

The Catholic Parish of The Sacred Heart, Darwen



St. Joseph's Church
Bolton Rd

St Edward's Church
Blackburn Rd

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Church House
370 Blackburn Road
Darwen, BB3 0AA
01254 702525

Priest's Residence
St. Joseph's Presbytery
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"... he shall baptise you with the Holy Spirit."

2nd Sunday of Advent

10th December 2023

St Joseph's

St Edward's

Saturday	6.15 p.m.	9.15 a.m.	Mass Vigil Mass
Sunday	9.00 a.m.	11.00 a.m.	Sunday Masses
Monday			No Mass. Second half of St Bede pupils visiting
Tuesday		10.00 a.m.	Mass followed by Tea and Coffee and Ice Cakes
Wednesday	9.15 a.m.		Mass
Thursday	12.30 p.m.		Requiem Mass Jean Casey (LD)
Friday	9.15 a.m.		Eucharistic Service Fr. Brian is at St Bede's for a day of silent prayer.
Saturday	6.15 p.m.	9.15 a.m.	Mass Vigil Mass
Sunday	9.00 a.m.	11.00 a.m.	3rd Sunday of Advent

Advance Notice for Christmas Masses

There will be 6.15 p.m Mass at St Joseph's Church on **Saturday 23rd of December**, but no 9.00 a.m. Mass at St Josephs on the **Sunday 24th December** morning.

An 11.00 a.m. Mass will take place at St Edwards on the Sunday morning (Christmas Eve) **24th December**.

The Christmas Eve Vigil Mass will start at 6.30 p.m. at St Edwards. The Midnight Mass will take place at St Joseph's Church.

There will be a 9.00 a.m. Mass on Christmas Day at St Josephs, also an 11.00 a.m. Mass at St Edwards.

Like Father Christmas, Fr Brian will then go to bed.

SVP Christmas Meal

The Christmas Meal for the Elderly and Housebound has been arranged for **Saturday 16th December** at St Edwards Hall at 1.00pm. All the arrangements have now been finalised. Members of the SVP look forward to welcoming everyone and we hope you enjoy the day.

Reverse Advent Calendar

The **Knights of St Columba** are running a Reverse Advent Calendar again this year. The purpose of this is to give back to those less fortunate this year. Collect your items throughout November and December such as toiletries, beans, pasta, etc... maybe a toy or two. Bring to the food bank by 18th December so that we can distribute to the families in need during this Season of Goodwill.

Prayer Decorations

At the back of church. you will find lots of Christmas gift tags for you to write a prayer upon. (Or maybe someone you wish to remember, or a hope for the future) These will be used to decorate the Christmas tree when it eventually goes up.

Knights of St Columba

The Knights plan to help us all keep Christ in Christmas by providing Posters and Stickers for us all to use. These are now available to collect from both churches.



Live-Stream St Joseph's:

<https://www.churchservices.tv/darwen>

A special word for all those at home who follow the Church services on our streaming service. You remain very welcome and a real part of our praying community.

Mass Intentions

Lately Dead: Andrew Helme (LD), Declan Troy (LD), Jill Montague (LD), Jean Casey (LD)

Anniversaries: John Morrin, Derek Walsh, Mary Louisa Kerrane, Bernard Healey, Alan Heys, Gary Francis.

Special Intentions: Special Offering to St Joseph, Special Offering for the Heys Family.

Christmas Fair

Many thanks to all who contributed so generously to the Christmas Fair. It was a great social and financial event raising £1,200.00 and the highlight was the opportunity for so many children getting to see Father Christmas.

There was a great toy stall which was a joint effort from both our schools, thanks go to all the staff and children involved. There were beautiful cakes being snapped up and bottles carried away by happy winners.

The Tombola was great fun, well organised and fully supported. Bric a Brac, Repository goods and let's not forget the chocolate tombola all of which were hugely successful and great fun for all. This was a wonderful parish social event with half of the funds raised to be added to the Christmas collections and will be donated to the Pulmonary Fibrosis trust.

Prayers for the Pope

As we now know Pope Francis was unable to undertake his visit to the COP28 Conference in Dubai. He did manage to send his address regarding the climate crisis, emphasising the need to move ahead with greater energy efficiency and a change of a wasteful lifestyle. Please pray for this 86-year-old man who has massive responsibilities.

Faith Gathering

We have planned to hold a future event on the **Tuesday 23rd January 2024** at St Edwards Parish Hall from 12.30. You are all warmly welcome to join us and we hope to discuss what we have in common and what divides us.

Candidates to become Catholic.

Informative sessions for those who wish to become a catholic are held at 7.00 pm at St Joseph's presbytery. The final discussions will take place on Friday 15th December.

The session will last no longer than one hour and is designed as an introduction to the faith as there is always so much more to learn.

SVP Christmas Gifts

The SVP have arranged for handmade Christmas gifts comprising of earrings and brooches to be on sale at the rear of St Edwards Church. The gifts will then be available at St Joseph's Church for those last-minute Christmas purchases.

All these jewellery items are priced at £2, and all the proceeds will go towards the work of the SVP.

Top Class Trip

Next Tuesday **12th December**, the children from our two top classes from both our Primary Schools are going to the Bolton Octagon Theatre to see *Around the World in Eighty Days*.

I am sure that they will have an enjoyable time and will remember the experience for years to come.



The collections for November were:
Cash £2280.71 and Standing Orders £1320.50

It is worthy of note that you contribute towards our beautiful church's used by so many. So, thank you and pray that we can keep on going.

Thank you for your support.

A/C: TSDT Sacred Heart

A/C no. 40835803 Sort code: 205534

Rotas next Weekend 16th and 17th December 2023

Readers: 6.15pm: C. Garrity

9am: M. Alvarez: 11am: M. Bauer

Eucharistic Ministers: 6.15pm: P. Ainscough
9am: M. Alvarez 11am: J. Ainsworth



St Edward's School

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St Joseph's School

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Rotas this Weekend 9th & 10th November 2023

Readers: 6.15pm: D. Witherington

9am: G. Brindle 11am: A. Atkinson

Eucharistic Ministers: 6.15pm: P. Wardle
9am: M. R. Gordon 11am: P. Corran