

The Messenger

The Church Magazine of
St Peter's Church, Darwen

All are welcome in this place



April 2026 Price £1 (unless prepaid)

ST PETER'S CHURCH DARWEN
BANK STREET, DARWEN BB3 3HE

VICAR
Rev Alison Mitchell
The Vicarage (also known as the Rectory)
2 St Peter's Close
Darwen BB3 2EA
rev.alison@stpeterschurchdarwen.org
07540 792409

PARISH OFFICE
Tel. 01254 703929
(Phone messages are currently picked up
on Sundays and Wednesdays but e-mail
messages to
stpeterschurch829@btinternet.com
are checked frequently)

SERVICES

SUNDAY

10.00am Sung Eucharist

WEDNESDAY

10.00am Eucharist

We welcome visitors to our Church - Church is open:

SUN: Church open from 9.00am to 11.30am
Refreshments are usually served after the services

WED: Church open 8.45am - 11.30am
9.00am Morning Prayers 10.00am Eucharist
Refreshments are usually served after the service

**(At Christmas and Easter and on some other occasions alterations
to these times may occur)**

Details of additional services, events and activities at church each
week can be found in our weekly Notice sheet, on 'A Church Near
You', and also on our Facebook page, which has a daily update.

Contents

Church Diary	Page 3
Rev Alison's letter for April	Page 6
Church Flowers and Darwen Food Larder	Page 8
Anniversaries this month	Page 9
Enquiries	Page 11
Church Directory	Page 12

Diocesan Centenary Prayer



Heavenly Father,
in our Centenary year
we rededicate ourselves and our Diocese to you.
Send the Holy Spirit to give us
confidence in our witness,
generosity in our service,
and love for our neighbours,
that your Church may be renewed
and many come home to you,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

- 16th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
6.30pm Bible Study in church
- 17th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
- 19th **The Third Sunday of Easter**
9.00am Morning Prayers in church
10.00am Sung Eucharist with Junior Church
3.30pm Taizé Service
- 20th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
4.00-8.00pm Darwen Food Share
- 21st 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
12.00pm Bible Study in church
- 22nd 9.00am Morning Prayers in church
10.00am Eucharist
- 23rd 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
6.30pm Bible Study in church
- 24th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
- 26th **The Fourth Sunday of Easter**
9.00am Morning Prayers in church
10.00am Family Sung Eucharist - no Junior Church
3.30pm St George's Parade - Scouts
- 27th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
4.00-8.00pm Darwen Food Share
- 28th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
12.00pm Bible Study in church
- 29th 9.00am Morning Prayers in church
10.00am Eucharist
- 30th 9.00am Morning Prayer on Facebook
6.30pm Bible Study

Rev Alison's letter for April

Dear Friends in Christ,

We already into the fourth month of the year, April. April always feels like a month that is caught between seasons. Winter hasn't quite let go, me and Tony saw snow the day before our Wedding in April, yet spring is already pushing its way through the soil with quiet determination. Snowdrops give way to daffodils, the evenings stretch a little longer, and the world seems to take a deep breath after months of grey, to hopefully bluer skies.

And it is no coincidence that Easter falls in this season of change. The story at the heart of our faith is one of transformation. Of light breaking into darkness, of hope rising where hope seemed impossible. The first Easter morning didn't arrive with trumpets or fanfare. It came quietly, almost shyly, as dawn crept over a garden and a stone rolled away.

What strikes me each year is how ordinary the setting is. A garden. And a group of grieving friends. A morning just like any other. And yet, in that ordinary moment, God did something extraordinary.

Many of us long for that kind of renewal. We carry our own versions of Good Friday – loss, worry, exhaustion, unanswered questions. Sometimes we might feel like the disciples on Holy Saturday, stuck in the in-between, unsure of what comes next. But Easter reminds us that God's work is often hidden ... before it is revealed. And that, resurrection begins long before we notice it.

This month, I encourage you to look for the small signs of new life around you. A conversation that softens a long-held hurt. A neighbour's kindness. A moment of unexpected peace. These are the quiet resurrections that prepare us for the larger ones.

Whether you come to church every week or haven't been for a long time, everyone is warmly invited to join us. Not because we have everything sorted, but because none of us do. We come just as we are – hopeful, doubtful, joyful, weary – and discover again the God who meets us in all of it.

May this Easter time bring you a renewed hope, a gentle joy, and the deep assurance that light is stronger than darkness, and love is stronger than death.

Every blessing,

Alison.



CHURCH FLOWERS

(carried over from March as we do not have flowers in church during Lent):

MARCH:

Remembering Phoebe Kate Robinson on

- 10th March - Loving memories*
- 22nd March - Happy Birthday
Always in our thoughts, Grandma & Grandad*

EASTER DAY: - *“In loving memory of Maurice” -
Mildred & Family*

Thank you very much for your donations.

Esther

FOOD LARDER - APRIL

TOOTHPASTE, SOAP, SHOWER GEL and SHAMPOO

We are in the fortunate position of having a well-stocked food larder at this moment in time, so the above items would be gratefully received to supplement our parcels.

Many thanks, Esther

Anniversaries we remember in April



3rd Jack Buck Peter Waring

4th Harold Hampson Barbara Joinson

7th Ian Waddicor

10th Elizabeth Kay Harry Ginger John Smither

Patricia Whalley

13th Harold Taylor Robert Harwood

Les Waddicor Peter Grear

16th Ralph Eccles Joan Ashworth

Hilda Dickinson

17th Annie Prince

18th Alice Bradshaw

19th Christopher Howson

20th Albert Gregson

21st Robert Bury Vincent Kelly

22nd David Webb

24th Marjorie Bibby Tom Dougherty

25th Marion Wilson John Fielding

26th Isobella Webster Jean McEvoy

28th Pauline Howson

29th Lewis Barnes Victor Francis

Edwin Ainsworth Ltd

Independent Family Firm

Funeral Directors

The Oldest Business in Darwen
Est 1856



Church Bank Street, Darwen, BB3 3HA

01254 873290

www.funeraldirectorsdarwen.co.uk



Complete Funeral Service

Chapels of Rest

contact

Gregory and Patricia Dabrowski - Day or Night

ENQUIRIES

BAPTISM

Those who live in the Parish, and who can with any integrity make the affirmations of faith required within the Baptism Service, may have their child baptised at St Peter's. Baptisms are normally held by arrangement, but are usually on the second Sunday of the month at 12.30pm.

If you would like to arrange a baptism, please make contact with Rev Alison via rev.alison@stpeterschurchdarwen.org, or phone 07540 792409. Messages left for Alison on the office phone 01254 703929 will be passed on.

MARRIAGE

Those who live in the Parish, or are on the Electoral Roll of the Parish, are entitled to be married at St Peter's.

Anyone who would like to arrange a wedding, or the calling of Banns at St Peter's, is asked to make contact with the Vicar, Rev Alison.

CARE OF THE SICK

If you or a loved one are unable to be present at our Church services and would like to receive Communion at home, or if you want us to include someone's name on our sick list, please contact Rev Alison.

Rev Alison can be contacted in the following ways:

- by sending a message to her e-mail address rev.alison@stpeterschurchdarwen.org.
via a message to our church e-mail address stpeterschurch829@btinternet.com
- by phoning 07540 792409, or the Parish Office on 01254 702939 - any messages left will be passed on to her; or
- by speaking with her at church after one of our services.



Parish Office	01254 703929
Churchwarden	Elliott Walsh
Deputy Churchwarden	Tony Rivron
Authorised Lay Minister (ALM)	Adam Conley
Treasurer	Ian Riley
Stewardship Recorders	Elliott
Gift Aid	Allison L
Under 18's and Vulnerable Adults Safeguarding Officer	Susan Toms e-mail - safeguarding@stpeterschurchdarwen.org
Pastoral Assistants	Zillah and Lynne
Organist and Choir Director	(vacancy)
PCC Secretary Data Protection Lead and Electoral Roll Officer	Anne Carus



stpeterschurch829@btinternet.com

A Church Near You – [achurchnearyou.com/St Peters Darwen](http://achurchnearyou.com/St-Peters-Darwen)