



# FROM THE SPIRE

News & updates from our Shrine Church of Saint Walburge in Preston, Lancashire.

## Dominica Infra Octavam Nativitatis ~ II. classis

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup>**  
**January, Epiphany of the Lord, Holy Day of Obligation.**  
Mass at 8:30am and 6:30pm at St Walburge's



**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**  
**Wednesday 31st December 10:30pm with Confessions available. Benediction at**  
**Midnight followed by refreshments. The best way to start the year!**

### Presbytery Office

#### Hours:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday,  
Friday and Saturday  
9:30-12 and 2-5

#### Saint Benedict's Cultural Centre

saintbenedicts@icks.org.uk  
www.icks.org.uk/saintbenedicts

#### Donations:

Institute of Christ the King/St Walburge Charity number: 1144783

Donations via Bank Transfer:

Name: ICKSP;  
Sort Code: 40-10-22;  
Account Number: 52347733  
Gift Aid forms and offertory envelopes

can be obtained at the Presbytery.

#### CONTACT US

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preston@icks.org.uk

Our Safeguarding Representative:  
Mr. Peter Dilworth--  
postmaster@dilworth49.plus.com

#### "Canon Post on the ICKSP's forthcoming Preston Open House for St Benedict's 17<sup>th</sup> January 2026 10:30am:

"Amen I say to you, if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you shall say to this mountain, 'remove from hence hither,' and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible to you" (St Matthew 17.19).

Undoubtedly, for many Catholic families in an ever more hostile, secular world, persevering and raising children in the faith may seem as difficult as moving a mountain.

Yet God continually uplifts us by His grace and gives us reasons for supernatural hope.

In order to share our reasons for hope, we of the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest would like to invite Mass of Ages readers to join us for an open house in Preston on Saturday, 17 January, beginning at 10am with Mass sung by the Sister Adorers of the Royal Heart of Jesus, followed by tours of the premises and information about Saint Benedict's Cultural Centre. (...)

A culture cannot be absorbed in one hour per week, but rather must be part of the ambience in which we live, work, play and pray. This is what has drawn so many families from around the United Kingdom and beyond, to join our community. For those also able to join us on Sunday, 18 January, we welcome you to participate in our monthly Guild Sunday.

Following the 10.30am sung Mass, families share a packed lunch in the church hall, followed by catechism taught by priests and sisters of the ICKSP. (...)

We hope you will join us to get to know better our educational work at Saint Benedict's - assisting our growing Catholic homeschooling community with the essential task of educating in the faith. With the presence of both canons and sisters, as well as the dedicated work of lay tutors, Saint Benedict's offers lessons on Tuesdays and Thursdays in catechism, singing and sacred music, French, Latin as well as support for core subjects. (...)

It is a great joy for us to show this accomplishment to visitors and to witness the potential that these brand new classrooms offer for the Catholic cultural formation of our youth. The space includes a large room with central Saint Benedict's offers lessons on Tuesdays and Thursdays in catechism, singing and sacred music Just as Our Lord required a return on the talents entrusted to his servants in the gospel parable, so we must seek to fructify all that God has given to us, especially the intellects and wills of our young people who will be the future labourers in the vineyard of Christ. These precious fruits are especially remarkable in our vocations; this 6 September past witnessed the first Solemn High Mass of Canon Joseph McCowen at Saint Walburge's – a returning son of the apostolate. Likewise, we have been consoled this November by the entrance into the priestly house of discernment of an alumnus of Saint Benedict's. May many other vocations soon follow! Deo Gratias." LMS issue 226

# TRANSLATION OF THE EPISTLE AND GOSPEL

## Dominica Infra Octavam Nativitatis ~ II. classis

### Epistle -Gal 4:1-7

Brethren: As long as the heir is a child, he differs in no way from a slave, though he is the master of all; but he is under guardians and stewards until the time set by his father. So we too, when we were children, were enslaved under the elements of the world. But when the fullness of time came, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, Abba, Father. So that He is no longer a slave, but a son; and if a son, an heir also through God.

### Gospel-Luke 2:33-40

At that time, Joseph and Mary, the mother of Jesus were marvelling at the things spoken concerning Him. And Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and for the rise of many in Israel, and for a sign that shall be contradicted. And your own soul a sword shall pierce, that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed. There was also Anna, a prophetess, daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years from her maidenhood, and by herself as a widow to eighty-four years. She never left the temple, with fastings and prayers worshipping night and day. And coming up at that very hour, she began to give praise to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem. And when they had fulfilled all things as prescribed in the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, into their own town of Nazareth. And the Child grew and became strong. He was full of wisdom and the grace of God was upon Him.

Spire  
At  
Night  
2026

Saturday  
10th, 17th,  
24th January  
From 4pm to  
6:30pm  
Tickets  
available at  
Christmas  
Fair 7th  
December or  
online.

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**SAINT BENEDICT'S  
Cultural Centre**

**Open Day:**  
Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2026

10am: Sung Mass at Saint Walburge's Church with the Sister Adorers  
11am: Tour of the campus of Saint Walburge's and SBCC  
11.30am: Short talk on Catholic education with Canon Post  
Noon: Question and answer session  
12.15pm: Meet the clergy and teachers, refreshments at SBCC  
1.00pm: Finish



St Benedict's offers:

- A curriculum including English Language & Literature, Maths, Science, Latin, French, Art, Catechism and Gregorian Chant;
- Classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays which complement home-schooling;
- Sisters present in class, making the heart of our Academy beat with their beautiful charism;
- Tutors who are well-credentialed;
- And a team of passionate and engaged volunteers.

We have places available for the academic year starting in September 2026. Please email [administrator.sbcc@icks.org.uk](mailto:administrator.sbcc@icks.org.uk) to enquire.



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Website: [www.icks.org.uk/saintbenedicts](http://www.icks.org.uk/saintbenedicts)  
Email: [saintbenedicts@icks.org.uk](mailto:saintbenedicts@icks.org.uk) Tel: 07856 720 900  
Contact Address: St Walburge's Presbytery, Weston Street, Preston. PR2 2QE  
Come and see!

# Mass settings: Kyrie VIII and Credo III

## Recessional: Once in Royal David's City 448

Ordo	Daily Schedule:		Mass Intentions
<b>Sunday 28/12</b> <b>Sunday in the Octave of Christmas</b>	8am Confessions 8.30am Low Mass 10am Confessions 10.30am High Mass	5.30pm Vespers & Benediction (no confessions) 6.30pm Low Mass	<b>Canon Cristofoli:</b> Christmas Novena <b>Canon Heppelle:</b> Paddy O'Riordan <b>Canon Bunnens:</b> Souls in Purgatory
<b>Monday 29/12</b> St Thomas of Canterbury 1 <sup>st</sup> Class	7.15am Low Mass 8.30am Low Mass (Church closed at 10am)	No evening offices Monday (Church closed at 10am and open at 7pm) 7.30pm Choir Practice	<b>Canon Cristofoli:</b> Christmas Novena <b>Canon Heppelle:</b> Bob & Jane Latin <b>Canon Bunnens:</b> Souls in Purgatory
<b>Tuesday 30/12</b> 6 <sup>th</sup> Day within the Octave 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class	8.30am Low Mass (Church closed at 10am)	No evening offices Tuesday (Church closed at 10am)	<b>Canon Cristofoli:</b> Christmas Novena <b>Canon Heppelle:</b> Peter Morgan RIP <b>Canon Bunnens:</b> Souls in Purgatory
<b>Wednesday 31/12</b> 7 <sup>th</sup> Day within the Octave 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class	8.30am Low Mass (Church closed at 9:30am and open at 10pm)	10:30pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Confessions. Benediction at Midnight, followed by refreshments.	<b>Canon Cristofoli:</b> Christmas Novena <b>Canon Heppelle:</b> Steven Family <b>Canon Bunnens:</b> Souls in Purgatory
<b>Thursday 1/01</b> The Octave Day of the Nativity st Class	10:30am Sung Mass 12noon Low Mass	5.30pm Vespers 6pm-6.40pm Adoration and Confessions 6.45 Benediction 7pm Compline	<b>Canon Cristofoli:</b> Christmas Novena <b>Canon Heppelle:</b> Msgr Gilles Wach <b>Canon Bunnens:</b> Souls in Purgatory
<b>Friday 02/01</b> Sacred Heart	8.30am Sung Mass 12noon Low Mass	5.30pm Vespers 6pm-6.40pm Adoration and Confessions 6.45 Benediction 7pm Compline	<b>Canon Cristofoli:</b> Christmas Novena <b>Canon Heppelle:</b> Pat Foynes RIP <b>Canon Bunnens:</b> Souls in Purgatory
<b>Saturday 03/01</b> Immaculate Heart	8.30am Sung Mass 9:30am Meditation 9:45am Rosary and Confessions	5.30pm Vespers 6pm-6.40pm Adoration and Confessions 6.45 Benediction	<b>Canon Cristofoli:</b> Rocio Albornoz <b>Canon Heppelle:</b> Miriam Heppelle <b>Canon Bunnens:</b> Souls in Purgatory
<b>Sunday 4/01</b> The Most Holy Name of Jesus	8am Confessions 8.30am Low Mass 10am Confessions 10.30am High Mass	5.30pm Vespers & Benediction (no confessions) 6.30pm Low Mass	<b>Canon Cristofoli:</b> Petra Zesati Mendez RIP <b>Canon Heppelle:</b> Breda Foynes RIP <b>Canon Bunnens:</b> Souls in Purgatory

Confessions can also be arranged privately by texting a Canon (see front page)

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⌘ For Life Matters and helplines: see <https://lifecharity.org.uk>;  
for prolife helpline <https://www.goodcounselnet.co.uk> and  
for abortion recovery see <https://www.rachelsvineyard.org.uk>



# For your diary

- ✿ **Catechism about Sacred Liturgy:** 9<sup>th</sup> January, 6<sup>th</sup> February and 6<sup>th</sup> March; 7pm at St Walburge's Rectory
- ✿ **Children's Eucharistic Adoration Society**, one Wednesday/month, 2-4pm Guided adoration by the canons and the sisters; craft and games, afternoon tea: 28<sup>th</sup> January, 25<sup>th</sup> February, 25<sup>th</sup> March, 29<sup>th</sup> April.  
Please bring children to the church hall.
- ✿ **Guild Sundays:** 10:30 High Mass, 12noon packed lunch, 12.30 Conferences for all. Next Guild: 18/01
- ✿ **St Joseph's Boys Club:** A regular event in the evening for fathers and sons to gather together and learn about valuable life skills, such as map reading, team building exercises, camping expedition preparations and much more. The meetings run for approximately 1 hour. It is strictly for fathers to participate with their sons (7-18 years of age).  
Meeting dates for 2026 will be available soon
- ✿ **Catechumens catechism: Saturday 10th January 10:30-11:30am at St Walburge's Presbytery**
- ✿ **St Margaret Mary Girls' youth club:** The convent of the Sister Adorers of the Royal Heart is open for an afternoon of fun, activities and faith from 2.00pm-5.15pm. The event is open to young girls of 13-18 years old.  
Please see Sister Isabel-Marie for further details.  
Next opportunities are: **31st January**, 21<sup>st</sup> February, 14<sup>th</sup> March, 18<sup>th</sup> April.
- ✿ **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> December 10:30pm with Confessions available. Benediction at Midnight Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> January AD 2026 followed by refreshments.**  
**The best way to start the year!**

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## Announcements

### Prayer Intentions

Please keep in your prayers Arthur and Maxine Frankland, Bob and Jane Latin, Anita, Denis and Margaret Smith, Dennis Brophy, Christopher Moloney, Rosemary Hough, Michael Cross, Alexander, Mark MacKay, and the residents of Swansea Terrace Care Home.

Please pray for our catechumens, Luke, Alexis, Luca, David, Jonathan, Sophie.

Please in your charity could you pray especially for Terry Carradice. We gave the last rites to Terry on 26<sup>th</sup> December, she is very frail and needs our fraternal love.

Please pray for Barbara Ryann from Swansea Terrace who has been unwell recently.

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Last week's collection: £625.44 - Bank transfers: £272.00 - Donations £210.00

**Thank You very much for your continuous generosity!**

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**Thank you very much to our supporters!**

