



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (YEAR B)

PARISH SCHEDULE

Sun 7th	Adoration & Confession 09:15 Quiet Prayer	
	The Epiphany of the Lord 10:30 Mass & Choir	
	Parish Community 11:45 Refreshments	
	Parish Community 11:45 Synod Listening	
	Holy Hour 12:15 Rosary & Prayers	
Mon 8th	The Baptism of the Lord 08:00 Mass	
Tue 9th	Ordinary Time: Week 1 09:15 School Mass	
Wed 10th	Ordinary Time: Week 1	
Thu 11th	Ordinary Time: Week 1 12:00 Mass	
	Parish Community 12:30 Friendship Group	
Fri 12th	Ordinary Time: Week 1 09:15 School Mass	
Sat 13th	Adoration & Confession 11:00 Quiet Prayer	
	Ordinary Time: Week 1 12:00 Mass	
	Adoration & Confession 17:00 Quiet Prayer	
	Ordinary Time: 2 nd Sunday 17:30 Vigil Mass	
Sun 14th	Adoration & Confession 09:15 Quiet Prayer	
	Ordinary Time: 2 nd Sunday 10:30 Mass & Choir	
	Parish Community 11:45 Refreshments	
	Holy Hour 12:15 Prayers for the parish	

“THE BIG LISTEN”

This weekend we celebrate the Solemnity of the Epiphany, which marks the end of the Christmas season. It's traditionally the occasion when we remember the Three Kings coming to Bethlehem to pay their homage to Jesus. “Epiphany” means a manifestation or showing or revelation. The Saviour of the World was shown to the Gentiles as well as the Jews.

This weekend is also the time when our parish will undertake a “Big Listen” as part of the diocesan Synod called by Bishop John. More will be explained at Mass but it's important to understand that in the Synod we are called to listen to the prompting of the Holy Spirit to try to discern the way ahead for our parish and our personal lives.



DIocese of SALFORD
SYNOD 2023-2025

The Epiphany is a very fitting occasion for the “Big Listen” to take place. We pray and trust that God's Holy Spirit will reveal something to us. We are not entering into a discussion or debate; nor are we voting on anything. By praying and listening and speaking, we are seeking God's will.

The Three Kings act as role models for us: they brought their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh to the Lord. We offer our parish community our time, our treasure and our talents. God promises gifts to us in return which are beyond our imagining.



God bless, Fr Kevin.

EPIPHANY: CONFESSION

*Almighty and merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against
you and one another in both our actions
and our inactions. We recognise that in
Jesus our light has come, yet often we
choose to walk in the shadows and
ignore the light. Gracious God, forgive
our sins and remove from us the veil of
darkness which shrouds our lives.*

Amen

CHRISTMAS: A BIG THANK YOU

I would like to thank all parishioners for the most wonderful celebration of Christmas we have had in the five years I have been here. Thank you especially to those who helped in any way. Special thanks go to those of you who prepared the beautiful crib scene, readers, altar servers, stewards and choir. In fact our choir was particularly busy with many members assisting at four events on the Sunday and Monday. Thank you to all of you who turned out so faithfully and in such good numbers. Finally a thank you to those of you who organised the raffle which made a good sum for Mary's Meals, £142.00. Christmas in our parish really was uplifting, reverent, sacred, memorable and beautiful. I am deeply grateful.



Sunday 18th February 12-1:30pm

We would new/good-quality donations to sell to raise money for our parish Mary's Meals project.

Please give donations to Ann Todd, Wendy Scofield or Nancy Nalikata by February 11th so there is time to sort them for sale.

Sacred Heart Parish Centre M18 7WJ

ST FRANCIS SCHOOL: PLACES IN RECEPTION CLASS

Please note that applications for places for the Reception Class need to be submitted by **15 January**



SAVE THE DATE!

Caritas
Diocese of Salford

February 11th, after Mass, there will be Hate Crime Awareness event in the Parish Centre, increasing awareness of accessibility needs, disability experiences and inclusion. There will be some short inputs by people with lived experience, including a priest from Nigeria speaking about his experience and an amputee. **If you or someone you know may be interested in contributing, please talk to Minna.** Lunch will be available and the choir will be performing. More information to follow.

Parish Priest: Fr. Kevin Murphy
Permanent Deacon: Davie Nalikata
Administrator: Minna Moffatt-Feldman

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Facebook: Sacred Heart & Saint Francis of Assisi Parish.

RIGHT TO LIFE UK



As we begin this new year, we pray for all who may be considering an abortion. We pray that we will see a decrease in cases of abortion, and instead a year of increased support, both practical and emotional, from all of us in society, bettering the care for all expectant mothers.

Lord hear us

BERYL MURRAY R.I.P.

I am sad to report that Beryl Murray passed away on Tuesday 2 January at the age of 91. I gave her the Last Rites the night before. She was a much-loved, long-standing and very devoted parishioner here. Her requiem Mass will be on Friday 26 January at 10.30 a.m. Eternal rest, grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR OUR PARISH

MASS INTENTIONS:

The greatest prayer we can offer is the Sacrifice of the Holy Mass. If you would like a mass to be offered for a specific intention, detail this and enclose an offering of £10 or more in an envelope (noting if it should be kept private). Pass this to Fr. Kevin or place in the offertory basket.

HEALTH: MARIE VAUGHAN

OUR BRETHREN WHO ARE UNWELL

AMBER McCOURT, ELIZABETH SENGHORE, LENNY, JOHN AND MARJORIE FISHER, MAGGIE JOYCE, SHEILA DOWNEY, TOMMY LOFTUS.

THE BIG LISTEN

The Big Listen will take place after Masses this weekend. This is a historic opportunity in the life of the Church and the Diocese so please do stay behind for a short session. It is important to listen and to contribute. You can also submit your views by filling in one of the forms that you can collect on the way out of Mass and you can also do this online: <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/faith/synod/>



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SYNOD 2023-2025

CONFIRMATION IN 2025

The programme for our younger and older parishioners who would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2025 will begin soon. You can register online by our website using this link: www.sacredheartstfranciscgorton.co.uk/sacraments. The programme is open to young people in Year 8 and upwards and in fact there is no age limit: some adults have spoken to me about never having been confirmed. This programme is for you as well.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR

	Basket	£109.00 £310.30 £205.00
	Basket	£448.60 £700.00 £566.50
	Online	£280.00

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

Please consider switching to making your offertory contributions by **Standing Order**. Forms are available at the back of each church, or you can set up with your bank directly using these details:

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

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First reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine out, Jerusalem, for your light has come,
the glory of the Lord is rising on you,
though night still covers the earth
and darkness the peoples.

Above you the Lord now rises
and above you his glory appears.
The nations come to your light
and kings to your dawning brightness.
Lift up your eyes and look round:
all are assembling and coming towards you,
your sons from far away
and your daughters being tenderly carried.
At this sight you will grow radiant,
your heart throbbing and full;
since the riches of the sea will flow to you,
the wealth of the nations come to you;
camels in throngs will cover you,
and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah;
everyone in Sheba will come,
bringing gold and incense
and singing the praise of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Psalms 71(72)

All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

O God, give your judgement to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice
and your poor in right judgement.

All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

In his days justice shall flourish
and peace till the moon fails.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the Great River to earth's bounds.

All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

The kings of Tarshish and the sea coasts
shall pay him tribute.

The kings of Sheba and Seba
shall bring him gifts.

Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,
all nations shall serve him.

All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

For he shall save the poor when they cry
and the needy who are helpless.

He will have pity on the weak
and save the lives of the poor.

All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

Second reading: Ephesians

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Jesus Christ, through the gospel.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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Alleluia! Alleluia!

We saw his star as it rose
and have come to do the Lord homage.

Alleluia!

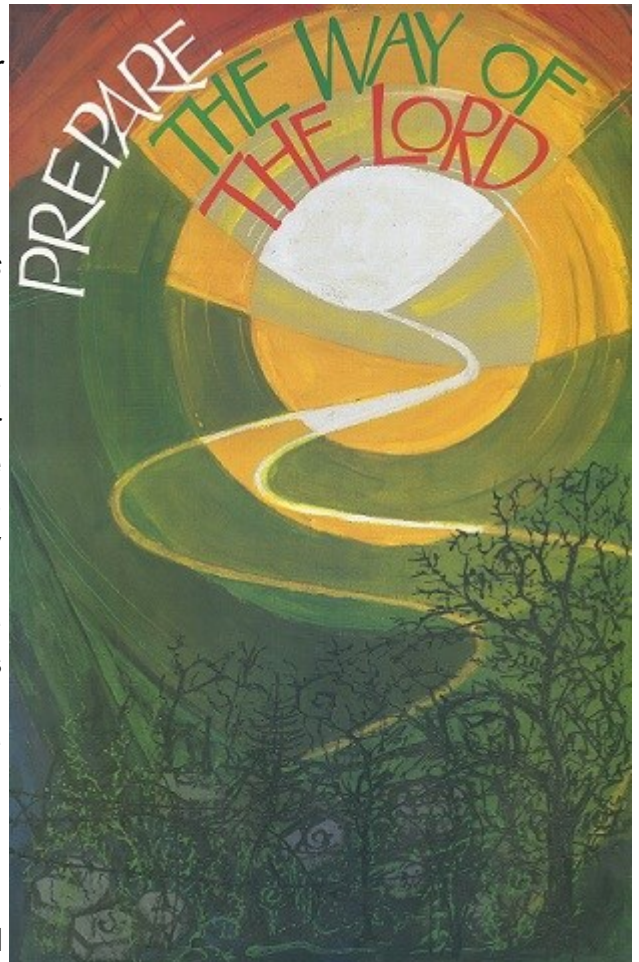
Gospel according to. Mark

The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the book of the prophet Isaiah:

*Look, I am going to send my messenger
before you;
he will prepare your way.*

*A voice cries in the wilderness:
Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths
straight.*

and so it was that John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All Judaea and all the people of Jerusalem made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. John wore a garment of camel-skin, and he lived on locusts and wild honey. In the course of his preaching he said, 'Someone is following me, someone who is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to kneel down and undo the strap of his sandals. I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.



The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.