



**“Command me to come to you
on the water”**

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

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

9th August 2026

St Edward's

St Joseph's

Saturday	6.15 p.m.	9.15 p.m.	Mass Vigil Mass
Sunday	9.00 a.m.	11.00 a.m.	Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A
Monday	9.15 a.m.		Mass
Tuesday		10.00 a.m.	Mass followed by tea coffee cake and arrangements to join Andy Burnham on his holiday. Oh how pleased he will be to see us.
Wednesday	9.15 a.m.		Mass
Thursday		9.15 a.m.	Eucharistic Service
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.	The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP)

The St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) is an anti-poverty charity and part of an international Christian voluntary network. We offer practical, compassionate support to people experiencing poverty, hardship or isolation.

Within the Darwen area we are a small but dedicated group of individuals who are constantly supporting our local community.

We are always looking for more volunteers to help with this work, contact Father if you want to get involved. Across England and Wales, more than 8,000 faith-motivated volunteers visit vulnerable or isolated people, offering friendship, dignity and practical help tailored to individual needs.

The next meeting is on **Monday 10th August** in St Edward's Parish Hall starting at 7.00pm. Come along if you are interested in joining us and want to know more about the local work we carry out.

Classes on Faith

Classes for people interested in the faith. These will be starting up before Christmas which is not so far away. Dates for these classes will be announced in the newsletter.

A Date for your Diary

The Knights of St Columba Council 149 Darwen are organising a live music event with the incredible MIKE LESTER.

This will take place on Sunday afternoon **25th October** at St Edwards Parish Hall. The doors open at 1.30pm. Ticket price is £7.00 and includes Pie and Peas and Tea/Coffee.

A bar will be available, and all proceeds will go to local charities.

Next Coach Trip

Our next coach trip will be to the small Welsh town of Llangollen on Tuesday 29th September 2026. More details will be available soon. Keep the date free in your diary and join us on this day out.



Live-Stream St Joseph's:

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.

<https://www.churchservices.tv/darwen>

Mass Intentions

Lately Dead: June Shorrocks (LD), Jean Holden (LD), Chris Johnson (LD), John Keane (LD)

Anniversary: Daniel Mason, Damien Duckworth, Maria Jergovic, George Robert Gordon (1st August) 50 years, Mary Kate Healy anniversary of birth and death, Elizabeth Burke, Esther McIntyre.

Special Intention: For a speedy recovery.

Our Hidden Helpers

In every parish, many acts of service happen quietly and without fuss. Alongside the visible ministries at Mass, there are faithful helpers who carry out the small jobs that keep our church welcoming, prayerful, and cared for.

To all who tidy the hymn books on the benches, arrange flowers, prepare the sacristy, make tea, clean, organise, greet parishioners and hand out the service sheet and newsletters, open up, lock up, and notice what needs doing before anyone asks: thank you. Your service may often be hidden, but it is deeply appreciated and known to God.

In the life of the Church, no loving act is too small. These quiet works of kindness help create a place where others can pray, feel welcome, and belong. They remind us that humble service is at the heart of following Christ.

May we never take these little acts for granted. To every helper working quietly behind the scenes, thank you — and may God bless you for all that you do.

Back to School

The new term for both St Edward's and St Joseph's school will welcome pupils back on **Wednesday 2nd September**.

Both schools have an Inset Day for their staff on Tuesday 1st September and are closed to pupils. The Parish welcomes all new pupils to school, may they enjoy the excitement of learning and the joy making lots of new friends.

Thought for the Week

Service is love in working clothes.



St Joseph's School

Limes Avenue, Darwen, BB3 2SG

office@stjosephs.blackburn.sch.uk

Tel. 01254 706264

www.stjosephsrcp.co.uk



St Edward's School

Blackburn Rd., Darwen, BB3 0AA

office@stedwards.blackburn.sch.uk

Tel. 01254 701616

www.stedwardsrcdarwen.co.uk

Rotas this weekend 8th and 9th August 2026

Readers Sat 6.15pm: D. Witherington

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

Eucharistic Ministers Sat: 6.15pm: P. Craven

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

Rotas next weekend 15th & 16th August 2026

Readers Sat: 6.15 pm: F. James

Sun 9 am: M. Davies **11am:** C. Avino

Eucharistic Ministers Sat: 6.15 D, Witherington

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

Taken from Pope Leo Encyclical

"Above all, it is visible in the "martyrs of everyday life" who care for, educate, accompany and comfort without failure, such as parents, nurses, doctors, volunteers and those who remain alongside an elderly person or an outcast. Their testimony demonstrates that goodness does not advance automatically, but requires the perseverance, memory and interior conversion necessary to begin anew, even after defeat."

Summer Chester Zoo Trip

The trip to the Chester Zoo is fast approaching. The date is **Tuesday 18th August**.

Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings

This group meets 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.

New group meeting arranged

The next meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous will be held in St Edward's Parish Hall at 6.30 until 9.00 pm on **Wednesday 12th August** Please pray for this group and the work it does.

Drug Addicts Anonymous

This group meets in St Edward's 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.