



St Mary's Brownedge

Founded c1780

SDTRTR No. 250037

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

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Live Streaming via website (churchservices.tv)

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Our Lady of Lourdes & St Gerard Majella

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Parish Clergy: Fr Mark Harold (Rural Dean & Parish Priest),

Tel: 01772 335168; email: pp@stmarysbrownedge.org.uk Fr Colin Battell OSB. Tel: 01772 321201.

FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT (Year A)

30th November 2025

St Mary's, Brownedge			
Sat	29th Nov Vigil	4:00 pm 7:00 pm	Cecilian Choir Concert First Sunday of Advent Harold Whiteside
Sun	30th Nov	9:30 am 11:00am 3.00 pm 6:30 pm	First Sunday of Advent The Parish Baptism of Annabelle Fisher Advent Carol Service Marie Hebblethwaite
Mon	1st Dec	12 noon	St Ralph Sherwin & Companions; Martyrs of the Venerable English College, Rome Joan & Allan—For Better Health
Tues	2nd Dec	9:30 am	Constance 'Connie' Hardacre 100th Birthday celebrations
Wed	3rd Dec	9:30 am	St Francis Xavier (OM) Whole School Mass - Advent Livesey & Sheehan Families
Thurs	4th Dec	9.30 am	St John Damascene (OM) Winifred Livesey
Fri	5th Dec	9:30 am	Holy Souls
Sat	6th Dec Vigil	11.00am 7:00 pm	St Nicholas (OM) First Reconciliation Service Second Sunday of Advent Derek Nickson R.I.P.
Sun	7th Dec	9:30 am 6:30 pm	Second Sunday of Advent Brian Stead (Anniversary) The Parish

St Gerard's, Lostock Hall			
Sat	29th Nov Vigil	5:30 pm	First Sunday of Advent James Maher
Sun	30th Nov	10:30 am 11:30 am	First Sunday of Advent The Parish Christmas Fair
Mon	1st Dec	6:00 pm 6:30 pm	Exposition Service of the Word
Tues	2nd Dec	10:00 am	Requiem Mass for Joseph Clifford Hughes R.I.P.
Wed	3rd Dec	9:15 am	St Francis Xavier (OM) Service of the Word
Thurs	4th Dec	6:30 pm	St John Damascene (OM) Nellie Smith (Anniversary)
Fri	5th Dec		NO SERVICES
Sat	6th Dec Vigil	5:30 pm	St Nicholas (OM) Second Sunday of Advent Sacred Heart Guild
Sun	7th Dec	10:30 am	Second Sunday of Advent Vocations for the Diocese

OM - Optional Memorial F - Feast
M - Memorial S - Solemnity

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



Services at St. Mary's and at St Gerard's can be viewed live or on playback at any time on:
www.stmarysbrownedge.org.uk or
www.saintgerards.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.

Hope in the Future - Cycle of Prayer

This week we pray for the people of the parish of St. Mary and St. John Fisher, Denton, with Fr Joseph Gee, their Parish Priest. We pray for their parish primary schools and St. Thomas More College.



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Advent opens with a great promise: "In the days to come..." the hope of a people who need God. "...The master is coming" is also a promise, not a threat to breed fear, but to answer our cry. So Advent begins, not with thoughts of the past; not with the coming of the Lord we celebrate at Christmas, but with the future, and the promise that He is coming back. We are encouraged to stay awake, and treat every day as the day the Lord will come; we do not do this out of fear for a Master who beats his servants, but out of love of a Master who always treats us with mercy. Nevertheless we must always be watchful, because we can grow sleepy and complacent, saying that we can leave this prayer or that confession or the other change in the way we live to tomorrow. Even as we look forward to the tomorrow of the Lord's coming, we must remember that it might be today!

Sycamore (RCIA): Do you want to become a Catholic or learn more about the faith? Session 12 on Tuesday 2nd December at 7pm in the Narthex at St Mary's. **"Creation, Fall, Salvation"** Sometimes we don't appreciate the gift of creation – the beauty of the world around us, and the special place that we have in it as human beings. But why does God allow suffering? And why do we sometimes use our freedom to do harm and to sin? This Sycamore film looks at gift of God's creation, and what went wrong in the Fall. But then it shows how God did not abandon us and how Jesus Christ brings us his forgiveness and salvation.

SVP: Tickets will be on sale for the knitted nativity scene this weekend 30th at St. Gerard's Christmas Fair and Friday 4th December at Brownedge High School Christmas Fair. The winning ticket will be drawn after the 9:30 Mass on Sunday 6th December.

Feast of St Ralph Sherwin and the Martyrs of the Venerable English College, Rome: On Monday 1st December we will welcome some members of the "Roman Association", the alumni of the English College in Rome, to celebrate the Feast of the Forty Four College Martyrs. There will be Mass at 12 noon at St Mary's Brownedge with about 20 "Old Romans" coming together to concelebrate the Mass. This will be our parish Mass that day. There will be refreshments after Mass. All welcome.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception: Our Diocesan Lourdes pilgrimage group invites you to a special Mass in preparation for the feast of the Immaculate Conception. The Mass, celebrated by Bishop John, will take place at 3pm on **Sunday 7 December** at St Patrick's, Collyhurst (M4 5HF). Following Mass, information will be shared by the Salford Lourdes Pilgrimage group on plans for the 2026 pilgrimage.

Advent Carol Concert with Lostock Hall Brass Band:

The Knights of St Columba invite us to get into the festive mood as we begin Advent!

St. Mary's, Brownedge, **Sunday, 30th November at 3pm.** Tickets £7 including refreshments, children free. Tickets are available after Mass or pay on the door. There will also be a raffle, proceeds of the concert to KSC Charities. Your support will be much appreciated. Thank You.

Preston Cecilian Choral Society – Rossini Petite Messe Solennelle – **Saturday 29th November 2025** at 4pm at St Mary's Brownedge Church PR5 6SP – Tickets are £16 each and available from www.trybooking.co.uk/FHEZ - For more information please go to www.cecilians.org.uk. Tickets will also be on sale at the door.

Marriage Matters: For the new liturgical year, the Bishops' Conference have encouraged all parishes to carry a reflection of Marriage each week based on the Sunday readings. We will try to include this prayer each week to support family life.

Advent Prayer and Reflection: St Bede's Church in Clayton Green is holding a series of three holy hours of prayer and reflection for Advent. The opportunity for some space at this busy time of year for us to deepen our Advent preparation for the celebration of Christmas. At St Bede's Church, 598, Preston Road, Clayton Green. PR6 7EB. Thursdays at 7pm on 4th, 11th and 18th December. All welcome.

Developing Parish Welcome Teams: The Diocese of Salford Synod 2025 recommends that: *"all parishes should retain and develop the welcome team as a feature of parish life".* While we do have people at most of our Masses who act as welcomers, it would be good to increase the teams who do this and remind ourselves of the best way to do it. If you are willing to help with this ministry, give your name to one of the welcomers and we will arrange some guidance in the near future.

Preston Retreat for Young Adults: Young adults (aged 16-35 or Year 10+) are invited to a one-day retreat at Corpus Christi High School in Preston on **Saturday 13th December from 9am - 9pm.** This jam-packed, one-day retreat promises to be a truly wonderful occasion, and offers the opportunity to encounter Jesus in the Eucharist, grow in relationship with Him and His Mother, and form friendships with other young adults from the local area. To register, please visit: <https://youth2000.churchsuite.com/events/s8vr6vf2>

Advent Wreath Candle One:

Hope: On the First Sunday of Advent we light the first candle on our Advent wreath and we look forward to the Second Coming of Christ. Are we ready?



Joint Notices

CAFOD and Cop 30 - Please remember to pray for progress at the climate change talks taking place for the past two weeks in Belem, Brazil. Measures to limit climate change are becoming more and more vital as the world is heating up and weather patterns are becoming more erratic. This disproportionately affects the world's poorest. Representatives of the The Holy See, CAFOD and other Catholic agencies are present in Belem advocating for the issues of climate change and are bringing the concerns raised in 'Laudato Si' into the negotiations.

Laudato Si' Centre Volunteer Call-out: Retired Educators: The Diocese of Salford's Environment Team is inviting retired education staff to volunteer at the Laudato Si' Centre to assist with their successful programme of school visits. Volunteers would be supporting sessions with children from nursery age to Year 11 with activities including arts and crafts, games, and foraging. To find out more, please email laudatosi@dioceseofsalford.org.uk.

Mass for Engaged Couples to be celebrated by Bishop John Arnold - On Saturday 14 February, Bishop John will be celebrating a special Mass for engaged couples across the diocese. The Mass provides couples with an opportunity to seek God's blessing to guide and strengthen them during this time of preparation. Newly-married couples are also invited to receive a blessing in their first year of marriage. The Mass will take place at St Patrick's Church in Collyhurst on Saturday 14 February 2026 at 1:30pm.

Caritas Salford Advent Appeal: Our diocesan charity, "Caritas Salford", has released its 2025 Advent appeal to shine the spotlight on the true meaning of Christmas. To watch their latest animation and to find out more about how to help local people who are facing acute crisis this Christmas, please visit: <https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/campaign/bee-there-2025/>

Donations: Make an online Donation to support our parishes by scanning the QR codes below:



Our Lady & St Gerard's



St Mary's Brownedge

MARRIAGE MATTERS: First Sunday of Advent
Walk in the light of the Lord; God's Word is clear – we can only be certain of each current moment in our day-to-day lives. To live as couples in the 'present moment' more often, we need to apply ourselves to today's call from Jesus to "stay awake". Also St Paul tells us, "the time has come: you must wake up now", because we must live in the now. (www.marriagecare.org.uk)

Year of Jubilee 2025:

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.



Jubilee Display: Please visit our Jubilee display in Our Lady's Transept in St Mary's Church; you can see some of the anchors and prayers prepared by our children; a candle for the jubilee which will be lit on special occasions during the year. Also the jubilee passport books which detail some of things to see in the six jubilee churches in Salford diocese.

Jubilee Votive Candles: These are available from the Jubilee display stand for £2 each and are good way to help our prayer time at home or perhaps to give to someone we are praying for. Put the money into the ordinary votive candle stands.

Jubilee Mascot: "Luce" is the mascot for the Jubilee and for our Children's Liturgy Group. Her name is the Italian for "Light" and she, like each of us, is a Pilgrim of Hope. She invites us all to walk as Pilgrims of Hope. **We now have a special Luce, knitted by Clare, one of our parishioners and she joined our parish pilgrimage and came with us so see so many amazing things in Rome.** Clare has put together a fantastic account of the pilgrimage through the eyes of Luce and taken photos of her in all the places we visited. This lovely book is on our Jubilee display table. Many thanks to Clare for producing such a wonderful little book!



Jubilee Church Guide: Thanks to David Gorman who has produced a short guide to St Mary's Church for visiting pilgrims. Also, Fr Mark has left copies of the prayers which pilgrims use when they go through the Holy Door of St Peter's. We can use them here when visiting the church.

Universalis.com: Universalis is a website which provides the Mass texts and readings for each day of the year as well as the Liturgy of the Hours. Online it provides free texts for the upcoming 7 days. Buying the App gives full access. This QR Code will take you straight to the Mass Readings of the day:



PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The sick, and those who care for them:

Sister Louise, Yvonne Jeffrey, Mary Bilsborough, Joseph O'Grady, Brian Morley, Jean Doran, Mick Green, Maureen Calderbank, Joseph Finch, Ruth Johnstone, Peter Clough, Dominic McCormack, Elsie Smith, Eileen McLaughlan, Jennifer Sharples,

All those who have died recently:

Patricia Clayton, Gerard Carter, Olivia Claire Wallwork, Cliff Hughes, Doreen Gallagher, Geoffrey Thurman.

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

Our Lady & St Gerard's Notices

St Mary's Brownedge Notices



Christmas Fair - Today in the Parochial Centre starting at 11:30 after the morning Mass. .

PLEASE HELP US. If you are helping and if you can please be at the Parochial Centre for 8:30 am to help in preparations. If you are baking Cakes please arrive early to deliver and set up. Thank you.

Christmas Fair Raffle -

Tickets are now on sale at the back of church at £1 per ticket and £5 per book. **Please take some books home** with you and sell them for us to relatives, friends and neighbours. Fabulous prizes as usual.

Piety Shop - Our Piety Shop sells a varied selection of cards including Christmas cards which are now in stock along with other gifts on display. Please support us by coming in and having a look at what's on offer. Also we are now selling raffle tickets at 50 pence per strip to be drawn at the Christmas Fair. There will be three prizes and the proceeds will go to our church funds. Thank you for your continued support.

CAFOD World Gifts - As you leave church this weekend please pick up a CAFOD world gifts card. There are some unusual, thoughtful Christmas gifts you can buy for anyone who perhaps does not really need anything and is difficult to buy for. In the process of buying these gifts you will be helping those in the developing world who have very little of the things we consider essential.

Wednesday Bingo - The Team are taking a well deserved break over the Christmas Season and the last session is on 17th December and re-opens 7th January. Have a Happy and Holy Christmas.

Recently Deceased - Please pray for Cliff Hughes whose funeral is on Tuesday 2nd December at 10 am. May he Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.

St Gerard's Parish Lottery No. 613 27/10/25					
1st	£100	17	Mrs P Clunan		
2nd	£40	50	Mrs L Bowman		
3rd	£20	26	Mrs M Hunt		
W/C 30/11/25		This Weeks Intentions			
Sanctuary	Yvonne Jeffrey				
Offertory 22nd / 23rd November 2025					
Loose	Envelopes	Total Attendance			
£247.83	£155.00	182			
Bingo Jackpots for 3/12/2025					
£30	£110	£41	£32		

Offertory Procession: Next Sunday 7th December 9:30 am Mass: Carreon Family

CAFOD Coffee Morning – Friday 5th December after Mass. **Thank You** - Many thanks to all who attended our recent coffee morning and raffle which raised £250 and from the buckets, jewellery, jigsaws etc £115. Many thanks to all for your generosity and continued support.

Happy Birthday! Congratulations to Connie Hardacre who is celebrating her 100th Birthday this week on 2nd December. A Mass of thanksgiving is being offered on Tuesday.

Baptisms: Welcome to the family of God: Ali Parsa Masoum Nejad, Bobbie, & Zacarie Common and Charlie Cheetham who were baptised on Saturday.

Sacramental Programme: There is a meeting for parents and children on Wednesday 3rd Dec at 7pm in Church to prepare for First Reconciliation which takes place on Saturday 6th December at 11am.

Cafod World Gifts for Christmas: Buying Cafod's World Gifts makes a real difference for our sisters & brothers facing the injustice of poverty around the world: worldgifts.cafod.org.uk or pick up a booklet in the Narthex. Also, Teresa Worden, has knitted many things including clothes for a baby doll which we are asking you to guess the name of, 50p a guess. A list of names and donation box is at the back church.

Giving Tree – Our Christmas Giving Tree is now up at the back of Church. Gift Tags will be on a table next to the tree. Please take one if you are able to contribute or use your own – All presents with gift tag attached need to be returned at the latest by weekend of 13th / 14th December. We will then deliver to various charities we support on Monday 15th December – Thank you so much for continuing to support this wonderful Parish effort.

200 Club: Are you struggling to find the perfect gift for friends & family? Why not join the 200 club and gift them the chance to win on monthly draws of £200, £100 or £50 & Easter & Christmas hampers? – The perfect present that does good and gives you a winning chance! £1 per number per week that's £52 per year

200 Club October Winners:		
1 st Prize - £200	No. 378	Harold Bolton
2 nd Prize - £100	No. 158	Jean Dawson
3 rd Prize - £50	No. 163	Joan Ramsdale

Sanctuary Lamps Week 3/11/25		
1	In Loving Memory of Marie Hebblethwaite, Margaret Roberts, David Roberts & Mary Caylo	
2	For the Spencer & Steinson Families	

Mass Attendance: Our Attendance last weekend			
7 pm Vigil	9:30 am	6:30 pm	Total
71	169	52	292