



# 4TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (YEAR B)

## PARISH SCHEDULE

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	
Mon 29th	Ordinary Time: Week 4 08:00 Mass	
Tue 30th	Ordinary Time: Week 4 09:15 School Mass	
Wed 31st	St. John Bosco —	
Thu 1st	Ordinary Time: Week 4 12:00 Mass	
	Parish Community 12:30 Friendship Group	
	Seeking Sacraments 19:00 Meeting	
Fri 2nd	Presentation of the Lord 09:15 School Mass	
Sat 3rd	Adoration & Confession 11:00 Quiet Prayer	
	Ordinary Time: Week 4 12:00 Mass	
	Adoration & Confession 17:00 Quiet Prayer	
	Ordinary Time: 5th Sunday 17:30 Vigil Mass	
Sun 4th	Adoration & Confession 09:15 Quiet Prayer	
	Ordinary Time: 5th Sunday 10:30 Mass & Choir	
	Parish Community 11:45 Parish Meeting 11:45 Refreshments	
	Holy Hour 12:15 Rosary & Prayers	

## “WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH US, JESUS OF NAZARETH?”

The man with the unclean spirit in today’s Gospel reading asks, “What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth?” This question is one that we all might well ask. But he follows it with another question that shows how much he misunderstands Jesus: “Have you come to destroy us?”



To some extent, the prophets had already answered Jesus’ first question. Micah says, “This is what the Lord asks of you: only this, to act justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with your God.” And Hosea says, “What I want is love, not sacrifice; knowledge of God, not holocausts.”

The prophet Isaiah is particularly specific. His words are especially fitting on Caritas Sunday: “Is not this the sort of fast that pleases me...to share your bread with the hungry, and shelter the homeless poor.”



Jesus came first and foremost to reveal the Father’s love for us and to offer us salvation from sin and death and eternal happiness in heaven. In the Gospel reading, Jesus frees the man of his unclean spirit. We can only imagine how the man’s life changes after this. “Caritas” or “charity” is at the heart of our Christian call. We need to experience the love of God and then share it with others.

God bless, Fr Kevin.

## SATURDAY MORNING CLEANING



Thanks again to those of you who came along on Saturday morning to clean the church. This is now a weekly event and I hope that a rota can be set up. More help is needed so please do come along any Saturday morning at 9.30 a.m.

## PARISH MEETING

The next parish meeting is after the morning Mass on Sunday 4th February. I hope that the recent “Big Listen” has prompted some thoughts of how the Holy Spirit is calling us all in the days ahead. Please be thinking and praying and come to the meeting with ideas and plans and reflections.



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/>

## RIGHT TO LIFE UK



We pray for our Government, that their ability to support pregnant women would increase and that they would anchor themselves in the desire to protect all human life. **Lord hear us**



# JUMBLE

# S



# A



# L



# E



We support mary's meals

**Sunday 18th February 12-1:30pm**

We would need 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.

## 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.sacredheartstfranciscogorton.co.uk/sacraments](http://www.sacredheartstfranciscogorton.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.



## CONTACT US

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

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

## CARITAS PROJECTS



**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. <https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/event/reducing-hate-crime-disability/>

As the cost-of-living crisis continues to hit our communities hard, Caritas Salford, has introduced a new service to support people with energy advice. The service includes advice on saving money on utility bills, as well as practical support such as insulation methods, support with damp and condensation, LED bulbs and draught excluders. For more information contact: [energyadvice@caritassalford.org.uk](mailto:energyadvice@caritassalford.org.uk) or 0161 817 2250 /

## TURN £1 INTO £1.25

Did you know that there is a way that for each pound you donated to our parish we could receive £1.25? The Government has a scheme that allows for just this. It is of no financial cost to parishioners at all! All you need to do is sign a simple form that confirms your name, address and that you are a UK Taxpayer: . Some people donate using envelopes, some via standing order or ad hoc bank payments and some cash. All these are still fine and eligible for the 25% uplift commonly known as "Gift Aid". I'm sure Tesco won't mind me saying that every little helps.... Please let us know if you are happy to participate.

## 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.*

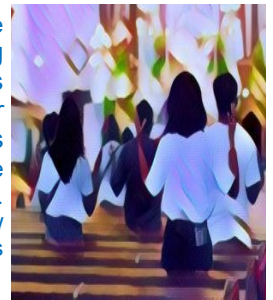
**ANNIVERSARY:** JAMES DENNIS, KATHLEEN McCOURT

### OUR BRETHREN WHO ARE UNWELL




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

## MASS FOR YOUNG ADULTS

The next Salford Diocese Mass for Young Adults will be celebrated on Sunday 11th February, 17:30. Coinciding with the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, this month's Mass welcomes Canon Tony McBride – former Director of the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes – as our guest celebrant and preacher. There will be the opportunity to meet and chat too.. 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.



## OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

WEEKEND 20-21/01/24	
 <b>Basket</b>	£153.90
 <b>Basket</b>	£342.70
 <b>Online</b>	£105.00

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

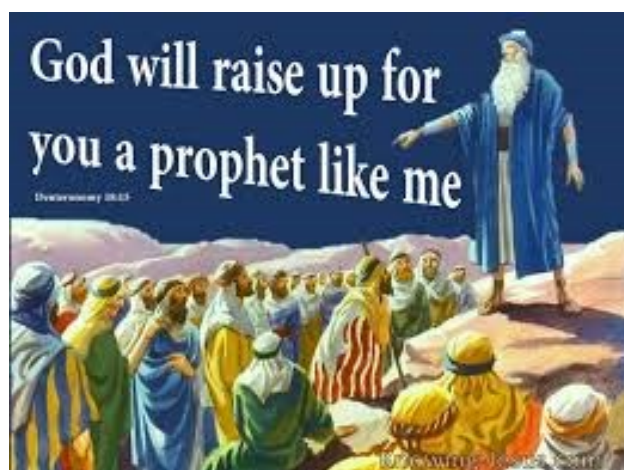
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### First reading: Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people: 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.'"

The Word of the Lord  
**Thanks be to God.**



### Psalm 94(95):1-2,6-9

O that today you would listen to his voice!  
'Harden not your hearts.'

**O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts.'**

Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;  
hail the rock who saves us.  
Let us come before him, giving thanks,  
with songs let us hail the Lord.

**O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts.'**

Come in; let us bow and bend low;  
let us kneel before the God who made us:  
for he is our God and we  
the people who belong to his pasture,  
the flock that is led by his hand.

O that today you would listen to his voice!  
'Harden not your hearts.'

O that today you would listen to his voice!  
'Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,  
as on that day at Massah in the desert  
when your fathers put me to the test;  
when they tried me, though they saw my  
work.'

**O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts.'**

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### Second reading: 1 Corinthians

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!**  
Blessed are you, Father,  
Lord of heaven and earth,  
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom  
to mere children.  
**Alleluia!**

### Gospel according to Mark

Jesus and his disciples went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the sabbath came he went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

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