



“We have heard for ourselves and know that this is indeed the Saviour”

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

Third Sunday of Lent Ordinary Time Year A

8th 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.	Third Sunday of Lent in Ordinary Time Year A
Monday	9.15 a.m.		Mass
Tuesday		11.30 a.m.	Mass followed by soup bread and the planning meeting designed to catch the Easter Bunny, or whichever marketing manager invented it.
Wednesday	9.15 a.m.		Eucharistic Service. Fr Brian is spending the day in prayer in the Chapel of St Bede's school.
Thursday		9.15.a.m.	Mass. A class of children are joining us so please if you can attend come along.
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 4th Sunday of Lent in Ordinary Time Year A (Laetare Sunday)

Turin Shroud

There is to be a copy of the Turin Shroud on display at Blackburn Cathedral from the **23rd of March until the 12th of April**. This forms part of an exhibition detailing the history and research associated with the famous shroud. The Turin Shroud is a centuries-old linen cloth bearing the faint image of a man, believed to be Jesus.

A Talk on the Scriptures

There is a change of location for this hour long talk on scripture given by Fr Brian. It will now be held at **St Joseph's Church on Tuesday 10th March at 7.00pm.**

If the numbers allow then we shall gather in the room beside the sacristy. If hundreds arrive then we will retire to the church. The promise remains that it will not go over the hour.

Lent means Soup

Mass on Tuesdays in 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.

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

Reconciliation Service

This is to take place on **Tuesday 24th March at St Joseph's Church** and will consist of a simple service, small homily, Litany of Penance, and then the opportunity to go to one of the four priests present for individual confession.

What are you doing for Lent?

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: Ron Thompson (LD), Ilda Ricioppo (LD), Patricia Hilton (LD), Joanne Rigby (LD), Beryl Crabtree (LD).

Anniversary: Bill Clarkson, Annie Conlon, Mary Knowles, Joan Wright on her 100th Birthday anniversary, Harry Grime, Nellie Chadwick, Ellen Walsh, Barbara Pimms, John Howard, Sid Wilson, Kazimierz Kozlowski, Ewa Mazik, Mark Roberts.

Special Intention: For a successful operation and treatment, A special intention, Mass for a sick person.

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.

Play Group

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

House Bound Visits

We shall be visiting half of this great community during this coming week.

The War in the Middle East

You would be well advised to watch or listen to the news only twice a day. It is so easy to get dragged along with events you can do nothing about. If you have a particular interest, then well and good. But if not, pray for peace, be informed, but avoid the neurosis of 24-hour news.

Palm Sunday

That is on **Sunday the 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.

Thought of the Week

Try and fail, but don't fail to try

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.

This Winding Road

The two
Who it would seem
Will have been closest
To me

Who by choice and circumstance
Were allowed into my vulnerable soul
Are already gone

And I
Have still maybe twenty years to go
Never more isolated
Never more alone

I set out again
Upon this winding road



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St Edward's School

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Rotas this weekend 7th and 8th March 2026

Readers Sat 6.15pm: L. Atherton

Sun 9 am: S. McMillan **11am:** P. Simms

Eucharistic Ministers Sat: 6.15pm: P. Ainscough

Sun 9 am S. Aldcroft **11am:** J. Ainsworth

Rotas next weekend 14th & 15th March 2026

Readers Sat: 6.15 pm: D, Witherington

Sun 9 am: G. Brindle **11am:** A. Frangleton

Eucharistic Ministers Sat: 6.15 P. Craven

Sun 9 am: M. Worden **11 am:** M. Bauer