



6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)

LOVE AND THE LAW

SCHEDULE		
Sun 10th	6th Sunday of Easter 09:15 Adoration & Confession 10:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Mass & Choir 11:45 Church Clean	
	Parish Community 11:45 Refreshments	
	Leadership Team 12:00 Meeting	
Mon 11th	Easter week 6 08:00 Mass	
Tue	Easter week 6	—
Wed 13th	Our Lady of Fatima 08:00 Mass	
Thu 14th	10:00-12:00 Garden Open	
	The Ascension of the Lord <i>Holy Day of Obligation</i> 08:00 Mass 12:00 Mass 19:00 Mass	
	12:30 Friendship Group	
Fri 15th	Easter week 6 09:15 Mass with SF school	
Sat 16th	10:00-12:00 Garden Open	
	Sacramental Programme 10:45 Arrival 11:00 Meeting	
	Easter week 6 11:00 Confession 12:00 Mass	
	7th Sunday of Easter 17:00 Confession, Adoration & Evening Prayer 17:30 Vigil Mass	
Sun 17th	7th Sunday of Easter 09:15 Adoration & Confession 10:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Mass & Choir 11:30 Church Clean	
	Parish Community 11:45 Refreshments	

When discussing our call as Christians, people sometimes draw a false distinction between “the Law” and “Love”. Some claim that the Old Testament faith was rooted in rules and regulations and by a harsh and legalistic God who was there in essence to enforce the Law whilst faith in the New Testament offers a new understanding of God in which Love does away with everything else and so we don’t have to worry too much about the rules.

However, in his ministry and teaching, Jesus made it clear that he had not come to abolish the Law but to fulfil it. Many New Testament scriptures point out that the Law alone failed to keep people in a loving Covenant with God, but this does not mean that the Law had to be disposed of.

In the Gospel reading today, Jesus speaks a line which to my mind, hasn’t received much commentary over the years and yet is crucially important. Jesus says, “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.” In other words, one of the ways in which we show our love for God is by keeping to the Law. In fact a love of the Law had been an Old Testament theme, in particular in some of the psalms, for example Psalm 119 in which the psalmist says, “O how I love your Law, it is my meditation all day long.”

Of course our faith is not a deal or a bargain, but it does involve covenant and promise. Just as the Lord asks for our love, he also promises, in his love, that he will not leave us orphans and that we will be sent “another Helper,” the Holy Spirit. As we approach the great Solemnities of the Ascension and Pentecost, we are reminded that our love entails a faithful keeping of God’s Law.

God bless, Fr Kevin.

WEEKDAY MASSES IN THE WEEK AHEAD

Please note that there are changes to the normal pattern of weekday masses in the week ahead. There is no mass on Tuesday. On Wednesday there will be mass at 8.00 a.m. and on Thursday there will be three masses (see below).

SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION

Thursday 14 May is the **Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord** and a **Holy Day of Obligation** on which Catholics are expected to attend mass if possible. With this in mind, I am therefore offering three masses on this day, at **8.00 a.m., 12.00 p.m. and 7.00 p.m.** Please do make every effort to celebrate this great feast by coming to one of the three masses.



FREE FUN DAY

On June 6th we will have a free community “fun day” with the help of Manchester City Council “Pride in Place” grant. You will be able to have your say about the future of Gorton. There will be a **Bouncy castle, Circus Sensible, Light refreshments, Fun games and family activities.** Volunteers are needed. Please contact Fr Kevin, Wendy or Ann.

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

The next meeting of the Parish Leadership Team is on **Sunday 10 May at 12.00** in the Presbytery. Thank you very much indeed to the new team who are already putting plans in place, taking actions and making a difference. Some team members will be speaking at forthcoming masses to update everyone about developments.

JOB VACANCY AT SACRED HEART SCHOOL

Sacred Heart school is recruiting for an Admin Officer. Salary: Grade 4 £25,584 to £27,269 (pro rata, actual £22,066 to £23,519) Working Pattern: 35 hours per week. Term time only plus 5 INSET days. Start Date: As soon as possible. An application pack is available at: <https://www.sacredheartsgorton.org.uk/page/?title=Office+Vacancies&pid=106>

SPACES IN SACRED HEART SCHOOL (Y1 & Y4)

Due to the relocation of some of our lovely children, Sacred Heart school currently has space in Years 1 and 4. Please call the school (0161 223 0231) or visit the school office if you require a place in either of these year groups.

PARISH PRAYERS

If you would like a mass offered for a specific intention, pass an envelope with an offering of £10 or more to Fr Kevin, noting if it should be kept private.



MASS INTENTIONS

BIRTHDAY: MARY BRENNAN (90TH)
ANNIVERSARY: DEREK HODGE (1ST)
BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY:
GEMMA MCGUNGLE GOFF

OUR BRETHREN WHO ARE UNWELL

AILSA SMITH, JANET MCCARTHY,
JENNIFER HUNTER, MARTIN
BRENNAN, TOMMY LOFTUS

CONTACT US

Parish Priest: Fr Kevin Murphy
Permanent Deacon: Davie Nalikata
Administrator: Minna Moffatt-Feldman
Safeguarding Reps: Kate Osemwengie, Ann Todd.
Parish Office: Sacred Heart Presbytery, Levenshulme Road, Gorton, M18 7WJ.
Telephone: 0161 223 0338
parish@sacredheartstfranciscorton.co.uk
www.sacredheartstfranciscorton.co.uk
Facebook: Sacred Heart & Saint Francis of Assisi Parish

YOUNG ADULTS HUB

Young Adults Hub was created especially for those aged 18–35 across the Diocese of Salford. The Hub offers a welcoming space for young adults to deepen their faith, build authentic friendships, and grow together through prayer, formation, and social gatherings. For more information, email Mikey hub.president@vol.dioceseofsalford.org.uk or Edward hub.chair@vol.dioceseofsalford.org.uk

CATHOLIC HOLIDAYS IN THE LAKE DISTRICT

Castlerigg Manor in Keswick (heart of the Lake District) is offering budget-friendly holidays for Catholic families during May, August, and early September. Breakfast and evening meal are included and there will be Mass on site. Guests have full use of the site including the grounds, games room, chapel, and lounges, and Castlerigg is just a short walk from Keswick and Lake Derwentwater. Ideal for individuals, couples, families, or groups of friends. www.castleriggmanor.com or contact director@castleriggmanor.co.uk / 017687 72711

AFRICAN CARE GIVERS' RESEARCH

Research about caring for children with ADHD (diagnosed or suspected) is being conducted as part of a MSc at Manchester Metropolitan University. If you are interested in taking part, please email: Valiwe.parker-wood-brown@stu.mmu.ac.uk

CATHOLIC CHURCHES—RESEARCH PROJECT

This research is investigating the perception of beauty in church architecture and how this may affect the spiritual experience of Priests, Laity and Public. It is part of a MSc programme at University of the Built Environment (formerly known as UCEM) by Simon Gibson, You can complete it here: <https://forms.gle/byxFG6a3w3hyKNqMA>



BIBLES AND BOOKS ON FAITH

This is a reminder that there are beautiful "easy-read" Bibles on sale for just £5.00 at both churches. These Bibles contain essential Old Testament and New Testament readings and provide a wonderful summary of some of the most important parts of Holy Scripture. I have also taken delivery of a lot of brand new books on the Faith which have been massively discounted and also on sale at very cheap prices.




RIGHT TO LIFE

As we approach the Ascension of the Lord, we ask the Lord to protect in body and spirit, all those who are in hospice care and all those who are terminally ill. May they feel the God's comforting presence and find strength and hope in their time of need. **Lord hear us.**

THE DIVINE OFFICE

We are now joining together to pray the Divine Office (the prayer of the Church) on both **Saturday evenings (SF 17:00)** and **Sunday mornings (SH 10:00)**. Prayer sheets are available so please do come to the front of church and join in.

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

WEEKEND MAY 2-3RD	
 Basket	£137.30
 Basket	£433.00
 Digital	£230,00

Please consider making offertory contributions **by Standing Order**. If required, forms are available at each church, use the QR code, or **transfer** directly from your bank:



TSDT SACRED HEART & ST FRANCIS GORT, 20-55-34 // 20707600