



3RD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)

PARISH SCHEDULE

Sun 21st	Adoration & Confession 09:15 Quiet Prayer	
	Ordinary Time: 3rd Sunday 10:30 Mass & Choir	
	Parish Community 11:45 Refreshments	
	Holy Hour 12:15 Rosary & Prayers	
Mon 22nd	Ordinary Time: Week 3 08:00 Mass	
Tue 23rd	Ordinary Time: Week 3 —	
Wed 24th	St. Francis de Sales —	
Thu 25th	The Conversion of St. Paul 12:00 Mass	
	Parish Community 12:30 Friendship Group	
Fri 26th	Requiem Mass 10:30 Beryl Murray	
Sat 27th	Adoration & Confession 17:00 Quiet Prayer	
	Ordinary Time: Week 3 12:00 Mass	
	Adoration & Confession 17:00 Quiet Prayer	
	Ordinary Time: 4th Sunday 17:30 Vigil Mass	
Sun 28th	Adoration & Confession 09:15 Quiet Prayer	
	Ordinary Time: 4th Sunday 10:30 Mass & Choir	
	Parish Community 11:45 Refreshments	
	Holy Hour 12:15 Rosary & Prayers	

THE CALL... TO PRAYER

Last week we heard about the call of Samuel. God called Samuel three times and each time Samuel thought that it was his teacher Eli who was calling him. Eli advised him that it must be God calling, so when Samuel heard another call, he realised it was God calling him and he finally answered, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus calls people to repent and believe the Good News. He also calls Simon and Andrew to follow. Simon and Andrew did not hesitate. Last week, I made a call for cleaning help at the end of Mass and some people came forward straight away. We are always blessed when we follow the call.



The first reading about Jonah illustrates this very well. God called Jonah and gave him a task, which was to go to the great city of Nineveh and preach to the people before the city was destroyed. Jonah was successful and the city was spared

disaster.

But we should remember what happened to Jonah when God first called him: "Jonah decided to run away from God..." So he boarded a ship for Tarshish. Jonah realised that he had been avoiding God's call, got thrown overboard the ship and then swallowed by a whale! This illustrates what can happen when we fail to follow God's call.

Pope Francis has called us all to a Year of Prayer and began the year by asking us to entrust our prayer to Mary, the Mother of God. We can't answer all the other calls God makes to us unless we answer the call to prayer, for it is through prayer itself that God makes the deepest and clearest call to us.

God bless, Fr Kevin.

MARY'S MEALS: THANK YOU



This week I received another large donation of several hundred

pounds and so the parish total will have gone over £6,000.00. We have about three months in which to raise the final £2,000.00+. Even if you can't afford the suggested £20.00 donation which more than pays for a child to receive a free school meal for a whole year, please donate what you can. Thank you for all the generosity so far.

SJOG HOMES FOR UKRAINE

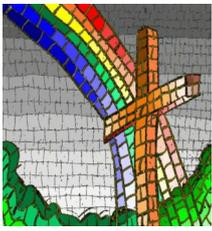
Nearly two years since the full-scale invasion of Ukraine, the number of those still wishing to evacuate and find refuge in the UK continues to be high. If you are interested in learning how you can help, there is an information session on Saturday, February 3rd, 2.00-3.30pm. Register your interest: <https://forms.office.com/e/7HCQt5XXg>. For more information see: sjog-homesforukraine.uk



Loreto sixth form college

EMPLOYMENT VACANCY

Loreto Sixth Form Catholic College is seeking to appoint a full-time teacher of Core Religious Education. Core RE has centrally planned resources and is not an examined subject. Therefore, there are no formal assessments and no significant marking commitments. As a Core RE teacher, your unique role will be to develop students spiritually, ethically and theologically. For more information: <https://www.loreto.ac.uk/vacancies/>



LGBTQ+

The next Salford Diocese Mass in fellowship with brethren who identify as LGBTQ+, their friends, families, and supporters

will be celebrated on **Saturday January 27th, 15:00**. This space is inclusive and diverse. There will be the opportunity to meet and chat after Mass. All are welcome. St. Augustine's Church, Grosvenor Street, M15 6BW. Allow time to park in the local area, and note that the venue is accessed by stairs.



JUMBLE



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.

REDUCING HATE CRIME (DISABILITY)

Sunday February 11th, after Mass, there will be an event in the Parish Centre, increasing awareness of accessibility needs, disability experiences and inclusion with the view to reduce hate crime. There will be some short presentations by people with lived experience of disability, including a priest from Nigeria speaking about his experience as an amputee. Lunch will be available. More information at <https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/event/reducing-hate-crime-disability/>

CONTACT US

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

RIGHT TO LIFE UK



For all going through difficult pregnancies, we pray for an overwhelming sense of hope and joy to fill their lives, and for increased support to be given by their family, friends, and local communities. **Lord hear us**

CLEANING HELP ON SATURDAY MORNING



I am very grateful to various people who have come forward to offer help cleaning the church each Saturday morning. Many hands make light work! There is still a need for more people to help out. Please come to church at 9.30 a.m. You will be given clear guidance as to how to help and the session should finish by 11.00 a.m., in fact earlier if more people help.

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.

ANNIVERSARY: NAN MOFFATT (2ND)

OUR BRETHREN WHO ARE UNWELL

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

FOODBANK DONATIONS: THANK YOU

Manchester Foodbank made another collection of donated items from our parish on Thursday and not so long after their last collection. I was therefore very pleased to find out that even from a smaller collection, nineteen adults were provided with 171 meals. I intend for the collections to start in earnest again in Lent. Thank you so much for your continued generosity. Your charity really is making a difference.



ST FRANCIS CHURCH MUSIC MEETING



Both churches in our parish are blessed with some wonderful singers and musicians. There is going to be a short meeting after Mass on Saturday 27 January at St Francis Church so that we can make plans to develop the singing at Mass, plan for Lent and beyond and also consider how we can use some hymns for children so that the young ones on the Sacramental Programme can be more included at Mass. All are free to attend

CONFIRMATION IN 2024

The programme for our younger and older parishioners who would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in 2024 will begin soon. You can register online by our website using this link: www.sacredheartstfranciscorton.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.

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

WEEKEND 13-14/01/24	
 Basket	£189.30
 Basket	£436.70
 Online	£168.66

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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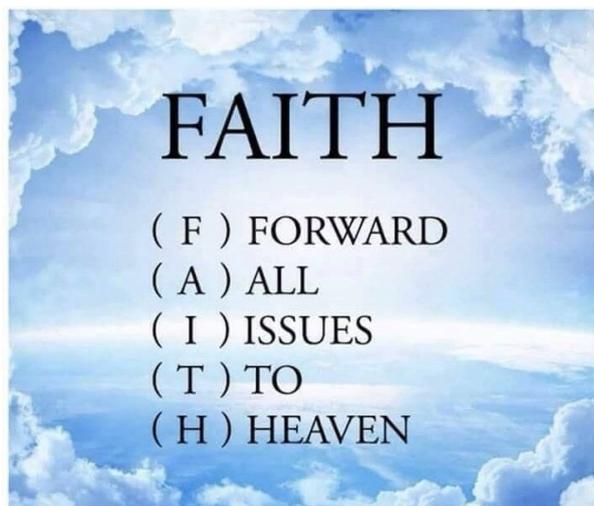


First reading: Jonah

The word of the Lord was addressed to Jonah: 'Up!' he said 'Go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach to them as I told you to.' Jonah set out and went to Nineveh in obedience to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was a city great beyond compare: it took three days to cross it. Jonah went on into the city, making a day's journey. He preached in these words, 'Only forty days more and Nineveh is going to be destroyed.' And the people of Nineveh believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least.

God saw their efforts to renounce their evil behaviour, and God relented: he did not inflict on them the disaster which he had threatened.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.



Psalm 24(25):

Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, make me know your ways.

Lord, make me know your ways.
Lord, teach me your paths.
Make me walk in your truth, and teach me:
for you are God my saviour.
Lord, make me know your ways.

Remember your mercy, Lord,
and the love you have shown from of old.
In your love remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord.
Lord, make me know your ways.

The Lord is good and upright.
He shows the path to those who stray,
He guides the humble in the right path,
He teaches his way to the poor.
Lord, make me know your ways.

Second reading: 1 Corinthians

Brothers: our time is growing short. Those who have wives should live as though they had none, and those who mourn should live as though they had nothing to mourn for; those who are enjoying life should live as though there were nothing to laugh about; those whose life is buying things should live as though they had nothing of their own; and those who have to deal with the world should not become engrossed in it. I say this because the world as we know it is passing away.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

3RD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)



Alleluia! Alleluia!

*The kingdom of God is close at hand:
repent, and believe the Good News.*

Alleluia!

Gospel according to Mark

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake – for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men.' And at once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets. He called them at once and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.

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

