



The Sacred Heart &



St. Francis Parish, Gorton

Aug 23rd 2026



21ST SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (A)

SCHEDULE

Sun 23rd	Ordinary Time: 21st Sunday 09:15 Adoration & Confession 10:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Mass & Choir 11:30 Church Clean	
	Parish Community 11:45 Refreshments	
Mon 24th	St Bartholomew 08:00 Mass	
Tue 25th	Ordinary Time Wk 21 09:15 Mass	
Wed	Ordinary Time Wk 21	—
Thu 27th	Garden Open 10:00-12:00	
	St Monica 12:00 Mass	
	Parish Community 12:30 Friendship Group	
Fri 28st	St Augustine 09:15 Mass	
Sat 29th	Garden Open 10:00-12:00	
	The Beheading of St John the Baptist 11:00 Confession & Adoration 12:00 Mass	
	Ordinary Time: 22nd Sunday 17:00 Confession, Adoration & Evening Prayer 17:30 Vigil Mass	
Sun 30th	Ordinary Time: 22nd Sunday 09:15 Adoration & Confession 10:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Mass & Choir 11:30 Church Clean	
	Parish Community 12:00 Refreshments	

MESSAGE FROM POPE LEO

Pope Leo encourages all Catholics, to make greater use of the **Liturgy of the Hours**. He describes the **Eucharist and the Liturgy of the Hours** as “the breath of the life of the Church.” We have been joining together to pray this liturgy for some time - **Saturday** at 17:00 we pray **Evening prayer** at St Francis church and **Sunday** at 10:00am at Sacred Heart Church we pray **Morning Prayer**. Prayer sheets are available, please do come to the and join in.

“THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM”

The two main readings today both feature keys. First of all, we hear part of the story which took place in the time of King Hezekiah. The master of his palace, called Shebna, proved to be unworthy and so the Lord God called Eliakim to take his place. “I will place on his shoulder the key of the house of David.”

This key was obviously a mark of authority, power, trust and responsibility. As the Lord says, “He shall open and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open.” Eliakim is to be greatly honoured.

In the Gospel reading, after Simon Peter has proved himself by saying, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God”, Jesus likewise invests him with great authority and power. “I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.”



It would be easy to conclude that these readings really apply to those with authority in the Church, such as priests, bishops and cardinals. But since the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s, we have come to understand more and more “the priesthood of all believers.” Through baptism, each Catholic shares in the priestly ministry of Jesus.

This means that in different ways, each one of us has been given keys: power and authority within our families, our workplaces, our community, our parish. We are called to exercise this ministry in the humble way that Jesus did, as the Servant King.

In the homily this weekend, I will be looking at some of “keys” that we have been given and how we might use them. We have power to unlock things, as well as to lock things up.

God bless, Fr Kevin.

INVITATION FROM THE CHOIR

Sacred Heart choir invites all parishioners to a summer party this Sunday 23rd August 2026 in the church garden. 3pm to 7pm.



On September 5th, starting at 10am,. Join our diocesan charity, for a 6-mile sponsored hike on the Downham Trail in Lancashire - This walk is for over 18's only. Funds that are raised from this sponsored walk are to support people in our parishes who dealing with poverty, homelessness, and/or isolation. Contact Rachel Taylor: 07739044060.

RIGHT TO LIFE UK

This Thursday, as we celebrate the feast of St Monica, the patron saint of mothers, let us pray for mothers everywhere, that they may be supported by those around them and manifest the love of God to their children. **Lord hear us.**

*Turn your ear, O Lord,
and answer me; save the servant
who trusts in you, my God.
Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I
cry to you all the day long.*

WE ARE MISSING OUT ON ££!

When you donate money to the church, if you are a tax payer, we can claim an additional 25% from HMRC. **It won't cost you anything and it doesn't impact you in anyway.** We just need your permission to claim this in your name (as a tax payer). If you have paid online—we can back-date this **FOUR YEARS!** Minna just needs your name address and signature and we will sort out the rest.

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@sacredheartstfranciscgorton.co.uk
www.sacredheartstfranciscgorton.co.uk
Facebook: Sacred Heart & Saint Francis of Assisi Parish

BECOME A CAFOD SCHOOL VOLUNTEER

CAFOD is seeking volunteers to visit local Catholic schools to lead assemblies and workshops about our work and mission. Help children and young people learn how they can make a positive difference in the world. Full training and support provided. For further information, please contact Anna Letizia on 07710 094449 or email alletizia@cafod.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

ANNIVERSARY: Tom Regan (9th), Peggy Halloran (13th)

BIRTHDAY: JUAAN (8TH), SHERIN

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY: Anthony and Gracie (36th)

OUR BRETHREN WHO ARE UNWELL

JANET MCCARTHY, JENNIFER HUNTER, MARTIN BRENNAN, TOMMY LOFTUS

PILGRIMAGE: IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF OUR LADY OF GIETRWALD AND ST JOHN

In June 1877, The Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to 2 young girls in the small village of Gietrzwałd, north Poland. Over the next three months, Mary appeared 160 times.

On September 11, 1977 the apparitions were officially recognised by the Vatican, the only such in Poland. This pilgrimage visits the Gietrzwałd Sanctuary at the site of the apparitions (including the stream that Mary blessed were water can be collected), the Jesuit Marian sanctuary at Święta Lipka as well as tours the towns of Elbag and Gdańsk. There will be a information evening about this pilgrimage on Thursday September 3rd at St Anne's, Crumpsall and online. If you would like more information - please speak to Minna.



ONLINE TALK ON FRANCISCAN PRAYER

Thursday 17th September 7PM to 8.30PM. In this Year of St Francis, we would like to invite you to an online talk on the 'Characteristics of Franciscan Prayer'. The talk will be presented by Sr Joan Kerley FMSJ and will include the 'Heart of St Francis: Exploring his Prayers'. Register: <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/talk-on-franciscan-prayer/>

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

WEEKEND AUG 15-16TH		
	Basket	£123.00
	Basket	£317.00
	Digital	£280.00

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**