



**“Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven”**

# The Catholic Parish of The Sacred Heart, Darwen

**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  
Darwen, BB3 2PG  
**01254 702026**  
[www.darwencatholic.org.uk](http://www.darwencatholic.org.uk)  
Priest Fr. Brian Kealey

**Fourth Sunday Ordinary Time Year A**

**1st February 2026**

**St Edward's**

**St Joseph's**

Saturday	6.15 p.m.		No Mass at St Edwards Vigil Mass
Sunday	9.00 a.m.	11.00 a.m.	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
Monday		12.00 noon	Requiem Mass Beatrice Warmsley (LD)
Tuesday		10.00 a.m.	Mass followed by tea coffee and the ignoring of conversation as we sit beside our friends, and communicate on our phones with people who are not there.
Wednesday	9.15 a.m.		Mass
Thursday	9.15 a.m.		Mass due to BT arriving between 8 am and 1pm
Friday		10.45 a.m.	Requiem Mass Yvonne Hctor (LD)
Saturday	6.15 p.m.	9.15 a.m.	Mass Vigil Mass
Sunday	9.00 a.m.	11.00 a.m.	Mass 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

## Dates for your diary

Ash Wednesday is 18<sup>th</sup> February. So Easter is early this year. Holy week begins on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March and continues to Easter Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April. So get your priorities sorted and find those Easter Eggs.

## Becoming a Catholic

After this year's set of courses Fr Brian is committing to giving three talks on our faith throughout the coming year. What do you want to learn about? Please let him know.

## East Lancs Hospice

Rean Knowles and Anne Atkinson travelled up to the East Lancashire Hospice and presented a cheque for £3573.00 on behalf of the parish. Thanks again to all concerned who gave so generously.

## Spring Coach Trip

The date for this years Spring Coach Trip is **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> of April** and our destination is the wonderful City of Chester. We will be picked up from Darwen about 9.00am and leave at about 5.00pm from the Roman Amphitheatre . It is quite a time off but think about it and jot it in your diary.



**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 Swinburne (LD), Frank McGuire (LD), Louis McCann (LD), Yvonne Hctor (LD), Beatrice Warmesley (LD), Mary Forkin (LD).

**Anniversary:** Tiana Thompson, John Walsh. Mary Scott, James Culshaw, Josef Bauer, Peter Thomas Walsh, Angelo Avino.

**Special Intention:** The Family RIP

## A Class on Scripture

Fr Brian will be giving an hour's class on the Bible on **Tuesday 10th of March** at St Edwards Parish Hall. This will be a fairly casual affair, and will involve history and prayer. If the last time you had a class on your faith was when you were at school, why not give it a try.

## Sacramental Programme

Our children on the Sacramental Programme have started to make their commitment and begin this year's sacramental programme. Thanks go to our school and all that make this possible.

On **Wednesday 4th and Thursday the 5<sup>th</sup> of February** they will celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation for the first time.

## St Carlo Acutis

During January the relics of St Carlo Acutis were hosted by two churches in the Salford Diocese when schools, parishioners and individuals from the North West were able to view and pray for their own intentions.

Born in 1991, Carlo is the first millennial saint and he is celebrated for his profound faith and use of the internet to log Eucharistic miracles from around the world. Carlo was passionate about spreading the teachings of the Catholic Church up until his death from leukaemia at the age of 15.

## Thought for the Week

Everything looks impossible for the people who never try anything.

## Gift Aid Envelopes

All of the new 2026 Gift Aid/Offertory envelopes have now been distributed.

If anyone has any questions, please contact either Glenda or Maggie.

## 100 Years of Service

On the **4th of July 2026** the Knights of St. Columba Council 149 Darwen will have been serving the Darwen Catholic community for 100 years. Members of the Knights seek to support the mission of the Roman Catholic Church and at the same time work for the spiritual, intellectual and material welfare of its members and their families.

If you require more information please contact Mike Lomax Email: [pgk\\_province21@ksc.org.uk](mailto:pgk_province21@ksc.org.uk)  
Mobile No: 07946476688

## The Meaning of Faith

Faith is a profound trust or confidence in someone or something, often without absolute proof. It is not limited to religious belief, although many associate faith with spirituality or the conviction of a higher power.

In everyday life, faith can mean believing in a friend's support, in the goodness of people, or in the eventual success of one's efforts. Faith is the quiet assurance that, despite uncertainty or adversity, things will turn out as hoped. It inspires perseverance, hope, and courage, helping individuals face challenges and remain steadfast in their values and dreams.



## St Joseph's School

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## St Edward's School

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Tel. 01254 701616  
[www.stedwardsrccdarnen.co.uk](http://www.stedwardsrccdarnen.co.uk)

## Rotas this weekend 31<sup>st</sup> Jan & 1<sup>st</sup> Feb 2026

**Readers Sat: 6.15 pm:** A. Morgan

**Sun 9 am:** M. Davies **11am:** J. Ainsworth

**Eucharistic Ministers Sat: 6.15 P.** Wardle

**Sun 9 am:** M. R. Gordon **11 am:** C. Avino

## Rotas next weekend 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> February 2026

**Readers Sat 6.15pm:** L. Atherton

**Sun 9 am:** J. Walsh **11am:** A. Atkinson

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

**Sun 9 am** G. Brindle **11am:** P. Corran