



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

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),

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

Second Sunday of Christmas (Year A)

4th January 2026

St Mary's, Brownedge			
Sat	3rd Jan Vigil	7:00 pm	The Holy Name of Jesus (OM) Second Sunday of Christmas Michael Cox
Sun	4th Jan	9:30 am 6:30 pm	Second Sunday of Christmas Mary Rita Swarbrick Holy Souls
Mon	5th Jan	9:30 am	Richard Whalley
Tues	6th Jan Holy Day of Obligation	9:30 am 4:30 pm	The Epiphany of the Lord (S) Chris Nihill Whole School Mass Priests intentions
Wed	7th Jan	9:30 am	St Raymond of Penyafort (OM) Kathleen Calvey
Thurs	8th Jan	10:30 am	Requiem Mass for Dominic McCormack R.I.P.
Fri	9th Jan	9:30 am	Richard & Mary Lloyd
Sat	10th Jan Vigil	7:00 pm	The Baptism of the Lord Sister Mary Higney
Sun	11th Jan	9:30 am 11:00 am 6:30 pm	The Baptism of the Lord Private Intention Baptism of Reuben Howarth-Pye The Parish

St Gerard's, Lostock Hall			
Sat	3rd Jan Vigil	5:30 pm	The Holy Name of Jesus (OM) Second Sunday of Christmas Holy Souls
Sun	4th Jan	10:30 am	Second Sunday of Christmas Holy Souls
Mon	5th Jan	6:00 pm 6:30 pm	Exposition Service of the Word
Tues	6th Jan Holy Day of Obligation	9:15 am 7:30 pm	The Epiphany of the Lord (S) Peter Craven (Anniversary) Whole School Mass Priests Intentions
Wed	7th Jan	9:15 am	St Raymond of Penyafort (OM) Service of the Word
Thurs	8th Jan	6:30 pm	Holy Souls
Fri	9th Jan		NO SERVICES
Sat	10th Jan Vigil	5:30 pm	The Baptism of the Lord Mark McNulty (Birthday Ann)
Sun	11th Jan	10:30 am	The Baptism of the Lord Sacred Heart Guild

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

Throughout this week we hold in prayer the parishioners of the parish of St Robert of Newminster, Levenshulme and Longsight, with Fr Kris Aneke, MSP, their priest. We pray for their three parish primary schools and for the Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions.

Second Sunday of Christmas



The Second Sunday of Christmas in Year focuses on God's promise of restoration, wisdom, and the divine identity of Jesus as the Word made flesh, with key readings from Jeremiah (gathering the scattered people), Wisdom (the nature of Wisdom), Ephesians (God's plan in Christ), and John (the Prologue: "The Word became flesh"). It's a time of joyful anticipation as the Church reflects on the incarnation and God's enduring presence.



The Epiphany of the Lord

- In the East, this Season of Christmas is called the "Time of Manifestation", or Showing. Tuesday of this week is the 'Feast of the Manifestation', or the Showing of the Saviour to the whole world, to all nations. In the wise men

who travel from the East, we see all the nations other than the people of Israel being welcomed at the New Temple of the New Covenant - the new born child in the manger. A look at the Psalm response shows this: "All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord." The same is true of the key word in the second reading: "Revelation" remember that for the people of Israel this was to be their Messiah, come to restore their fortunes. By this feast, we proclaim God's plan was to extend his salvation to men and women of every nation, of every time and every place - including us. In many ways this is our Christmas Feast, when we celebrate the Good News of the Saviour's birth revealed at last to us.

Our Masses on this **Holy Day of Obligation** are as usual, 9:30 am and 4:30 pm at St Mary's and 9:15 and 7:30 pm at St Gerard's. Both morning masses are whole school masses.

Epiphany Blessing: The Church has a custom of blessing homes on the Feast of the Epiphany. Family and friends gather to ask God's blessing on their homes and those who live in or visit the home. It is an invitation for Jesus to be a daily guest in our home, our comings and goings, our conversations, our work and play, our joys and sorrows.

One way of doing this is to use chalk blessed during the Epiphany liturgy and write above the home's main entrance, 20 + C + M + B + 25. The letters C, M, B have two meanings. They are the initials of the traditional names of the three magi: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. They also abbreviate the Latin words Christus mansionem benedicat, "May Christ bless the house." The "+" signs represent the cross, and 2025 is the year.

Instructions for Blessing the Home:

Using the blessed chalk write 20 + C + M + B + 25 on the lintel of your front door (front porch step or other convenient location) while saying:

The three Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar, followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand and twenty five years ago. May Christ bless X our home and remain with us throughout the New Year. Amen.

Then offer the following prayer:

Visit, O blessed Lord, this home with the gladness of your presence. Bless all who live or visit here with the gift of your love; and grant that we may manifest your love to each other and to all whose lives we touch. May we grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of you; guide, comfort, and strengthen us in peace, O Jesus Christ, now and for ever. Amen.

New Diocesan Yearbook: This year, the diocese have combined two books into one: The Diocesan Ordo and the Almanac. The Ordo is at the back of the Yearbook and details which Mass/feast we should be celebrating each day; what the readings and prayers should be, and even what colour vestments the priest should wear! Copies are available at the back of Church priced £5 each or £6 for a ring-bound version.

Diocesan Synod News: Our emerging vision for a synodal Church in Salford centres on six themes: (1) Prayer, listening, and renewal as the heart of Eucharistic life; (2) Welcoming, inclusive, and accessible communities celebrating diversity; (3) Participation and representation through diverse leadership and formation; (4) Young people and families fully engaged in faith and service; (5) Collaboration and resources shared among all; (6) Outreach, dialogue, and healing with compassion for survivors and interfaith ties. There is a leaflet available at the back of church which explains how this process will develop and be applied in the next couple of years.

St Carlo Acutis - In January 2026, the diocese will host the relics of St Carlo Acutis at two of our churches over five days, during which time the diocese will welcome schools, parishioners and people from all over for veneration.

Carlo is the first millennial saint, and is celebrated for his profound faith and his use of the internet to log Eucharistic miracles from around the world. He was passionate about spreading the teachings of the Catholic Church up until his death from leukaemia at the age of 15.

The relics will be presented at **St Mary's Church, Burnley from 28-29 January 2026** before they travel to **St Patrick's Church, Collyhurst from 30 January to 1 February 2026**. More information will be shared soon with parishes and on our website and through our social media channels.

Joint Notices

Christian Community Larder message: On behalf of the volunteers and families associated with the LARDER, we would like to extend our sincere thanks for your continued support. Your generosity has a profound impact on our ability to assist those in need within our community. We wish you all a very HAPPY CHRISTMAS and send our best wishes for good health and happiness in 2026. Your kindness and ongoing contributions make a real difference and are deeply appreciated by all those who benefit from the LARDER's services. Thanks to you, we support an increasing number of individuals and families who are struggling to provide essential food items. At present, we assist 65 families each week, and as demand continues to rise, your help becomes ever more crucial. Our work relies on the continued food and monetary donations from our Christian communities: Brownedge St. Mary's, Methodist Church, St. Aidan's, St. Bede's, St. Gerard's and local Schools. We are also grateful for the generosity of local residents, especially the customers of Morrison's and Sainsbury's. Without your support, the LARDER's efforts would not be possible. We invite you to join us for morning coffee or tea, toast and cakes. Our dedicated volunteers are willing to listen and chat. We have contacts with a range of professionals who can offer advice - Opening Hours: 09:30 to 11:30am every Monday and Friday - Location: St. Aidan's, 46 Station Road, Bamber Bridge, PR5 6QL - Email: christiancommunitylarder@gmail.com - Telephone: 07762 905978

Sycamore (RCIA): Do you want to become a Catholic or learn more about the faith? We will resume on Tuesday 6th January at 7pm. All welcome.

Mass Intentions - If you would like to have a Mass intention please leave a note at the Parish Office clearly stating the Mass Intention. Mass intentions will not be taken over the telephone to avoid spelling mistakes. If you would like to Gift Aid the Donation please let us know.

Welcome: We welcome John Williams, a seminarian for the Diocese of Salford, studying at the English College in Valladolid. John will be on pastoral placement in our parishes for the month of January. It would be good to invite John to visit you in your homes if you can.

Apologies - for any missed notices this week, the parish office is back to normal from Monday.

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



Year of Jubilee 2025:

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.

Make a regular financial contribution to your Church:

Our Parish Lotteries: St Mary's has a 200 Club and St Gerard's has a Parish Lottery. These are great fun ways in which we can financially support our Church. We know many people come to church at Christmas but not necessarily every week. However, **we do need regular weekly income in order to continue to exist.** Perhaps if you are not able to come more regularly, you could consider a way of making a regular financial contribution to the church: Join St Mary's 200 Club or St Gerard's Parish Lottery. Make a small commitment to support your church: A pound a week office@stmarysbrownedge.org.uk or office@saintgerards.org.uk



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, Elsie Smith, Eileen McLaughlan.

All those who have died recently:

Patricia Clayton, Gerard Carter, Olivia Wallwork, Cliff Hughes, Doreen Gallagher, Geoffrey Thurman, Dorothy Fleming, Jennifer Sharples, Dominic McCormack

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

Our Lady & St Gerard's Notices

Majella Companions - Meet this week on Tuesday 6th January at 2 pm in the Shields Centre.

Wednesday Bingo - The Team are looking forward to seeing you again as Bingo starts again this week on Wednesday 7th January.

Parish Lottery - If your membership runs from January to January please get in touch with the office if you'd like to continue. Parish Lottery subscription are still £60 for the year – Prizes are drawn monthly, and you can win excellent cash prizes (£100, £40 & £ 20) with extra prize draws during the year.

Metanoia project - Recently a box has been placed at the back of church next to the larder box. This box is from the Metanoia project based at St Wilfrid's in Preston and they are collecting warm socks, hats, gloves etc for the homeless in Preston who are struggling to keep warm at this time of year. Besides providing warm clothing the Metanoia group provide the homeless with a warm meal every Tuesdays night. If anyone can cook and has a couple of hours to spare on Tuesdays they would welcome the help. If you are able to assist with this essential work please contact Jen on 07957566741 or Jen@metanoaproject.co.uk. Help of any kind, however infrequent, would be gratefully received.

St Mary's Brownedge Notices

Offertory Procession: Next Sunday 11th January 9:30 am Mass: Ashe Family

CAFOD Coffee Morning - - Many thanks to all who supported our recent coffee morning and raffle which raised £254 and from the buckets, knitted goods, jewellery, jigsaws etc £100. Name the doll raised £35 and her name is **Nicola** and has been claimed by Claire, altar server Daniel's grandma. Many thanks for your generosity and continued support. The Cafod Group wish you all the blessings of the season and look forward to our next coffee morning on 2nd January 2026.

SVP - Message from HQ – We recently had a collection for the SVP South Sudan and have received a thank you letter expressing most sincere thanks for our support. Please read the full letter on the church bulletin board, which includes a link to videos of numerous projects funded by SVP South Sudan. Your help means the world to us and will make a significant impact in our cause.

Parish Dinner – Sunday 25th January 2026 – The Menu and order form will be available in Church on the weekend of the 27th & 28th December – Any queries please contact David Dearden on 01772 468313.

Wordsearch based The Feast of the Epiphany

E	D	E	E	G	A	M	O	H	T
C	H	L	K	I	D	E	T	S	E
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T	A	R	G	F	C	L	O	R	A
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BETHLEHEM

EAST

INFANT

KING

STAR

HOMAGE

LEADER

DATE

CHILD

DELIGHT

GOLD

MYRRH



W/C 11/01/26		This Weeks Intentions	
Sanctuary		Yvonne Jeffrey	
Offertory 24th / 25th & 27th / 28th December 2025			
Loose	Envelopes	Total Attendance	
£1209.61	£412.40	165	
Bingo Jackpots for 7/01/2026			
£25	£25	£44	£35

Sanctuary Lamps Week 11/01/26			
1	In Memory of the Lancaster Family		
2	In Loving Memory of Kath & Diane Harvey		
Mass Attendance: Our Attendance last weekend			
7 pm Vigil	9:30 am	6:30 pm	Total