



Blessed Trinity

20th December 2025

The Immaculate Conception

St Gerard's

To be a joyful, inclusive Christ-centred community, drawing people to know Jesus through our words and actions.



## Marriage Matters - Fourth Sunday of Advent - Taking Courage from Love

The Gospel relates how Joseph overcame his serious doubts about Mary - and married her! She too had faced her own fears about the future - and said Yes! We too can have doubts and lack of confidence in the future, but like Mary and Joseph we can take courage from our love for each other and God's love for us too.

## Marriage Matters - Midnight Mass - Excitement and Joy

Mary knew the excitement and joy of this special day; Joseph too. He and Mary were 'together' beginning a new journey and no doubt believed that all was going to be well. We too, like Mary and Joseph, need to be open to the joy and excitements of new beginnings 'together', especially when they involve experiences that are totally new.

**Christmas Masses** The Christmas Masses will be as follows, December 24th 3pm Vigil Mass at St Gerard's, Midnight Mass at the Immaculate Conception and on the 25th December 9am Morning Mass at the Immaculate Conception.

**Penitential Service:** An Advent Penitential Service will be held at the Immaculate Conception at 6-30pm onwards on the 23rd December with at least three priests present. An opportunity to be properly prepared to receive the Lord over the Christmas season.

**Community Gathering**—The next community gathering will take place on Monday 19th January at the Immaculate Conception 6pm to 7-30pm.

**Our Local SVP Group** is here to help and support people going through though financial times and all done in a confidential and none judgmental way. Text 07503 121624 and someone will get back to you. Everyone needs a helping hand sometimes - you are not alone. Please reach out or share with anyone who might need help.

## Finances of the Parishes

If you wish to set up a standing order or make a bank transfer to one of the parish accounts the details you require are given below.

Immaculate Conception (St Mary's) sort code 404107 account number 51094262

St Gerard's Thrybergh sort code 404107 account number 11095110

**Anniversaries:** 20th James O'Connor, May Eyre, Tom Brown, 21st Elizabeth Gwynne, David McNicholas, 22nd Eileen Byod, Geoffery Francis, canon David Ryan, 23rd Dorren Lee, Gerald Griffin, Edgar Clarke, Eleanor Collins, Roy Pilton, Susan McCarron, Andrew Ball, Ellen Maureen Unsworth, Rose Hall, 24th Alfred Pratt, James Barboza, WM Crossland, Thomas Higgins Jnr, 25th Eileen Whitehouse, Anne Love, Barry Nevin, 26th Alan Browne, Desie McDonald, Beatriude Kelsall, Jim Scanlon, Mr & Mrs Thomas, 27th Mary Josephine Cullen, 28th William Lynskey, Bradley Smith, Hilda Devine, Laurence Malone, Fr Anthony Atree, 29th Abraham Joseph, Peter

Fallon, Abraham Neduvam-pugha, Alan Wood, Florence Hizzard, Mary Catherine Gannon, Edna Mackin, 30th Ann Rossall, Maddie Hulmes, Veronica Feather, Madelaine Humes, Sydney Halder, 31st Nancy Hunt, Donal & Maura O'Shea, Kathleen Wood. 1st January Gerry Rattigan, Jesie Garvey, Jessie Sims, Margaret Martin, Peter Hurley, Alice Cope, Anna Leggio, Antonio Paneduro, Christina Lee, Elamma Joseph, Maria Venezia, Marisa Bujjia, Padre Giaccone Mario, Padre Massimiliano, Pera Fulcro, Ron Durbin, Soamyus, Suor Maria Dell' Incariyazione, Zia Maria, 2nd JR Crossland, Terence Lumb, Tom Kelsall, Albert Ripley Jnr, Dot Nightingdale, Kenneth Nightingdale, Agnes

Richardson, Mark Gwynnne, Mrs Daulton, 3rd Heather Yarnell, Fr Robert Woodbridge, Fr Philip Kelly, 4th Florence Bunting, Roy Rookes, Agnes Conway, Winifred Egan, Maria Emerson, James Kavanagh, Geoffrey Spencer Dilley, Mary (Mollie) Mangan,

If you would like to add someone to our record of anniversaries, please forward the details of the person's name and date of the anniversary of their death to office@tpicr.co.uk

**Recent Deaths:** Paul Micklethwaite, Helena Ward

We pray for all who are ill.

### **Enquiries about becoming a Catholic**

Several people have expressed an interest in getting to know more about the Catholic faith. If you are interested, then please text Fr Desmond on 07983142653 or email desmond.57@btinternet.com. He will arrange a time to meet and discuss when you will be able to begin your exploration of faith.

**Parking around the Immaculate Conception.** As we approach a very special time of the year our car parks will be busier than usual. We ask that you park only in the spaces provided. This is to ensure safety & convenience. Thank you

I have received a complaint from a resident living on Goldsmith Road about parishioners parking on Saturday and Sundays in such a way that the resident cannot get out of their driveway and onto the street. I have asked the person to supply me with the registration numbers of the offenders, and I will follow this up. In the meantime, the community police may start conducting patrols and fining offenders. Please let us be thoughtful and considerate towards our neighbours around the church premises.

**Confession:** Confession at St Gerard's 10-30am on the 20th & 27th December and at the Immaculate Conception 5-15pm on the 20th & 27th December, 3rd January and on Mondays after the 10 am Mass.

There will also be a **Penitential Service** at the Immaculate Conception on Tuesday 23rd December at 6-30pm.

**Anointing of the Sick:** This will take place at the Immaculate Conception during the 10am Mass on Monday 22nd December and St Gerard's at the 10am Mass on the 31st December.

### **Men's Prayer Group**

Thank you to all who came and took part in the November Men's Prayer Group. Our next Prayer Meeting will be on Monday 5th January 6-30pm at the Immaculate Conception, Herringthorpe and will be inspired by the celebration of the Epiphany.

The Weeks ahead:

Immaculate Conception	Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	5:15 6pm	Confession 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent	Kathleen & Bill Jenkinson
Immaculate Conception	Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup>	9am	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent	POP
St Gerard's		11am	4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent	
Immaculate Conception	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	10am	22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Antoine France
St Gerard's	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10am	23 <sup>rd</sup> December	Christine Haynes
St Gerard's	Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	10am	24 <sup>th</sup> December	
St Gerard's	Christmas Eve	3pm	Christmas Vigil Mass	Tom Higgins
Immaculate Conception		12pm	Christmas Midnight Mass	POP
Immaculate Conception	Christmas Day	9am	Christmas Morning Mass	Thanksgiving
Immaculate Conception	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup>	11am	St Stephen	Fr James Shryan
St Gerard's	Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> December	11am	St John Apostle	Special Intention
Immaculate Conception		5pm 6pm	Confession The Holy Family	Barry Frost
Immaculate Conception	Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup>	9am	The Holy Family	Frank Canny
		11am	The Holy Family	POP
Immaculate Conception	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup>	10am	St Thomas Becket	Deborah Cohen
St Gerard's	Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	10am	6 <sup>th</sup> Day of the Christmas Octave	Sue Powney & Eileen Gould
St Gerard's	Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup>	10am	Weekday of Advent	Juvenal Viveiros
Immaculate Conception		6-00 6-30	Adoration Vigil Mass for Mary Mother of God	Holy Souls
Immaculate Conception	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> January	10am	Mary Holy Mother of God	Owen Jenkinson & Family
Immaculate Conception	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	10am	St Basil and St Gregory	T. Bennet
Immaculate Conception	Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	12pm	Requiem Mass	Robert Grenville Dugher
		5-15 6pm	Confessions 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Christmas	POP
Immaculate Conception	Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	9am	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Christmas	Tom & Olga Kelsall
St Gerard's		11am	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Christmas	Alan Browne

**Next Joint Parish Meeting**—Our next meeting is at St Gerard's on the 13th January at 6-30pm. This is an opportunity for you to become informed and more involved with the mission of the parishes of the Immaculate Conception and St Gerard's

**Second Collections**—The first three second collections for 2026 are as follows: Zambia Appeal 17/18 January, Racial Justice 31 January/1 February and Sick and Retired Clergy of the Diocese 7/8 February.

The Zambia Appeal is a charity set up by parishioners at the Blessed Trinity Wickersley and headed by Chris McClare. It raises funds to buy building materials which Chris coordinates. Chris is a brick layer by trade, he literally buys the bricks and lays them himself. In this way small communities have been able to have a small hospital and schools.

**Joint Evensong at St Leonard's Thrybergh**—The parish of St Leonard's Thrybergh have invited the parishioners of St Gerard's to a service of Evensong on Sunday evening 11th January at 5pm. This is the first joint parish prayer service in the area for some years. I invite you to make a note in your diary and attend the service. We hope to host another joint service at St Gerard's in June and both parishes are planning to put on a joint Alpha course between the 15th April and 24th June. The venue will be the recently renovated St Leonard's Church Hall just off Poplar Avenue.

#### **Feasts and Saints**

**St Stephen (26th December)**: He is one of the seven men appointed as deacons in Acts Ch6. Later he was falsely charged for using blasphemous words and after he gave his defence he was stoned by the crowd, Acts Ch7, becoming the first martyr of the Christian faith.

**St John the Apostle (27th December)**: John is one of the apostles and associated with the writing of the Gospel according to John. His brother James was another apostle of the Lord.

**The Holy Family (28th December)**: This feast celebrates the life of Jesus with Mary and Joseph, held by the Catholic faith as the perfect model of family life embodying love, faith, humility, and patience. The Feast is celebrated on the Sunday after Christmas Day.

**St Thomas Becket (29th December)**: English cleric and statesman who served as Lord Chancellor from 1155 to 1162, and then as Archbishop of Canterbury from 1162 to 1170. He is known for his conflict with King Henry II over the rights and privileges of the Church and was murdered by followers of the King at Canterbury Cathedral. St Thomas stood firm in defence of truth and right, even at the cost of his life.

Mary

**Mother of God (1st January)**: Mary's divine motherhood is an important part of the understanding of the Incarnation and the Second person of the Blessed Trinity. Her life as Mother of God has a unique position in God's redemptive plan.

St

**Basil the Great and St Gregory (2nd January)**: These two saints were bishops and friends who bravely stood up against the heresy of Arianism which denied the divinity of Christ. They also contributed towards the teaching of the Holy Trinity. Their focus on prayer helped to prepare them for their common mission.

#### **100 Club**

Thank you to all 100 club members at Immaculate Conception and St. Gerard's  
for your continued support  
We wish you the best of luck in the 2026 monthly draws.