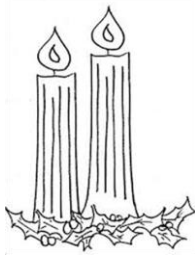


The Catholic Parish of The Sacred Heart, Darwen



“Repent for the kingdom of heaven
is at hand ”

St. Joseph's Church
Bolton Rd

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

St Edward's Church
Blackburn Rd

Priest's Residence
St. Joseph's Presbytery
149 Bolton Road
Darwen, BB3 2PG
01254 702026
www.darwencatholic.org.uk
Priest Fr. Brian Kealey

2nd Sunday of Advent Year A

7th December 2025

St Edward's

St Joseph's

Saturday	6.15 p.m.		Vigil Mass
Sunday	9.00 a.m.	11.00 a.m.	Mass 2nd Sunday of Advent Year A
Monday			No Service Visit by St Bedes pupils to St Josephs
Tuesday		10.00 a.m.	Mass followed by tea/coffee and cake and an expression of the joy of social media without any computer screens or websites.
Wednesday			No Service Visit by St Bedes pupils to St Josephs
Thursday		9.15 a.m.	Mass
Friday	9.15 a.m.		Mass
Saturday	6.15 p.m.	9.15 a.m.	Mass
			Vigil Mass
Sunday	9.00 a.m.	11.00 a.m.	Mass Rose Sunday 3rd Sunday Advent Year A

Christmas Meal

The S.V.P. are hosting their annual Christmas meal for the elderly of the parish on **Saturday 20th of December**. If you do not receive an invitation, please feel free to enter your name on the lists at the back of each church. Names needed by the 14th December for catering requirements.

Reverse Advent Calander

The Knights of St Columba are once again asking for the parish to participate in the Reverse Advent Calander in support of the food bank. This is to help those less fortunate than ourselves at this Christmas time. A donation of food or toiletries will make a big difference.

Advent Booklet

Please feel free to take a copy of the small booklet for Advent entitled Walk with Me. These are available at the back of both our churches.

Second Sunday of Advent

This Sunday is the Second Sunday of Advent So, a suggested small discipline for the week will be take a small notebook to jot down:-
Monday, If there is a fire what possession do you rescue? Why?
Tuesday What was the most valuable thing you ever purchased. Why?
Wednesday What is the most precious thing you possess. Why?
Thursday What could you not live without. Why.
Friday What is enough for you. Why?

Christmas Fayre

Our Christmas Fayre takes place next **Sunday 14th December** in St Edward's Church Hall. Half the Christmas Fayre takings and the whole Christmas mass collections will go to our local hospice.



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: Ronnie Pattinson(LD), Christopher Quinn (LD), Anne Crudge (LD), Eileen Woodman (LD).

Anniversary: Garry Francis, Esther McIntyre, Charles McIntyre, Mary Ryder, John Howard, Salvatore Turco, Giovanni Turco, Derek Walsh, Helen Cowell, Mary Louisa Kerrane.

Special Intentions:

PLEASE SEND ANY SPECIAL INTENTIONS FOR CHRISTMAS EARLY TO ENSURE PUBLICATION

Fr Brian's Illness

Man flu is a much underestimated cause of suffering. Fr Brian was obliged to take seriously this commonly held experience and thanks to all who came to his aid. No No I will be all right. I will get over it. Ohhh No there is no need to make a fuss.

School Mass

As a result of the proliferation of bad news on social media, (Killings take place in California) we are obliged to lock our church in Lancashire) Those mentally unwell may get ideas of copycat horror. We will therefore during a school mass the church doors will be locked.

Offertory Envelopes

The Offertory Envelope are now ready for collection and will be available for you to pick up from the back of each Church from Glenda or Maggie. Thank you if you have signed up for a gift aid donation as this helps bring in extra money without any additional cost to yourself.

Christmas Tree

We refuse to begin the celebration of Christmas too early. From next week there will be present and gift tags at the back of church upon which you are encouraged to write an intention. These prayers will then be used to decorate our tree.

Drug Addicts Anonymous

The next meeting of this group is on **Thursday the 11th December** in St Edwards Parish Hall. The meetings will run from 7.00 pm until 8.15 pm.

Play Group

The next Play Group held in St Edward's Church Hall will be closed **Wednesday 10th December**. The group will be open on the 17th December.

St Bede's visit

Each year the students from the GCSE year of St Bede's visit a Synagogue in Manchester, and St Josephs Church here in Darwen. This provides practical elements for their GCSE course in RE. They get the opportunity to ask questions as to why certain things exist and therefore turning theory into reality. This is taking place next Monday and Wednesday.

Christmas Posters

This Sunday, after mass, the Knights of St Columba will again be handing out "Keep Christ in Christmas" Posters at the back of St Joseph's Church. The posters are free, but any small donation towards the Knights national Charity appeal will be gratefully received.

Please look out for the Bookmarks in the Hymn books These are to celebrate 100 years of the Darwen Council of the Knights of St Columba serving the Parish. Please feel free to take one home with you.

Poetry pamphlet

A selection of Fr Brian's poems in booklet form are available from the repository stall at both churches. The cost only £3.00 for CAFOD.

Becoming Catholic

If you are interested in becoming Roman Catholic or simply want to explore what is involved in the teaching of the church, then you are invited to attend one hour sessions of information.

The next of these sessions is on **Tuesday 9th December at 7.00pm**, followed 18th December. All taking place in St Joseph's house and with a promise that they last precisely one hour.



St Joseph's School

Limes Avenue, Darwen, BB3 2SG

office@stjosephs.blackburn.sch.uk

Tel. 01254 706264

www.stjosephsrcp.co.uk



St Edward's School

Blackburn Rd., Darwen, BB3 0AA

office@stedwards.blackburn.sch.uk

Tel. 01254 701616

www.stedwardsrcdarwen.co.uk

Rotas this weekend 6th & 7th December 2025

Readers Sat: 6.15 pm: L. Atherton

Sun 9 am: L. Loxham **11am:** B. Beardsworth

Eucharistic Ministers Sat: 6.15 P. Wardle

Sun 9 am: M. Worden **11 am:** C. Avino

Rotas next weekend 13th & 14th December 2025

Readers Sat 6.15pm: D. Witherington

Sun 9 am: M. Alvarez **11am:** J. Fitzgerald

Eucharistic Ministers Sat: 6. 15pm: P. Ainscough

Sun 9 am M.R. Gordon **11am:** P. Corran