery of the Incarnation, the revelation of the mystery kept secret for endless ages. This mystery springs from the House of David, and so we lead into the Gospel by hearing of the establishing of that house. An interesting idea is that the first reading talks of David wishing to build a house for the Lord; through the prophet he is told not of the house that he would build, but the House which is his line: eventually, in Mary (betrothed to Joseph) the House of David does itself become the house of the Lord, the womb wherein he has a dwelling place.

W/C 20/12/2020 This Weeks Intentions

Sacred Heart	Gordon Hunt R.I.P.
Our Lady	Living & Deceased member of the Shields Family
St Gerard	Joshua & Bernadette (nee McGivern)

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

Father Joe and Sister Louise wish you all a Very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

Bambinelli Sunday: On the 4th Sunday of Advent, 20th December, you are invited to bring crib figures of the baby Jesus from your home crib scene to Mass to be blessed at Mass.

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 obedient 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

PLANNING FOR CHRISTMAS - As part of our continuing preparation for the Christmas Masses, a meeting of the stewards is taking place on 21st December to finalise arrangements. **For all those who have booked and are attending these**

Masses, on arrival please follow the guidance of the stewards who will direct you to your pre-allocated place. These measures are necessary to ensure we can safely accommodate as many as possible within the current restrictions which include a limit of approximately 65 people in our church.

Just a reminder that there will be 3 Masses on offer initially 5 pm on Christmas Eve & 6:15 pm on Christmas Eve (**are BOTH FULL**) and 10 am on Christmas Day. **The Christmas Day Mass still has places available.** Thank you to those who have already completed the Booking Forms. If the places available are all taken for these Masses we will offer a further Mass at 8:30 am on Christmas Day. Booking Forms are now available both in the Church & via the website. These should be taken and Returned as soon as possible to the Presbytery. There will be NO EXTRA seating at the end of benches and each booking is limited to 6 people or family bubble. Please remember though at this time there is STILL NO OBLIGATION TO ATTEND MASS and you can, of course, watch the services at St Marys or other churches online via www.churchservices.tv/bamberbridge.

If you haven't pre-booked we are afraid you will not be able to enter the Church. Please ensure your family and friends are aware of the prebooking system to avoid disappointment. **Please remember to tell the office if you have booked and need to cancel so that we can allocated your places to someone else.**

CHURCHES OPENING AGAIN - Lancashire has been placed back into Tier 3 restrictions from Wednesday 2nd December which means we can open again for Public Masses. 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

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.

SEND A MESSAGE TO THE BRAVE THIS ADVENT - Please consider sending a card to one of the brave men and women fighting for justice throughout the world sometimes at great risk to their own safety. People such as Maisoon Badawi a Palestinian citizen of Israel who works for Yesh Din the Israeli Human Rights Organisation. She works tirelessly helping Palestinian victims of human rights violations fight for their rights. Further details at cafod.org.uk/messagetobrave. Send your completed card and a personal message addressed to your defender to The Campaigns Team Romero House 55, Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7JB and it will be forwarded for you.

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.

Christmas Prayer

O God, who gladden us year by year as we wait in hope for our redemption, grant that, just as we joyfully welcome your Only Begotten Son as our Redeemer, we may also merit to face him confidently when he comes again as our Judge.
Amen

St Gerard's, Lostock Hall			
Sat	19th Dec Vigil	18:00	Mary & Herbert Jackson
Sun	20th Dec	10:00	4th Sunday of Advent The Parish
Mon	21st Dec	11:30 am	Requiem for Jean Willis R.I.P. No Evening Mass this week
Tues	22nd Dec	9:15 am	William Gardner R.I.P.
Wed	23rd Dec	9:15 am	Frances Shields R.I.P.
Thurs	24th Dec	5:00 pm 6:15 pm	Christmas Eve Vincent Calderbank R.I.P. Doreen & George Wane R.I.P.
Fri	25th Dec	10:00 am	Christmas Day (S) Thomas & Teresa Miller
Sat	26th Dec Vigil	18:00	St Stephen (F) Winifred Ward R.I.P.
Sun	27th Dec	10:00	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph 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	Mass	9:30 am
Tuesday	Mass	9:30 am
Wednesday	Mass	9:30 am
24th December Christmas Eve	Mass	5:30 pm Fully Booked 7:00 pm 11:30 pm Carols followed by 12 :00 Midnight Mass
25th December Christmas Day	Mass	10:00 am
Saturday	Mass	9:30 am 7 pm Vigil
Sunday	Mass	9:30 am 11:00 & 6:30 pm
Open for Private Prayer	Tuesday	3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Christmas at Home - The Diocese has produced a lot of material for those at home this Christmas it can be accessed via this link.

<https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/christmas-at-home/?hilite=%27christmas%27%2C%27home%27>

G	A	B	R	H	E	S	U	O	H
A	J	O	S	T	N	O	S	T	A
B	A	R	R	E	N	N	E	M	N
R	C	E	E	R	D	B	D	A	D
I	O	C	J	A	A	I	A	Y	M
E	B	H	O	Z	S	L	V	R	A
L	N	I	I	A	E	U	I	A	I
O	S	L	C	N	G	O	S	M	D
R	E	D	E	N	A	N	G	E	L
D	A	V	I	H	P	E	S	O	J

ANGEL	GABRIEL	JOSEPH
MARY	REJOICE	SON
LORD	JESUS	CHILD
ELIZABETH	BARREN	HANDMAID



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