“My Kingdom is not of this world”

SUNDAY NOV 22ND 2026 - CHRIST THE KING

These were the words uttered by Jesus before Pontius Pilate as he awaited his execution by crucifixion. Pilate considered himself as a man with considerable power who held the life-or-death fate of thousands of human beings under his control. He was baffled by this “king” that he had before him. How could it be possible that this tortured, bloodied son of a carpenter from Nazareth be a king. If he was a king, then what kind of kingdom did he reign over?

The Gospel of today on the Solemnity of Christ the King paints us a picture of what the Kingdom of Jesus looks like. It is a kingdom where the hungry are fed, the thirsty are given to drink, the stranger is welcomed, the naked are clothed, the sick are visited and the prisoner cared for. If the Church is indeed the embodiment of Christ on earth today, then we are all called to continually create the Kingdom of God wherever we find ourselves. Our homes, parish, school, places of work should be places which reflect the virtues of the kingdom of Christ.

As a parish community we should be continually asking ourselves if we are indeed faithful servants to Christ our King. Are we as individuals and a community the sheep or the goats? Is our community one which feeds, gives to drink, welcomes the stranger and reaches out to the marginalized of our community? I think the reality is that most of the time we are both sheep and goats. But we keep trying and it requires all the members of our community to build such a kingdom.

Let us take our inspiration from the crucified King with his crown of thorns. Bloodied broken and dying so that we might have life and build God’s Kingdom here on earth.

Fr. John sx.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH

If you, or someone you know, is interested in learning more about the Catholic faith (currently Catholic or not) we invite you to join us at our group starting **Sat 28th Nov 15:45 at Saint Francis Church.** The group meet approximately twice a month. Email: parish@sacredher

SCHEDULE

SUN 22ND	**Christ the King** **09:15** Adoration, Confession & Morning Prayer **09:45** Rosary & Benediction **10:30** Mass & Choir **11:30** Church Clean	SH
MON 23RD	**Requiem Mass** **12:00** Cosimo D’Alessandro Parisi	SH
TUE 24TH	**Saints Andrew Duñg-Lạc and his Companions** **09:15** Mass	SH
WED 25TH	**Ordinary Time: week 34** **09:15** Mass with SF School	SF
THU 26TH	**Community Garden Open** **10:00-12:00**	
	Ordinary Time: week 34 **11:30** Rosary & Adoration **12:00** Mass	SH
	Parish Community **12:30** Friendship Group	PC
FRI 27TH	**Ordinary Time: week 34** **09:30** Mass	SH
SAT 28TH	**Community Garden Open** **10:00-12:00**	
	Ordinary Time: week 34 **11:00** Confession & Adoration **12:00** ***Mass in Spanish***	SH
	1st Sunday of Advent **15:45** RCIA **16:45** Adoration: Confession, Evening Prayer and Rosary **17:30** Vigil Mass	SF
SUN 29TH	**1st Sunday of Advent** **09:15** Adoration: Confession, Evening Prayer and Rosary **10:30** Mass & Choir **11:30** Church Clean	SH
	Parish Community **12:00 Parish Christmas Fair**	PC

SUPERVISOR OF RELATIONSHIP COUNSELLORS

Marriage Care is a Catholic organisation specialising in relationship support are looking for volunteer Supervisors to provide supervision and mentoring to our relationship counsellors who support couples experiencing relationship distress. For this role you would need to be professionally qualified and experienced in counselling supervision, and also be a qualified experienced relationship counsellor. www.marriagecare.org.uk or email: volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk

CHRISTMAS FAIR

This year, the Fair will take place Sunday November 29th. In advance we will ne donations of prizes. These can be given in at the piety shop before/after Sunday Mass, or to the sacresty in the week. We need volunteers to help on the day. Please let us know if you can help..

MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

As is customary people feel free to place the names of loved ones and an offering in an envelope at the alar. The Fathers will be remembering these especially throughout the month of November.

CARITAS ADVENT APPEAL 2026

Caritas Salford #BeeThere bees are retelling the story of the Nativity and asking us to help change the script for local people facing hunger or homelessness. This Advent, could you #BeeThere for a child or adult in need? Watch the animation, created with Doodledo and featuring the voices of local children, at http://www.caritassalford.org.uk/BeeThere or donate at http://www.caritassalford.org.uk/donate

CONTACT US

PARISH PRIEST: FR MAURICE CESAR NDJE NDJE, SX.
PRIEST IN RESIDENCE: FR JOHN CONVERY, SX.
PRIEST IN RESIDENCE: FR PADDY DUFFY, SX.
PERMANENT DEACON: DAVIE NALIKATA
ADMINISTRATOR: MINNA MOFFATT-FELDMAN
SAFEGUARDING REPS: KATE OSEMWENGIE, ANN TODD
TELEPHONE: 0161 223 0338
EMAIL: PARISH@SACREDHEARTSTFRANCISGORTON.CO.UK
WEBSITE: WWW.SACREDHEARTSTFRANCISGORTON.CO.UK
FACEBOOK: SACRED HEART & SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH
PARISH OFFICE: SACRED HEART PRESBYTERY, LEVENSHULME ROAD, GORTON, M18 7WJ.

MASS OFFERINGS & PRAYER REQUESTS

If you would like a mass offered for a specific intention, enclose an offering with a description, noting if it should be kept private. Pass it to Minna/Father.

- **Health:** Private

Please also pray for our brethren who are unwell: Janet McCarthy, Jennifer Hunter, Martin Brennan, Tommy Loftus.

MEET THE MISSIONARIES: FR JOHN CONVERY XS.

Born and raised in Coatbridge, Scotland, I studied with the Xaverians in London, Italy and Chicago USA. After Theology University, I spent my diaconate year in Cameroon. On return to Scotland, I was ordained priest on the 29th of June 1991 and returned to spend another 3 years on mission in Cameroon. Since then, served in London, Preston, Scotland and now here in Manchester. I am deeply convinced of our founder's wish to 'make of the world a single family' and thus I have worked in youth ministry, school chaplaincy, prison chaplaincy and interfaith dialogue. I consider it a privilege to now find myself in the parish of Sacred Heart and St. Francis to continue my mission work and to be a humble servant to this community.

VISIT OF THE RELICS OF ST GERARD MAJELLA

To mark the 300 year anniversary of the birth of St Gerard Majella, a nationwide tour of his relics is taking place, and the Diocese of Salford is one of 11 dioceses in the country to receive them for a visit. The relics will be visiting four of our churches, Our Lady of Grace, Prestwich, St Mary (The Hidden Gem), Manchester, St Brendan's, Bolton, - Our Lady of Lourdes & St Gerard Majella, Lostock.
For more information, website:
https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/news/whats-on/

PREPARE FOR CHRISTMAS

In preparation for Christmas, the Xavarian Missionaries will be giving us **TWO** opportunities to learn more about their Charism and how this can support our spiritual development. After Mass we will have a break for lunch, and then 12:45-13:15 in the Parish Centre. **Sunday December 6th** and 20th.

OFFERTORY

For card payments, use the QR code. If possible, please set up a standing order:

TSDT SACRED HEART & ST FRANCIS GORT
20-55-34
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