



“You are the light of the world”

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

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Priest Fr. Brian Kealey

Fifth Sunday Ordinary Time Year A

8th February 2026

St Edward's

St Joseph's

Saturday	6.15 p.m.	9.15 a.m.	Mass Vigil Mass
Sunday	9.00 a.m.	11.00 a.m.	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
Monday	9.15 a.m.		Mass
Tuesday		10.00 a.m.	Mass followed by tea coffee and an investigation into the e-mail trail leading up to fears that the weekly raffle may have been fixed by Elizabeth. A regular winner of Custard Creams.
Wednesday	9.15 a.m.		Mass
Thursday		9.15 a.m.	Mass
Friday	9.15 a.m.		Eucharistic Service
Saturday	6.15 p.m.	9.15 a.m.	Mass Vigil Mass
Sunday	9.00 a.m.	11.00 a.m.	Mass 6 th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

Dates for your diary

Ash Wednesday is 18th February. So Easter is early this year. Holy week begins on Sunday 29th March and continues to Easter Sunday 5th 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.

St Valentine's Day

The patron Saint of beekeepers. An appropriate role for a day in which those who buy flowers or meals get stung.

Spring Coach Trip

The date for this years Spring Coach Trip is **Thursday 30th of April** and our destination is the wonderful City of Chester. The price will be £15. 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: Beatrice Warmsley (LD), Mary Forkin (LD), Eugene Jordan (LD).

Anniversary: Peter Thomas Walsh, Angelo Avino, Janie Hackett. Winifred Boland, Peggy Read, Paul John Davies, Jim Dawson.

Special Intention: For a dear friend awaiting medical test results.

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.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Our children on the sacramental programme were in Church the evenings of Wednesday and Thursday last week to celebrate the sacrament.

They learn to stop, recognise and say sorry. Then begin again. This the most neglected and necessary Sacrament

Lenten Time

Lent is a solemn period in our Christian calendar, lasting for forty days (excluding Sundays), beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending on Holy Saturday. It symbolises Jesus Christ's forty days of fasting in the wilderness and serves as a time for self-reflection, repentance, and spiritual discipline.

Traditionally, we observe Lent through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, often giving up certain luxuries as a form of sacrifice. The season encourages deeper spiritual growth and preparation for the celebration of Easter, which commemorates Christ's resurrection.

Lent is marked by humility and renewal, inviting participants to strengthen their faith and compassion towards others.

Funeral Fees

It is worth observing that funerals are generally expensive. Families pay and feel uncomfortable about questioning the service or the price. Respect and dignity need to be celebrated. However, there is no harm in ensuring that the service received reflects the price, and that all is treated with dignity.

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
Mobile No: 07946476688

Lent

What are you going to do for Lent?

Thought for the Week

A real friend is one who walks in when everyone else walks out.

Come on The Rovers

Come on Blackburn. Emerge from the danger zone and go on to compete.



St Joseph's School

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St Edward's School

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Rotas this weekend 7th and 8th 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

Rotas next weekend 14th & 15th February 2026

Readers Sat: 6.15 pm: D. Witherington

Sun 9 am: L. Loxham **11am:** M. Bauer

Eucharistic Ministers Sat: 6.15 P. Craven

Sun 9 am: F. Davis **11 am:** B. Beardsworth