



# 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT (YEAR B)

## PARISH SCHEDULE

Sun 3rd	Adoration & Confession 09:15 Quiet Prayer	
	3rd Sunday of Lent 10:30 Mass & Choir 11:45 Prayers for Gaza	
	Parish Community 11:45 Refreshments	
	Holy Hour 14:00 Prayers for our parish	
Mon 4th	Lent: Week 3 08:00 Mass	
Tue 5th	Lent: Week 3 09:15 School Mass	
Wed 6th	Lent: Week 3 —	
Thu 7th	Lent: Week 3 12:00 Mass	
	Parish Community 12:30 Friendship Group	
Fri 8th	Lent Week 3 06:30 Mass & Breakfast	
	Parish Community 13:30 Flower Club	
Sat 9th	Parish Community 09:30 Church Clean	
	Lent Week 3 11:00 Stations of the Cross & Confessions 12:00 Mass	
	Adoration & Confession 17:00 Quiet Prayer	
	4th Sunday of Lent 17:30 Vigil Mass	
Sun 10th	Adoration & Confession 09:15 Quiet Prayer	
	4th Sunday of Lent 10:30 Mass & Choir 11:45 Prayers for Ukraine	
	Parish Community 11:45 Mother's Day Celebration	
	Holy Hour 14:00 Prayers for our parish	

## THE CLEANSING OF THE TEMPLE

Today's Gospel incident is sometimes referred to as "the cleansing of the Temple." Jesus was angered at how his Father's house had been turned "into a market." He made whip out of some cord and drove out all sorts of money-makers and money-changers. He wanted to make the Temple a worthy place of prayer and worship again.

I think of two important applications of this incident. Firstly, St Paul reminded us that our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit and so, in Lent, it is good for us to make sure that we are cleansed of our sins and that we are restored to being worthy hosts of the Holy Spirit.



Secondly, there have been two important Parish Meetings recently, and I am grateful for all the good suggestions and ideas as to how our parish can be perhaps not "cleansed" but certainly "re-created" so that we are more effectively building up the Kingdom of God.

With this in mind, I have been drawing up a simple "Parish Plan" which lists many specific projects that we intend to put in place in the coming months. By having a record of them, we can review our progress and make sure that, by God's grace, we continue to be led by the Holy Spirit.

God bless,  
Fr Kevin.

## MOTHER'S DAY

On March 10th we will be celebrating Mother's Day during and after 10.30am Mass. At the offertory procession, mothers are encouraged to bring forward an offering to the church/foodbank such as food and toiletries. Monetary offerings should be in an envelope and will be donated to our Mary's Meal Parish Project. **Mothers are encouraged to wear blue and white.** After Mass, there will be a bring and share lunch in the parish centre.

## PARISH PLAN

Thank you to many of you who attended two recent Parish Meetings and offered suggestions and ideas. There was plenty of agreement about some new initiatives for our parish and I feel that unless they are put into a concrete "action plan", they are not so likely to happen. So, I will be publishing a simple "Parish Plan" very soon. This will not include absolutely everything that the parish will undertake in the coming months, but it will at least be a record that we can refer back to, so that we can endeavour to fulfil the prompting of the Holy Spirit.



## RIGHT TO LIFE UK

Let us pray for new parents and grandparents, that they may manifest the love and mercy of God to their children and grandchildren. .

Lord hear us

## HOLY COMMUNION

It is not permitted by the Bishops of England and Wales to receive Holy Communion by "intinction." "Intinction" means dipping the consecrated host into the Precious Blood in the chalice before consuming. Intinction was permitted in limited ways during the pandemic but is no longer permissible. If the teaching of the Church cannot be followed, then Holy Communion will revert to being offered under one kind only. Please show the greatest respect and reverence to the Sacrament.

### LENT STATION MASS: THANK YOU

Thank you very much indeed to all who participated in or assisted with the very well-attended "Station Mass" on Tuesday. I was proud (in the right way) of our parish and am grateful to the team of altar servers, readers, choir, parish centre helpers and many others who helped the smooth-running of the wonderful Mass celebrated by Bishop John and many brother priests. It was an inspiring and uplifting occasion.

### PARISH PRAYERS FOR GAZA AND UKRAINE

After the morning Mass on Sunday 3 March there will be a short time of prayer for peace in Gaza, and likewise on Sunday 10 March the time of prayer will be for Ukraine. I intend to give our children a leading role in this.

### YOUNG ADULTS

The next Salford Diocese gathering for Young Adults (up to approx. age 35) will be on **Sunday 4th March** starting with Stations of the Cross at **16:00** followed by private prayer and Confessions then Mass at **17:30**. There will be music provided by a string-quartet and an opportunity to meet and chat after. 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.

### CONTACT US

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

**Parish Office:** Sacred Heart  
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www.sacredheartstfranciscorton.co.uk  
**Facebook:** Sacred Heart & Saint  
Francis of Assisi Parish.

## YOUTH MINISTRY IN THE LAKE DISTRICT

Castlerigg Manor (Diocese of Lancaster Retreat Centre) are looking for a Programme Leader to join their youth ministry team. The work involves working on retreats in the heart of the Lake District, and occasionally working on outreach visits around the area. The post is residential and comes with a salary in the range of £26-28k, made up of paid salary, accommodation, food etc. Would suit somebody with youth ministry experience. If interested email [jack@castleriggmanor.co.uk](mailto:jack@castleriggmanor.co.uk)

### ALTAR SERVERS, READERS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

I am extremely grateful to all of you who serve in the above roles. However, if you hold one of these three ministries, it is expected that you will have a regular weekly attendance at Mass. Rotas for readers and Eucharistic Ministers will be published soon and will reflect this requirement. If any of you not on the rotas would like to be considered for one of these ministries, please do discuss with me.



### 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:** NIEVES BIKO SOPOLE, ISABELLA MYERSCOUGH,  
HAROLD MYERSCOUGH, ROBERT FISHER

**SURGERY:** MONICA

**BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY:** LOUIS JAMES BRACHEN, KATHLEEN McCOURT,  
BERNARD FISHER

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** CHRIS O'NEILL, PAT COWSILL, MARIE VAUGHAN

#### OUR BRETHREN WHO ARE UNWELL

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






There have been two important charitable collections recently: one for Caritas. Thank you for the envelopes of donations received so far. This collection has now finished. I will let you know the total as soon as possible. The second collection arose from the recent CAFOD Fast Day. I will collect envelopes from this event for the next two weeks. Apart from Mary's Meals, these are the main two charities that we support as a parish, so please give as generously as you can.

### OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

The new offertory envelopes will be available on the following days:  
Sacred Heart Sunday 10th March  
St. Francis Saturday 16th March

### OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

WEEKEND 24-25-02/24		
 Basket		£131.20
 Basket		£403.20
 Online		£56.00

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: Exodus

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

'You shall have no gods except me.

'You shall not make yourself a carved image or any likeness of anything in heaven or on earth beneath or in the waters under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God and I punish the father's fault in the sons, the grandsons, and the great-grandsons of those who hate me; but I show kindness to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

'You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it.

'Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath for the Lord your God. You shall do no work that day, neither you nor your son nor your daughter nor your servants, men or women, nor your animals nor the stranger who lives with you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth and the sea and all that these hold, but on the seventh day he rested; that is why the Lord has blessed the sabbath day and made it sacred.

'Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you.

'You shall not kill.

'You shall not commit adultery.

'You shall not steal.

'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

'You shall not covet your neighbour's house.

You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

The Word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 115(116):10,15-19

You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.

**You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.**

The law of the Lord is perfect,  
it revives the soul.

The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,  
it gives wisdom to the simple.

**You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.**

The precepts of the Lord are right,  
they gladden the heart.

The command of the Lord is clear,  
it gives light to the eyes.

**You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.**

The fear of the Lord is holy,  
abiding for ever.

The decrees of the Lord are truth  
and all of them just.

**You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.**

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They are more to be desired than gold,  
than the purest of gold  
and sweeter are they than honey,  
than honey from the comb.  
**You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.**

### Second reading: 1 Corinthians

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!**

I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord;  
whoever believes in me will never die.

**Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!**

### Gospel according to John

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money-changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

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