



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.**

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (C)

5th January 2025

St Mary's, Brownedge			
Sat	4th Jan Vigil	7:00 pm	The Epiphany of the Lord Michael & Catherine Carty & Mary & Michael McNamara
Sun	5th Jan	9:30 am	The Epiphany of the Lord The Parish
		6:30 pm	Ellen Bradley & Susan Harold
Mon	6th Jan	9:30 am	Jack & Nellie Holt, James Robert Holme & Christine Garner
Tues	7th Jan	9:30 am	Richard & Mary Lloyd
Wed	8th Jan	9:30 am	Whole School Mass: Epiphany Intentions of Mothers Prayers
Thurs	9th Jan	9:30 am	Doreen Singleton RIP
Fri	10th Jan	9:30 am	Marie Spicer RIP
Sat	11th Jan Vigil	7:00 pm	The Baptism of the Lord Sister Mary Higney RIP
Sun	12th Jan	9:30 am	The Baptism of the Lord Mary Walsh (Anniversary)
		6:30 pm	The Parish

St Gerard's, Lostock Hall			
Sat	4th Jan Vigil	5:30 pm	The Epiphany of the Lord The Parish
Sun	5th Jan	10:30 am	The Epiphany of the Lord Peter Craven (Ann)
		12 noon	Baptism of Lucy Cole & Quincy Bruney
Mon	6th Jan	6:00 pm 6:30 pm	Exposition Celebration of the Word & Holy Communion
Tues	7th Jan	9:15 am	Holy Souls
Wed	8th Jan	9:15 am	Celebration of the Word & Holy Communion
Thurs	9th Jan	9:15 am	Holy Souls
Fri	10th Jan	9.15 am	Whole School Mass
Sat	11th Jan Vigil	5:30 pm	The Baptism of the Lord The Parish
Sun	12th Jan	10:30 am	The Baptism of the Lord Margaret & Michael Redmond

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.

Cycle of Prayer: During Advent and Christmastide we are asked to pray for Migrants and Refugees and Expectant Mothers.



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.

**Prayers for Salford Diocese:
 The Deanery of St John Southworth**

Let us pray for the people of the parish of St. Peter, Stonyhurst, and for Fr Timothy Curtis, SJ, their parish priest. We pray for their primary school and for Stonyhurst College and St. Mary's Hall.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion.

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Joint Notices



TODAY: The Epiphany of the Lord

In the East, this Season of Christmas is called the Time of Manifestation, or Showing. Today is the 'Feast of the Manifestation', or the Showing of the Saviour to

all nations. In the wise men who travel from the East, we see all nations being welcomed into the New Covenant - the child in the manger. 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 the Epiphany is our Christmas, when we celebrate the Good News of the Saviour's birth revealed at last to us.

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.

R.C.I.A. Learning about the Catholic Faith: Our RCIA programme resumes this Tuesday 7th January at 7pm at St Mary's Church. This 14th session is about the power of the sacraments. This Sycamore film speaks about the seven Christian sacraments. It helps to show how Baptism can change your life, and how the gifts of the Holy Spirit can come alive in you through the power of Sacrament of Confirmation.

CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY LARDER - A heartfelt thank you for your amazing food and cash donations. As a result of your generosity, the larder supported 60 families a week throughout 2024. You contributed to the "Meal in a Bag" and "Slow Cooker" initiatives. They look forward to your continuing support in 2025. They are a designated Warm Space and welcome you to join them for light refreshments Monday or Friday 9-30 to 11-30am.

Ecumenical Prayer Breakfast: On the first Wednesday of each month there is a gathering of local Christians to pray Morning Prayer together. For January (since NYD was the first Weds) it is this week on Wednesday 8th January at 8.00am at the Valley Church on Station Road, Bamber Bridge. All welcome.

New Diocesan Yearbook: This has been received this week. 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.

New Lectionary: We have now begun using the new translation of the Liturgy of the Word: The English Standard Version replaces the Jerusalem Bible translation. Many thanks to those who attended the talk last week by Maria Hall. It was an excellent presentation with a good attendance from across the deanery. It is available to view on the "Recordings" tab of St Mary's streaming service. It is recommended that all our readers should watch this.

Catholic Teaching Alliance: we need more good catholic teachers - Have you thought about a career in teaching? Established since 2014, the CTA has 10 years' experience in delivering teacher training. Train locally - schools in Preston, Blackburn, Blackpool or the Fylde coast.

Apply now for a September 2025 start PGCE with QTS - Minimum requirements are GCSEs in Maths and English (and Science for primary), plus an honours degree, class 2:2 or above. For more information call: 01772 326931 or email: CTAPGCE@olchs.lancs.sch.uk
<https://www.catholic-teaching-alliance.org/pgce-courses.html>

The Gate of the Year: 'God Knows'

And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year: "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown". And he replied: "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way".
So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night. And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East.

Joint Notices



Year of Jubilee 2025:

In the Catholic Church, the concept of Jubilee or 'Holy Year' was used to declare special years for forgiveness and reconciliation. The first Jubilee was declared by Pope Boniface VIII in 1300 to mark the beginning of that century. He later recommended it occurring every 100 years. Various other Popes changed the length of the interval between the observances. But Pope Saint Paul II set the present 25-year interval in the 1500s. So Holy Years are "ordinary" when they occur at regular intervals (25 years in these modern times) and "extraordinary" when they are proclaimed for a very special reason. More recently a Great Jubilee was declared in 2000 by Pope Saint John Paul II to celebrate the new millennium. That Jubilee year brought the total number of universal Jubilee years to 28 that so far had been celebrated by the Church.

The 2025 Jubilee, which has the theme of "Pilgrims of Hope" will be a year of hope and trust for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and the increased threats to the climate. Intended as a time of conversion and emphasis on God's mercy and forgiveness of sins, Jubilees begin with the opening of the Holy Door in St. Peter's Basilica. Holy Doors at each of the four papal basilicas in Rome are destination points for pilgrims, who pass through seeking special graces. The Pope has added a fifth Holy Door in a prison in Rome to symbolise our liberation from the captivity of our sin.

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. We are asked to make people welcome to visit our church during the Holy Year and offer opportunities for prayer and devotion. It would be good to have a team of people who would be willing to help with this. There is a booklet at the back of church detailing the six churches and the idea of being pilgrims of hope in the upcoming Jubilee Year.

Jubilee Mascot: "Luce" is the mascot for the Jubilee. Her name is the Italian for "Light" and she, like each of us, is a **Pilgrim of Hope**. Look out for her in the coming year! This week she is asking us—what gifts can we give to Jesus to be the pilgrims he wants us to be?



Jubilee Guide Book: Alive Publishing have produced a small booklet which has a lovely explanation of the Jubilee Year including prayers and devotions. These are available at the back of Church for £1.50.

Also, Mgr John Allen has produced a Jubilee guide to places in our Diocese that we can visit. We hope to have copies of this available soon.

Jubilee World Youth Day Rome 2025 - Are you aged 16-35? Are you looking for an unforgettable opportunity to share your faith with other young Catholics? Pope Francis has announced a special World Youth Day in Rome next summer to celebrate the Church's Year of Jubilee and our diocesan Youth Ministry team invites you to be part of this once-in-a-25-year event! The pilgrimage will take place between **28 July and 3 August**. For more information and to register your interest, speak to Fr Mark or please email Salford Youth Office: youth@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

Jubilee Parish Pilgrimage to Rome: To celebrate the Jubilee Year and Fr Mark's 30th anniversary of priesthood, there is the opportunity of a trip to Rome from Mon 4th to Mon 11th August 2025. It will be based at Palazzola, Villa of the Venerable English College, 20 miles south of Rome. There will be a couple of organised visits into the city of Rome as well as local excursions and plenty of time to relax and enjoy this beautiful setting. The cost is between £695 and £895 (depending on type of room) and includes all meals (with wine). Price of the flight is not included but can be organised if required. Full details and booking forms are available from the back of church or the parish office. Further information: Anthony R Coles Travel and Conferences, 18 Maresfield Gardens, London NW3 5SX Tel: 020 7431 3414 email: arctc@btinternet.com

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 ... Send an email now to the Parish Office while you are in the Christmas spirit!

office@stmarysbrownedge.org.uk or
office@saintgerards.org.uk

We will send you all the details.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

The sick, and those who care for them:

Sister Louise, Peter Clough, Dorothy Whittle, Jean Doran, Yvonne Jeffrey, Joseph O'Grady, John Stringfellow

All those who have recently died:

Andrew Sugden, Norman Brown, Christopher Ashton, Rita Swarbrick, Philomena Hanlon, Margaret Guinan, Giovanni Puzo

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

Our Lady & St Gerard's Notices

School Mass: There will be a Mass on Friday for the whole school at 9.15 am.

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.

Piety Shop Christmas Raffle - There is one outstanding prize still to be claimed on the Piety Shop Christmas Raffle Orange Ticket 276 to 280.

Wednesday Night Bingo - Bingo starts again on **Wednesday 15th January**. If you would like to help this wonderful team raise funds for the parish please come along and speak to one of the team members especially if you would like to lend a hand at 'calling'.

Christmas Mass attendance: 422: —343 for the vigil and 79 for Christmas Day.

Mass Intentions - One of the weekend masses must be for the Parish so requests for a particular weekend must be booked well in advance. At the moment the diary at St Gerard's is more or less full for the first two month of the year, Weekday Masses on a Tuesday or Thursday are still available.

SVP: The 14/15 December retiring collection for the SVP at St Gerard's raised £127.15. Many thanks for you generosity. We will have a regular monthly retiring collection to support the work of the SVP, usually on the third weekend of the month.

St Mary's Brownedge Notices

School Mass: There will be a Mass on Wednesday for the whole School at 9.30 am

Offertory Procession: Next Sunday 12th January 9:30 am Mass: Pangilinan Family.

Mission Red Boxes – This is the Popes chosen Charity. Thank you also to all the Collectors for their brilliant help – Anyone who would like a Red Box in their home Please contact Clare Haythornthwaite or the Parish Office.

Cafod Thank You - Wishing you all the Blessings of Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

SVP - The Next meeting is on Monday 6th January 2025 at 6:30pm in the Priory meeting room.

Mothers prayers - The next meeting is on Wednesday 8th January 2025 in the Priory meeting room at 1pm

Parish Lunch, Sunday 26th January 2025: Order forms are available at the back of Church. For further information ring David on 465313.

Thanks: Brian and all the Spicer family would like to thank everyone for their prayers and messages of love and support at the loss of Marie. Donations to St Catherine's Hospice in memory of Marie came to £650. Many thanks!

Christmas Mass attendance: 598: - 260 for the vigil; 182 for Midnight and 156 for Christmas Day.

www.universalis.com: The readings for Mass and the Divine Office:
Scan this QR code with your camera:



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

Happy Epiphany

W/C 07/12/2024	This Weeks Intentions		
Sanctuary	Yvonne Jeffrey		
Offertory 28th / 29th December 2024			
Offertory Loose	£311.46		
Offertory Envelopes	£205.95		
Attendance	142		
Bingo Jackpots for 15/01/2028			
£34	£68	£79	£28

Mass Attendance: Our attendance last weekend	
7 pm Vigil	42
9:30 am	151
6:30 p.m..	46
Total	239

Sanctuary Lamps Week 06/01/25	
1	Winifred Mary Livesey
2	In Loving Memory of Ann & Charles Sergeant