



# 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)

## SCHEDULE

|             |   |   |
|-------------|---|---|
| Sun<br>26th | <b>4th Sunday of Easter</b><br>09:15 Adoration & Confession<br>10:00 Morning Prayer<br>10:30 Mass & Choir<br>11:45 Church Clean |   |
|             | <b>Parish Community</b><br>11:45 Refreshments   |   |
| Mon<br>27th | <b>Easter week 4</b><br>08:00 Mass  |   |
|             | <b>Requiem Mass</b><br>12:00 Edward More  |   |
| Tue<br>28th | <b>Easter week 4</b><br>09:15 Mass  |   |
| Wed         | <b>St Catherine of Siena</b>  | — |
| Thu<br>29th | 10:00-12:00 Garden Open   |   |
|             | <b>Easter week 4</b><br>12:00 Mass  |   |
|             | 12:30 Friendship Group  |   |
| Fri<br>30th | <b>Easter week 4</b><br>09:15 Mass  |   |
| Sat<br>1st  | 10:00-12:00 Garden Open   |   |
|             | <b>Confirmation Programme</b><br>11:00 Meeting  |   |
|             | <b>Easter week 4</b><br>11:00 Confession & Adoration<br>12:00 Mass  |   |
|             | <b>5th Sunday of Easter</b><br>17:00 Confession, Adoration & Evening Prayer<br>17:30 Vigil Mass                                 |   |
| Sun<br>2nd  | <b>5th Sunday of Easter</b><br>09:15 Adoration & Confession<br>10:00 Morning Prayer<br>10:30 Mass & Choir<br>11:30 Church Clean |   |
|             | <b>Parish Community</b><br>11:45 Refreshments   |   |

## PRAYER FOR PEACE

Thank you to the good number of you who turned up to pray for peace, as requested by Pope Leo and Bishop John. Your prayers are mighty. It was very good to be together as a parish community, celebrate mass, pray before the Blessed Sacrament, pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Rosary. More than ever we need to keep up our prayers for peace and especially for the hearts of world leaders to be moved to the ways of peaceful negotiation and reconciliation.

## THE GOOD SHEPHERD

Today is "Good Shepherd Sunday" and also "World Day of Prayer for Vocations." We are called to pray for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life. Very often when we do this, we think about a call that we imagine God is making to *other* people. But of course, each one of us has a vocation and we are called to pray about our own vocations as well.

All the readings feature shepherds. In Acts of the Apostles, on the day of Pentecost, Peter, the first Pope, is seen in his role as shepherd in leading people to baptism, repentance and forgiveness. Then we hear the most famous of the 150 psalms. "The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want."

In the second reading, from the first Letter of St Peter, we hear, "For you had were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls." And in the Gospel, Jesus says, "But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep." But he also adds to this in a very interesting way.

We are used to the idea of Jesus being the Good Shepherd. However, he also says, "I am the door of the sheep...If anyone enters by me, he will be saved..." So, Our Lord is both a shepherd to us, but more than this, he is the very way that we enter into the life grace. Our salvation is through him.

The idea of the Good Shepherd runs through the whole Bible. A shepherd is a leader, nourisher, protector, healer and even someone who lays down his life for his sheep. Sheep on the other hand carry notions of straying, being lost, mistakenly copying others and being weak and vulnerable.

As sheep, we are called to recognise the voice of the Good Shepherd and follow him and to pray about the call that he makes to each one of us and about the call that he makes to others.

God bless, Fr Kevin.

## 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](mailto:hub.president@vol.dioceseofsalford.org.uk) or Edward [hub.chair@vol.dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:hub.chair@vol.dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

## 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

**REST IN PEACE:** GEORGE ELSTONE

**ANNIVERSARY:** JACQUELINE DEVLIN, LISA DALY (5TH)

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** SEAN DWYER, PETER EMERY

## OUR BRETHREN WHO ARE UNWELL

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

## YOUTH PILGRIMAGE

Following on from the success of last year, the Diocese are offering young people in Years 7, 8 and 9 another opportunity to go to **Lindisfarne** from Friday 22 May – Sunday 24 May 2026. The cost is £120 which includes travel by coach and full board accommodation. For more info: [youth@dioceseofsalford.org.uk](mailto:youth@dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

## 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 FUNDAY

On June 6th we will have a parish "funday"! In advance of this, we need people to volunteer help with organising and on the day. Please contact Fr Kevin, Wendy or Ann.

## 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](mailto:parish@sacredheartstfranciscorton.co.uk)  
[www.sacredheartstfranciscorton.co.uk](http://www.sacredheartstfranciscorton.co.uk)  
**Facebook:** Sacred Heart & Saint Francis of Assisi Parish

## SPRING CLEAN IN THE GARDEN

Come along any **Thursday or Saturday**. Join our volunteers and help to get the garden ready for the year ahead. There are lots of tasks to help with. Children are welcome as long as they are accompanied by adults. Reminder, we have Stations of the Cross in our gardens—come and enjoy the beauty of God's creation bursting into life.

## 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](http://www.castleriggmanor.com) or contact [director@castleriggmanor.co.uk](mailto:director@castleriggmanor.co.uk) / 017687 72711

## CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING (CST) WEBINAR

Caritas Salford is offering a free webinar to introduce the basic principles of Catholic Social Teaching (CST) in an accessible way, with a particular focus on building hope, homes and a positive future for all.. Online **Thursday 30th April**, 6PM to 7.15PM. Register for your free place or find out more: [www.caritassalford.org.uk/events](http://www.caritassalford.org.uk/events)

## 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>




## NEW DAWN CATHOLIC CONFERENCE 2026

Spring Conference from **29th - 31st May**. Celebrants & Speakers include: Bishop John Arnold, Fr Pat Collins CM, Fr James Anyaegbu, Fr Frankie Mulgrew, John Hesketh, Gary Stephens and Daniella Stephens. Daily Holy Mass, praise and worship, talks, adult, youth and child's prayer ministry and opportunities for confession and personal prayer; bookings are now open: <https://booking.princeofpeace.org.uk/>.

## MARRIAGE SUPPORT

From relationships that are 'Just in a Rut', needing some refreshment or more serious issues - If you are open to try again – Retrouvaille could be the solution. We have helped thousands of couples get their relationship back on track as they rediscovered hope and trust in the marriage. To find out more: [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk) 0797 338 0443

## OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

| WEEKEND APR 18-19TH   |         |
|---|---------|
|  Basket  | £159.60 |
|  Basket  | £341.20 |
|  Digital | £210.00 |

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:



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