

The Catholic Parish of The Sacred Heart, Darwen



“Prepare the way of the Lord ”

St. Joseph's Church
Bolton Rd

St Edward's Church
Blackburn Rd

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

Priest's Residence
St. Joseph's Presbytery
149 Bolton Road
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01254 702026

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Second Sunday of Advent		8th December 2024	
St Joseph		St Edward's	
Saturday	6.15 p.m.	9.15 a.m.	Mass Vigil Mass
Sunday	9.00 a.m.	11.00 a.m.	Second Sunday of Advent
Monday		12.15 p.m.	Requiem Mass Bernard Porter (LD)
Tuesday		10.00 a.m.	Mass followed by tea, coffee cake and a letter writing session in preparation for letters to Santa. "Oh Lord won't you buy me a Mercedes Benz"
Wednesday	9.15 a.m.		Mass
Thursday		9.15 a.m.	Mass
Friday	9.15 a.m.	1.30 p.m.	Eucharistic Service Children's Carol Service
Saturday	6.15 p.m.	9.15 a.m.	Mass Vigil Mass
Sunday	9.00 a.m.	11.00 a.m.	Mass Third Sunday of Advent

Christmas Mass Times

6.30 pm **Tuesday 24th December** Vigil St Edwards.

12.00 pm Midnight Mass **Tuesday 24th December** at St Josephs.

9.00 am **Wednesday Christmas Day 25th December** St Joseph's, and 11.00 am at St Edward's

Christmas Mass Collections

All money taken over the Christmas masses will be donated to the local branch of the National Autistic Society. A great cause, so please mention to any family you have who wish to share.

Churches Carol Service

Next **Saturday 14th December** all the Church Community's of Darwen will be gathering around School Street outside Iceland (appropriate) beginning at 11.00 am to sing Carols, celebrate readings, and express something of the Christian aspect of the meaning of Christmas. Please come along and support this joint action.

Christmas Fayre

It can only be said that the Christmas Fayre last Sunday was a great success and raised a total £1606.00. This means that £803.00 is already prepared to be sent off to the local branch of the National Autistic Society. This was just one of the blessings that the day brought.

Children got to see Father Christmas, who as usual was kind and patient and faithful. Many cakes were made, purchased and eaten. Toys were bought. Conversations were enjoyed over tea and music. Good As New raffles were run, the wonderful legendary bottle stall being adeptly managed. It was a successful event and we as a parish came together continuing to build up our community.

New Chaplains

Thanks go to the existing Chaplains from both our schools who, guided by people from St Bede's helped prepare our new Chaplains for this exciting role next year.



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: Michael Smith (LD), Bernard Porter (LD).

Anniversary: Ellen Shuttleworth, Declan Troy, John Morrin, Joan Wright, Gary Francis, Mary Ryder, Esther McIntyre, Charles McIntyre, John Howard, Peter Summerfield, Mary Louisa Kerrane.

Special Intentions:

PLEASE SUBMIT ANY REQUESTS FOR CHRISTMAS MASS INTENTIONS BY 19TH OF DECEMBER

School Inspection Report

St. Joseph's school had their Religious Education inspection in early November and are thrilled with the report they received. Inspectors determined that the mission statement is lived out by all in the school community and the senior leaders' commitment to the church's mission in education and placing Christ at the heart of the school is exemplary.

Behaviour of pupils in religious education lessons and around school is excellent and the inclusion and support of all pupils including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities is a strength of the school. It was also noted that parents were very complimentary on the way the school and parish work together.

The full report can be accessed via the school website: <https://www.stjosephsrcp.co.uk/inspection-reports/>

St Bede's High School Visit

The school visit was great fun and very informative for the students. A highlight of the visit was when students from the school were allowed to wear the priest's vestments and look holy!

They were a great tribute to the work of all the staff at St Bede's.

Becoming Catholic

If you are interested in becoming a full member of the Roman Catholic faith, or just want to explore the teaching of the Church?

There will be classes on the next 2 Tuesdays leading up to Christmas Day.

That is the **10th and 17th December at 7.00 pm.**

All are welcome to attend.

Reverse Advent Calendar

The Knights of St Columba are asking us to fill a box this Advent with basic needs of in-date food either tinned, bottled or packet. Toiletries like soap, shampoo, toothpaste etc. Laundry items like washing powder/detergent.

When full, take these along to church for handover to the Foodbank on **Friday 20th December.**

Play Group

The next Play Group at St Edwards will be on **Wednesday 11th December** between 9.30 am and 11.00 am. This is the opportunity for young children to play together and have a little fun and also an opportunity for parents to have good chat. A donation of £2.00 would be appreciated. All are welcome to this enjoyable event.

Church Hall Security

Following the tragic event in Southport this summer we have now installed access doorbells to our Church Halls. All groups using the halls must now ensure the doors are kept closed and always locked. St Edward's doorbell is located on the vestibule doorframe and St Joseph's is located on the top lefthand side of the external door.

We trust all Group Leaders will commit to this procedure for their own safety and the safety of all their members.

It is worthy of note that you contribute towards our beautiful churches that are used by so many.

Thank you for your support.

A/C: TSDT Sacred Heart

A/C no. 40835803 Sort code: 205534



St Joseph's School

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St Edward's School

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Tel. 01254 701616

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Rotas this Weekend 7th & 8th December 2024

Readers Sat: 6.15 pm: D. Witherington

Sun 9 am: J. Walsh 11am: A. Frangleton

Eucharistic Ministers Sat: 6.15 pm: D. Witherington

Sun 9 am: S. Aldcroft 11 am: P. Corran

Rotas next Weekend 14th & 15th December 2024

Readers Sat: 6.15 pm: P. Craven

Sun 9 am: L. Loxham 11 am: M. O'Boyle

Eucharistic Ministers Sat: 6.15 pm P. Wardle

Sun 9 am: S. McMillan 11 am: B. Suddick