



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
Priest Fr. Brian Kealey

"I am the resurrection and the life"

Fifth Sunday in Lent Ordinary Time Year A

22nd March 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 Lent in Ordinary Time in Year A
Monday	9.15 a.m.		Mass
Tuesday		11.30 a.m.	Mass followed by a Lenten Lunch of soup and bread and the distribution of sun cream in preparation for the oncoming spring sunshine.
Wednesday	9.15 a.m.		Eucharistic Service Fr Brian is at St Bede's for Lent services.
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 Palm Sunday in Ordinary Time in Year A

Reconciliation Service

This **Tuesday 24th March** at 7.00 p.m. (the week before Holy Week) we are having a reconciliation service in St Joseph's Church involving a number of priests. This will include personal confession.

What are you doing for Lent?

Advance Notice of our Easter Services

Maundy Thursday 2nd April St Joseph's Mass followed by Adoration until Midnight.

Good Friday 3rd April St Joseph's 12.00 noon Stations of the Cross.

Good Friday Celebration of the Passion at St Edward's 3.00 pm

Easter Vigil Mass Saturday 4th April St Joseph's 6.15 pm

Easter Day Sunday 5th April Masses St Joseph's at 9.00 and St Edward's at 11.00 am

Palm Sunday

Next **Sunday 29th March** we shall follow our tradition and process with the cross up to Darwen Tower. We will be setting off from the Green near Darwen Leisure Centre BB3 1PW at 2.00pm. This is a great annual event lead by our scouting community.

Lent means Soup

Generally, the Mass on Tuesdays during Lent will be held at St Edwards at 11.30 am, The Mass will be followed by soup in the Parish Hall. This is the annual traditional penance and fund raiser. All parishioners are encouraged to participate.

Turin Shroud

There is to be a copy of the Turin Shroud on display at Blackburn Cathedral from the **Monday 23rd of March until Sunday 12th of April.**

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: Sid Wilson (LD), Kazimierz Kozlowski (LD), Ewa Mazik (LD), Mark Roberts (LD), Pat Bourke (LD), Eveline Airey (LD), Lynne Pilkington (LD).

Anniversary: John Howard, Tiana Thompson, Tom McIver, Louis Sudall, Bill Read, Stuart Brindle, Brian Christopher Walsh, Frances Margaret Cox.

Special Intention: Mass for a sick person. Mass for prayers answered,

Mothers Day: Esther McIntyre, Anne McIver, Elizabeth Burke, Alice Sandbach RIP, Eileen Mears RIP

Summer Chester Zoo Trip

This heavily sponsored trip will be on **Tuesday 18th August**. More details to follow but take the day off work.

Money left in a will

We have recently received a deposit of money left in the estate of a member of the parish. This sort of thing is growing ever more important to the maintenance of the parish. Thanks be to God for the generosity of all those who have gone before us.

A Musical Afternoon- advance notice

The Knights of St. Columba are organising a musical afternoon with Reece Thomas playing the guitar and singing hits from across the decades.

This event will be taking place on **Sunday 3rd of May** at St Edward's Parish Hall from 1.30 pm. Tickets £7.00

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings

This group are now back on in St Joseph's Hall each Friday with a 7.00pm start. The group is extremely welcoming and have an Open Meeting on the first Friday every month for family, friends or professionals. All other Friday meetings are closed meetings for those with a drinking problem who want to stop. Contact 07963795427 or 07990598651.

Thought of the Week

Those who walk with God always reach their destination.

Spring Coach Trip

The date for this year's 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. There is now a list at the back of Church upon which you could please add your names and help with the planning.

Drug Addicts Anonymous

This group meets in St Edwards Parish Hall on a Thursday evening and are most welcome. Let us pray that groups such as this support each other. May they also spread the word about the ways out of dependency.

St Joseph's Roof Repairs

Work has been carried out on the flat roof between the Church and the house. A repair to keep out the rain has been carried out around the ventilation pipe.

Play Group

The Play Group at St Edwards will only meet once a month. The next play group will be on **Wednesday 25th of March** and will be open between 9.30-11am.

Daily News

Try and watch the news twice a day. Do not get dragged into the neurosis of 24 hour coverage of something you can do little or nothing about.



St Joseph's School

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St Edward's School

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Rotas this weekend 21st and 22nd March 2026

Readers Sat 6.15pm: P. Craven

Sun 9 am: M. Sweeney **11am:** M. O'Boyle

Eucharistic Ministers Sat: 6.15pm: D. Witherington

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

Rotas next weekend 28th & 29th March 2026

Readers Sat: 6.15 pm: A. Morgan

Sun 9 am: F. Davis **11am:** J. Walsh

Eucharistic Ministers Sat: 6.15 P. Wardle

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