



The Sacred Heart &



St. Francis Parish, Gorton

July 19th 2026



16TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (A)

SCHEDULE

Sun 19th	Ordinary Time: 16th Sunday 09:15 Adoration & Confession 10:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Mass & Choir 11:30 Church Clean	
	Parish Community 12:00 Summer Fair	
Mon 20th	Ordinary Time Wk 16 08:00 Mass	
Tue 21st	Ordinary Time Wk 16 09:15 Mass with SH school	
Wed	St Mary Magdalen	—
Thu 23rd	Garden Open 10:00-12:00	
	St Bridget of Sweden 12:00 Mass	
	Parish Community 12:30 Friendship Group	
Fri 24th	Ordinary Time Wk 16 09:15 Mass	
Sat 25th	Garden Open 10:00-12:00	
	St James, Apostle 11:00 Confession & Adoration 12:00 Mass	
	Ordinary Time: 17th Sunday 17:00 Confession, Adoration & Evening Prayer 17:30 Vigil Mass	
Sun 26th	Ordinary Time: 17th Sunday 09:15 Adoration & Confession 10:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Mass & Choir 11:30 Church Clean	
	Parish Community 12:00 Refreshments	

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO PANTASAPH MONASTRY

There will be a pilgrimage to Pantasaph Monastery, North Wales on Saturday 17th October 2026 as part of the 800th year celebration of the birth of St Francis of Assisi.

At this stage, for more details, please contact the pilgrimage office by telephone on 0161 817 2209 or email:

walsingham.pilgrimage@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

THE PARABLE OF THE WHEAT AND THE WEEDS

Last week we heard the Parable of the Sower and this week it is followed by another agricultural parable. This week's parable concerns a man who sows good seed in his field but an enemy (obviously the devil by implication) comes and sows weeds among the wheat.



When the man's servants discover this, they question their master, asking of the field, "How then does it have weeds?" This raises a theological question that many have asked across the centuries: why is there pain, or suffering or evil?"

The question, sadly, leads some to fall away from faith because they wrongly think that God cannot be all-loving or all-powerful if such things happen in our world.

The parables are often perplexing and meant to make us ponder and question their meaning but also their application in our own lives. And so we might ask, what on earth has this parable to do with our lives? Only you can answer that question for yourself, but I suggest a few things that might help.

Firstly, as Catholics, we believe that one of the greatest gifts that God has given us is free will. He doesn't force anything upon us. God only wills the best for us. He only wishes grace and blessing. But we do also speak of "God's permissive will." In other words, God does not wish or cause any evil, but he has configured the world in a way in which evil can occur.

I suggest also that today's parable is also very optimistic and hopeful in that it speaks of a God who tolerates evil in the world for a long time, giving people every opportunity to turn from their sins. This week's homily is going to feature a true story of a fight between altar servers that illustrates this truth beautifully. I will keep you guessing!

God bless, Fr Kevin.

PARISH FAIR AND PICNIC

The Parish Picnic and Fair will take place after mass on Sunday 19 July at Sacred Heart Parish Centre and gardens. Please bring some food to share with others, some money to pay for drinks and other items and come and enjoy our gardens in the sunshine and enjoying being together as a parish community.





LGBT+

Saturday 25th July at 17:00 will be the next Salford Diocese Mass celebrated in fellowship with LGBT+ brethren. **Everyone is welcome.** Refreshments are to be provided after mass. Allow time to park in the local university area. St. Augustine's Church, Grosvenor Street, M15 6BW—The church is accessible by stairs or lift.

RIGHT TO LIFE UK

Let us pray for all those who are close to death, especially those who are alone, that they would always be treated with respect and have their human dignity upheld. **Lord hear us.**

MEXICAN MEAL: THANK YOU

Thank you very much indeed to Pedro and Jose and their friends for providing such an amazing and delicious Mexican meal last Saturday. All 100 tickets were sold and everyone who came enjoyed a wonderful evening of dancing, music, singing, fun and festivity. The evening raised over £1,000.00 which is being donated to the Catholic charity *Caritas*. Thank you again for a brilliant event.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

To keep you up-to-date, we use email-list, our [website](#) and our [Facebook page](#). We have a parish [What'sApp group](#) (over 18s only). If you would like to be added, please [email the parish office](#). The newsletter is published online as well as being emailed, added to What'sApp and printed.

CONTACT US

Parish Priest: Fr Kevin Murphy
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MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE – LOVE FOR A LIFETIME

This course has the subtitle: 'We Build the House of Our Marriage' and is made up of four units: Foundations that can Carry for a Lifetime, A Wedding of the Stories of two Families, Our Vision of Marriage, God in our Married Life. Please note – this course is run on **Saturday 5th and Saturday 12th September 2026 at 2pm until 5pm.** Attendance is required on both dates. For more information and to register please contact Fr Herbert Opara at fr.herbert@schoenstatt.org.uk or Fr Bryan Cunningham at fr.bryan@schoenstatt.org.uk. St John Fisher RC Presbytery, Manchester Road, Kearsley, BL4 8QQ.

PARISH PRAYERS

If you would like a mass offered for a specific intention, pass an envelope with an offering of £10 or more to Fr Kevin, noting if it should be kept private.

MASS INTENTIONS

PRIVATE INTENTION: ONE.

BIRTHDAY: EAMON McNALLY (80TH)

THANKSGIVING: CHEN FAMILY, JOSÉ & PEDRO

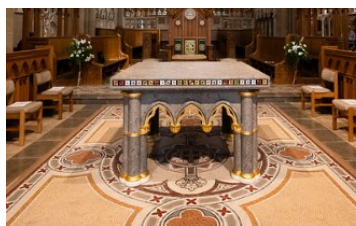
OUR BRETHERN WHO ARE UNWELL

AILSAL SMITH, JANET MCCARTHY, JENNIFER HUNTER, MARTIN BRENNAN, TOMMY LOFTUS



SALFORD CATHEDRAL RE-OPENING AND DEDICATION OF THE ALTAR

On Thursday 16 July, Salford Cathedral was officially reopened and its new altar was blessed in a rite of dedication at mass. Cardinal Vincent Nichols attended, along with a number of Bishops and the Papal Nuncio. I was so pleased that John Fisher, our oldest parishioner who attends mass here, represented the parish and sat in the front row at the mass. It was a wonderfully inspiring occasion.



OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

WEEKEND JULY 11-12TH		
	Basket	£67.00
	Basket	£397.00
	Digital	£228.66

Please consider making offertory contributions **by Standing Order**. If required, forms are available at each church, use the QR code, or **transfer** directly from your bank:



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FRANCIS GORT,
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