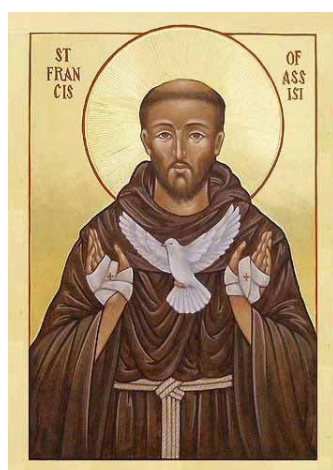




18TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (A)

SCHEDULE

Sun 2nd	Ordinary Time: 18th Sunday 09:15 Adoration & Confession 10:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Mass & Choir 11:30 Church Clean	
	Parish Community 11:45 Refreshments	
Mon 3rd	Ordinary Time Wk 18 08:00 Mass	
Tue 4th	St John Mary Vianney 09:15 Mass	
Wed	Ordinary Time Wk 18	—
Thu 5th	Garden Open 10:00-12:00	
	The Transfiguration of the Lord 12:00 Mass	
	Parish Community 12:30 Friendship Group	
Fri 6th	Ordinary Time Wk 18 19:00 Mass with Anointing of the Sick	
Sat 7th	Garden Open 10:00-12:00	
	St Dominic 11:00 Confession & Adoration 12:00 Mass	
	Ordinary Time: 19th Sunday 17:00 Confession, Adoration & Evening Prayer 17:30 Vigil Mass	
Sun 8th	Ordinary Time: 17th Sunday 09:15 Adoration & Confession 10:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Mass & Choir 11:30 Church Clean	
	Parish Community 12:00 Refreshments	



"COME AND EAT"

I will be very honest and tell you that I often feel a sadness at this time of year when one Sacramental Programme for First Holy Communion has come to an end and we are awaiting the next one to begin in October.

Families on the programme make a commitment to attending a good number of Saturday sessions and also to coming to mass each week, on Saturday evening or Sunday morning. The children and also the parents always have a very positive experience on the programme and the mass at which children make their First Holy Communion is extremely beautiful and uplifting.

I am always moved by the faith of parents that drives them to such commitment to enabling their children to make First Holy Communion. This in itself points to a recognition of the Real Presence of Our Lord in the Sacrament. Parents know how important this is. And yet, when the programme is over, many families then attend mass only a little or not at all.

I say all this only with a disappointment and not with any kind of judgement. The call of our faith through baptism is to "keep holy the Sabbath." It is the requirement of all Catholics to attend mass each week. It is the way that we are fed and the readings at mass this week remind us of this.

Isaiah speaks on behalf of God and says, "Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat!" This is surely an indication of God's free and gracious giving to humankind.

In the Gospel reading we hear again about the feeding of the five thousand. Matthew tell us that Jesus, "...had compassion of them and healed their sick," and of course that he went on to multiply the loaves and fish so that all had enough to eat.

It is good for us to give thanks again to the God who provides for our deepest needs, physical and spiritual and to be encouraged to remain as believers, church-goers and servants of the Lord. The Church is the place where we are truly fed.

God bless, Fr Kevin.

MASS WITH ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please note that mass on Friday next week (7 August) will be at 7.00 p.m. and will include the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. In particular this is an opportunity for some of you to bring elderly or unwell parishioners if they would manage to attend mass with your support and with a lift to and from church. All are welcome.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO PANTASAPH MONASTRY

There will be a pilgrimage to Pantasaph Monastery, North Wales on **Saturday 17th October 2026** as part of the 800th year celebration of the birth of St Francis of Assisi.

At this stage, for more details, please contact the pilgrimage office by telephone on 0161 817 2209 or email:

walsingham.pilgrimage@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

RIGHT TO LIFE UK

"Each human being, made in the image and likeness of God, is a pearl of great price. Let us pray for the grace to appreciate the intrinsic value in every person, born and unborn. **Lord hear us.**"



MARRIED BEFORE GOD?

Sometimes couples have married civilly but have not married in church. Catholics are called to be married sacramentally before God. It is possible for civilly married couples to undertake a "Convalidation" which is a Catholic rite that confers Sacramental Marriage. It has been a great blessing in the parish to conduct such convalidations. Please speak to me for more information.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

To keep you up-to-date, we use email-list, our [website](#) and our [Facebook page](#). We have a parish [WhatsApp group](#) (over 18s only). If you would like to be added, please [email the parish office](#). The newsletter is published online as well as being emailed, added to WhatsApp and printed.

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

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE – LOVE FOR A LIFETIME

This course has the subtitle: 'We Build the House of Our Marriage' and is made up of four units: Foundations that can Carry for a Lifetime, A Wedding of the Stories of two Families, Our Vision of Marriage, God in our Married Life. Please note – this course is run on **Saturday 5th and Saturday 12th September 2026 at 2pm until 5pm**. Attendance is required on both dates. For more information and to register please contact Fr Herbert Opara at fr.herbert@schoenstatt.org.uk or Fr Bryan Cunningham at fr.bryan@schoenstatt.org.uk. St John Fisher RC Presbytery, Manchester Road, Kearsley, BL4 8QQ.

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: JOHN PONDERANI MTENJE NALIKATA

ANNIVERSARY: JOHN JORDAN, ELIZABETH PROCTOR

ILL: JOANNA RODGERS

BIRTHDAY: BRIDGET WALSH

OUR BRETHERN WHO ARE UNWELL

JANET MCCARTHY, JENNIFER HUNTER, MARTIN BRENNAN, TOMMY LOFTUS



SEASONAL WELLBEING EVENTS

These sessions are designed for seasonal connection with nature where we will heal, restore and focus on our mind, body and spirit. The 'Summer' session on **Friday 3 July**, The 'Autumn' session will be on **Friday 16 October** and The 'Winter' session will be on **Friday 15 January 2027**. The cost is £5 per session. Please register by emailing laudatosicentre@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

NEW JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Caritas Salford: <https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/about/careers/>
Diocese of Salford: <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/vacancies/>
Schools: <https://www.dioceseofsalford.org.uk/education/vacancies/>
Emmaus Catholic Academy Trust: <https://emmauscat.com/>
Romero Catholic Academy Trust: <https://www.romerocat.com/>
St Teresa of Calcutta Trust: <https://www.stoccat.org.uk/>

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

WEEKEND JULY 25-26TH		
	Basket	£98.50
	Basket	£343.00
	Digital	£130.00

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**