



**"Listen! You are to conceive and bear a Son"**

# The Catholic Parish of The Sacred Heart, Darwen

**St. Joseph's Church**  
Bolton Rd

**St Edward's Church**  
Blackburn Rd

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## 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent – Year C

19<sup>th</sup> December 2021

St. Joseph's St. Edward's

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>6.15 p.m.</b>		<b>Vigil Mass</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9.00 a.m.</b>	<b>11.00 a.m.</b>	<b>Mass</b>
Monday	<b>12 noon</b>		<b>Requiem Mass Dorothy 'Dot' McKay R.I.P.</b>
Tuesday		9.15 a.m.	Eucharistic Service
Wednesday	9.15 a.m.		Mass
Thursday		9.15 a.m.	Mass
<b>Friday</b>	<b>12 Midnight</b>	<b>6.30 Vigil</b>	<b>Christmas Vigil &amp; Midnight Masses</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>9.00 a.m.</b>	<b>11.00 a.m.</b>	<b>Christmas Day Masses</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>9.00 a.m.</b>	<b>11.00 a.m.</b>	<b>Mass – Feast of The Holy Family</b>



### Bishop's Conference This Week Sunday Obligation



*"The Bishops, now having reflected on the current situation in England & Wales, recognise that the cause and effects of the pandemic are still present to such a degree that the absolute duty for all to freely attend the Sunday Eucharist Celebration cannot yet be fulfilled."*

### Official Covid Update

The risk of touch transmission has been proved now to be very small so there is no need for strict regimes of church cleaning that were recommended at the beginning of the pandemic.

Congregational singing within church buildings should continue with applied face coverings.

### Practical Guidance

- Face coverings must be worn in Church buildings unless exempt.
- Hand sanitiser to be available in Church.
- Good ventilation & air circulation to be created.
- General church cleaning is sufficient.
- All eligible adults are encouraged to get vaccinated &/or have booster vaccination.
- Anyone involved in pastoral ministry should take regular lateral flow tests.



### Christmas Numbers Limited

Due to the Omicron surge, there will be reduced numbers at the Christmas Masses. The Vigil Mass is now full.

### Mid-Week Masses

Be aware that there are only a few people at the mid-week Masses, and we have very big Churches. So, if you want to attend Mass around Christmas time, mid-week is a good time to remain safe.

**If you are vulnerable, or to avoid the virus spreading in family, workplace or community, please stay at home.**

### CHRISTMAS MASS BOOKINGS

**BOOK 1 MASS ONLY & PLEASE TEXT:**

**SURNAME - MASS TIME - PLACES**

**e.g. Brown 6.30pm 2 places**

A simple YES/NO reply will be returned.

#### Christmas Eve

**6.30pm Vigil St Edward's: FULL**

**Midnight Mass St Joseph's: 07772 257315**

#### Christmas Day

**9am St Joseph's: 07598 908987**

**11am St Edward's: 07722 889932**



### RAFFLE DRAW LIVE-STREAM

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

This Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> December after 6.15pm Mass. Winners will be contacted via text/phone Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December & list of winners via Facebook & Website. Total raised will be published next week.

**NO SATURDAY NIGHT MASSES**  
**Christmas Day & New Years Day**



**CROHN'S & COLITIS UK**

PLEASE NOTE

You can donate online or post if you are unable to attend Mass.

## Mass Intentions

**Lately Dead:** Jean McBride, Yvonne Ross, Dorothy McKay, Kathleen Purdy

**Anniversaries:** Rita Maynard (14<sup>th</sup> Dec), Ted Godwin (22<sup>nd</sup> Dec), Ronald & Nancy Haworth (24<sup>th</sup> Dec) John & Eleanor Toner, Maureen Watson (21<sup>st</sup> Dec), Barbara Timms (22<sup>nd</sup> Dec)

**Christmas:** John & Eleanor Toner, Agnes & James Wilkinson, Christmas babies: James Thomas Toner, Thomas & Adam Toner, Arthur Maud Jarvis, Kevin Porter, Eileen Porter, John & Mary Howard, Robert Large, Tom & Nellie Taylor, George & Annie Hackett, Howard Family, Durkin Family, Patrick Joseph Kerrane, Mary Louisa Kerrane, Michael John Kerrane, Peter Richard Kerrane, Frances Margaret Cox, Catherine Louise Haworth, Frank Haworth, Thomas & Lilian Gillett, Joe & Esther Holden

**Other:** Joan Toner (special thanks), May Hughes, for a successful operation,

### SUNDAY OBLIGATION

*The absolute duty for all to freely attend the Sunday Eucharist Celebration cannot yet be fulfilled.*” Bishops’ Statement 12<sup>th</sup> December 2021.  
(Full statement on our website homepage blog.)



### Live-Stream St Joseph's



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

Requiem Mass this week

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December 12noon

Dorothy 'Dot' McKay RIP

### St Joseph's Tunnel – Did You Know?

A blocked tunnel entry can be seen in what was, the lower yard of St Joseph's old school; now under the shelter on the church car-park. This was linked to coal mining activity in the area. Two drift cuttings can be seen on the north-east side of Darwen Moor. The embankment of the tram road runs from the north-western drift towards Radfield Head. The course is indistinct in places, but an embankment can be clearly traced opposite Jennet House. Below Radfield Head nothing can now be seen of the track although one of the two tunnels was exposed during house building work late 1990.

### Let Us Pray: For Peace in The Ukraine

### Well Done St Bede's

Close to 200 Y11 students came to St Joseph's Church last week in groups, to prepare for their GCSEs and to celebrate their heritage in the Catholic Church. They also visited a Synagogue in Manchester. They were a credit to St Bede's.

### Thank You SVP

Many thanks to members of the SVP who staffed the kitchen in the Parish Hall during lunchtime and provided service with a smile!

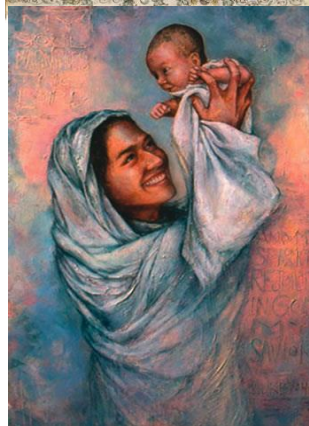
### Online Banking Appeal

We are grateful for your continued financial support During the pandemic, many have maintained their weekly contribution by setting up a monthly standing order or bank transfer. This method has proved most beneficial, particularly for gift-aid purposes. We invite everyone to engage in this way, if possible, from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022, except for those who prefer to make weekly cash donations.

### HANDS FACE SPACE & GRAB THE JAB

We have a moral obligation to protect others in our family & in the community. Fr Brian will not be attending the Rovers match this Saturday to avoid unnecessary mixing. Prioritise what's right for you.

### Fr Brian's No Car Day – Tuesday This Week



### St Edwards 11.00 am

What could be more  
Wonderful  
Than the sound  
Of a child  
In church  
On a Sunday morning  
To hear the notes  
Of happiness  
As one mumbles  
In response  
To the murmuring organ  
  
Or a babe  
startled  
and awakened  
calls out  
to “this brave  
new world  
That has such people  
In it”

### November Collection Totals

**Standing Orders & Bank Transfers: £1122.50**

**Cash Envelopes: £1617.40**

We are truly grateful for all donations to the Parish. Special thanks also to our out-of-town viewers who have signed up for gift-aid & standing orders.

### WEEKLY COLLECTIONS – MANY THANKS

A/C: TSDT Sacred Heart

A/C no. 40835803 Sort code: 205534



### Rotas Next Weekend 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> December

**Christmas Masses** to be arranged by Fr Brian

**Readers:** Sunday: to be arranged on day.

**Ministers:** Sunday 9am M Alvarez; 11am M Bauer