



“I am the door of the sheep”

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

Fourth Sunday of Easter in Year A

26th April 2026

St Edward's

St Joseph's

Saturday	6.15 p.m.		No morning Mass at St Edward's Vigil Mass
Sunday	9.00 a.m.	11.00 a.m.	Fourth Sunday of Easter in Ordinary Time in Year A
Monday	9.15 a.m.		Mass
Tuesday		10.00 a.m.	Mass followed by tea coffee cake and a discussion on Fr Brian's holiday snaps.
Wednesday	12.45 p.m.		Funeral of Kieran O'Conner RIP
Thursday			No Mass Chester Trip
Friday	12.00 Noon		Funeral Natalia Barbah Jayne RIP
Saturday	6.15 p.m.	9.15 a.m.	Mass Vigil Mass
Sunday	9.00 a.m.	11.00 a.m.	Fifth Sunday of Easter in Ordinary Time Year A

A Musical Afternoon

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 will be priced at £7.00

Future Collection

As many of you will have realised the Arab Christians throughout the Holy Land are suffering badly because of the present situation. The region is very dependent upon tourism and is continually threatened by constant violence. These innocent victims need our support so the weekend collection for the 9th May will be sent to the Roman Catholic Church for the area which will go to support these poor people.

A Prayer for Peace

In these troubled times, please dedicate a prayer for peace across the world.

Spring Coach Trip

Our Spring Coach Trip is next **Thursday 30th of April** to the 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. The coach is now full.

There are still a few people to pay. **Please pay for the trip** in full by placing your money in an envelope, marked with your name and "Chester Trip" and then hand it to Fr. Brian or place within the offertory basket.

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.

Since receiving its charter on 4th July 1926 with 24 initial members the Knights have sought to support the mission of the Roman Catholic Church



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: Malcolm Crook (LD), Davie Armstrong (LD) Kieran O'Conner (LD) funeral Wed 29th April, Natalia Barbah Jayne (LD) funeral 1st May,

Anniversary: Joe Holden, Eileen Entwistle, Gordon Waddicor. Ken and Dorothy Witherington, Sarah Jane Walsh, Percy Scott.

Special Intention: Mass for a full recovery for Judith Sergeant, Thanksgiving for blessings received, For a special intention.

Summer Chester Zoo Trip

This heavily sponsored family trip to the zoo will be on **Tuesday 18th August**. The price is £5.00 for a child (15 years or below) and £7.00 for an adult.

To book places put the total fee in an envelope and write the name of the family, the number of children, the number of adults and a telephone contact number and put through either church door. There are limited numbers so get booked as soon as you can and book time off work.

Drug Addicts Anonymous

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

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 for the Week

Sorrow looks back, worry looks around faith looks up

Red Boxes Update

Thank you to all those who have contributed to the Red Box Mill Hill Missionaries Charity. For the year 2024-2025 we have collected and donated a grand total of £2226.78. This includes all the moneys from the red collection boxes, direct debits and online donations.

Again, a huge thank you. Maggie and Sarah.

Gift Aid

We kindly urge all members of our congregation, who unfortunately have to pay UK taxes, to consider making their weekly donation to the church using Gift Aid. This simple step enables us to increase our income at no extra cost to you, as the government adds 25p for every £1 you donate. Once set up you will simply place your donation into a Gift Aid envelope and place this into the offertory basket. Your generous weekly support through Gift Aid will help us sustain our vital initiatives and help maintain the church for future generations.

Please speak to Glenda Brindle at St Joseph's Church or Julie Ainsworth at St Edward's Church for further information and help with the easy setting up of Gift Aid. All that is needed is your name, address and signature and we will do the rest. Your contribution will make a difference.

Pictures on display

On display in the entrance to both our churches is a display of artwork created by the children from our schools. The work depicts aspects of Easter through their eyes. Take some time to have a look and please pick out your favourites and mention it to one of the members of the Knights of Columba.



St Joseph's School

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St Edward's School

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Rotas this weekend 25th and 26th April 2026

Readers Sat: 6.15 pm: A. Morgan

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

Eucharistic Ministers Sat: 6.15 P. Wardle

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

Rotas next weekend 2nd and 3rd May 2026

Readers Sat 6.15pm: L. Atherton

Sun 9 am: B. Hughes **11am:** B. Beardsworth

Eucharistic Ministers Sat: 6.15pm: P. Ainscough

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