



ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PARISH, DARWEN

Parish Priest: Mgr. Peter Wilkinson

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Fifth Sunday of Easter

2nd May 2010

This week in St. Joseph's Parish

Sunday	9.00 a.m.	Sunday mass – Fifth Sunday of Easter
Monday	9.15 a.m.	Morning prayer from the Divine Office <i>No mass on Monday</i>
Tuesday	9.00 a.m.	Mass – the English Martyrs
Wednesday	9.00 a.m.	Mass
	2.45 p.m.	Mass in school for year 5 (parents welcome)
	7.00 p.m.	Bible study
Thursday	9.00 a.m.	Mass
Friday	9.00 a.m.	Mass
Saturday		<i>No services on Saturday morning</i>
	6.15 p.m.	Vigil mass for Sunday
Sunday	9.00 a.m.	Sunday mass – Sixth Sunday of Easter

*The church is open for private prayer each weekday morning from 9 a.m. until midday.
Volunteers to help maintain this service are always welcome.*

Shortage of priests

We are aware that the current situation means that things can change very quickly. During the course of the last week it has become clear that Fr. Willoughby of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, Longshaw, Blackburn, needs residential care. He is a Jesuit priest and the Jesuits have taken him to one of their houses to receive the assessment and care that he needs.

His parish has been handed to the two Darwen parishes to cover with immediate effect. We are not sure what this will mean in practice and whether it will be permanent or short-term, but it is a reminder that we need to be moving to a situation where more parishioners take more responsibility for the life and running of the parish because priests are not always going to be there to do the day to day stuff which keeps parishes going.

This weekend Fr. Dugdale will say the vigil mass at Our Lady's, the 9 a.m. mass at St. Joseph's, the 11 a.m. mass at Sacred Heart and the 5.30 p.m. mass at Sacred Heart. I will say the vigil mass at St. Joseph's, the 10.00 a.m. mass at Our Lady's and the noon baptisms at St. Joseph's.

There will be a meeting during the week with the Dean to discuss future cover for Sundays, weekdays, funerals, baptisms, weddings, sacramental programme, etc. There is going to have to be flexibility of mass times and an over-all reduction in masses, Sundays and weekdays. No decisions will be finalised without consultation, but clearly it is not going to be possible to keep everyone happy. Your patience and generosity of spirit will be needed.

Please keep Fr. Willoughby and our three parishes in your prayers.

Fr. Peter

Mass intentions received

Anniversaries: John Flynn

Birthday anniversaries: Marie Flynn, Herbert Sandbach (5th May), Harry Mears (5th May)

Other intentions: the holy family, St. Martin and St. Theresa, St. Anthony and St. Jude, special intention, St. Jude (for confidence to go outside into the town)

Scouts St. George's Day parade

On behalf of the Darwen District Scout Association, I would like to take this opportunity to convey my sincere thanks to all who assisted in any way with last Sunday's St. George's Day parade of standards: mass, refreshments, etc. Groups from St. Joseph's, Bold Venture Park and Hoddlesden St. Paul's were represented. It was a very pleasant and uplifting occasion with over 120 Scout members present in church. A special thanks to Fr. Peter and the parishioners of St. Joseph's for facilitating and welcoming all these young people and their families on this special day.

Michael Grime, Darwen District Commissioner (Acting)

Walking treasure hunt (organised by the K.S.C.)

Next Sunday, 9th May, starting from the parish hall (repair work permitting)

Teams of 2 or 3 people (of any age) will start between 11 and 11.30 a.m. and the walk should take about an hour. Refreshments will be available and entry is £3 per team.

Parish summer meal

Sunday, 27th June, at M.J.'s Restaurant, Whitehall Hotel, starting at 6.30 p.m.

There are still places available. Please add your name to the list at the back of church if you would like to come along. The cost is £15.95 per person and a deposit of £5 per person will be needed by next Sunday, 9th May. Please contact Alec or Margaret on 772365 for more details.

... and don't forget...

"Active Kids" and any other vouchers – please leave in the basket at the back of church

Last weekend's collections

Offertory collection	£600.10
Ecclesiastical education fund	£162.04

Thank you

200 Club winners

1 st prize	£40	198	Nora Jackson
2 nd prize	£10	146	Eileen Helliwell
3 rd prize	£5	52	Michael Coster

Ministries

	This week		Next week	
	<i>Saturday</i>	<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>	<i>Sunday</i>
Readers	Parade (<i>cancelled</i>)	T. Thompson P. Cooney	Anna Gibbs P. Cooney	D. Jarrett A. Thompson
Eucharistic Ministers	A. Barker A. Gibbs P. Ainscough P. Wardle T. Mclver	D. Jarrett B. Melia P. Cooney M. Alvarez J. Briggs	R. Knowles A. Barker A. Gibbs P. Ainscough P. Wardle	D. Forbes F. Boudjeko A. J. Gordon G. Brindle D. Jarrett