



The Sacred Heart &amp;



St. Francis Parish, Gorton

Aug 8th 2026



# 19TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (A)

## SCHEDULE

|             |                                                                                                                                                      |   |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| Sun<br>9th  | <b>Ordinary Time: 19th Sunday</b><br>09:15 Adoration & Confession<br>10:00 Morning Prayer<br>10:30 Mass & Choir<br>11:30 Church Clean                |   |
|             | <b>Parish Community</b><br>11:45 Refreshments                                                                                                        |   |
| Mon<br>10th | <b>St Laurence</b><br>08:00 Mass                                                                                                                     |   |
| Tue<br>11th | <b>St Clare</b><br>09:15 Mass                                                                                                                        |   |
| Wed         | <b>Ordinary Time Wk 19</b>                                                                                                                           | — |
| Thu<br>13th | <b>Garden Open</b><br>10:00-12:00                                                                                                                    |   |
|             | <b>Ordinary Time Wk 19</b><br>12:00 Mass                                                                                                             |   |
|             | <b>Parish Community</b><br>12:30 Friendship Group                                                                                                    |   |
| Fri<br>14th | <b>St Maximilian Kolbe</b><br>09:15 Mass                                                                                                             |   |
| Sat<br>15th | <b>Garden Open</b><br>10:00-12:00                                                                                                                    |   |
|             | <b>Ordinary Time Wk 19</b><br>11:00 Confession & Adoration<br>12:00 Mass                                                                             |   |
|             | <b>The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b><br>17:00 Confession,<br>Adoration & Evening Prayer<br>17:30 Vigil Mass                              |   |
| Sun<br>16th | <b>The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b><br>09:15 Adoration & Confession<br>10:00 Morning Prayer<br>10:30 Mass & Choir<br>11:30 Church Clean |   |
|             | <b>Parish Community</b><br>12:00 Refreshments                                                                                                        |   |

## "O YOU OF LITTLE FAITH"

The first reading from the First Book of the Kings and the Gospel reading both present us with manifestations of God. The prophet Elijah reaches Horeb, the mount of God and the word of the Lord tells him to stand on the mount.

Elijah then experiences some dramatic events: a great wind, an earthquake and then a fire. But each time we are told that the Lord was not in these things. Only when Elijah hears the "sound of a low whisper" does he finally recognise the presence of God.

But conversely, in the Gospel, we hear about the disciples who are in the boat after the feeding of the five thousand. They have already had a manifestation of God's power in the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fish.

In the storm that follows, they experience another manifestation of the power of God: Jesus walks on the water. And yet they cry out, "It is a ghost." It is Peter who appears to have faith and says, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." Jesus tells Peter to come to him, but he quickly becomes afraid and starts to sink.

What do these readings have to say to us? First of all, I suggest that the first reading might help us to realise that God is not always revealed to us in loud, dramatic and visible ways. We might wish that he would show himself in thunder and lightning but it is often a "low whisper" which used to be translated as "a still small voice."

And the Gospel reading might help us to realise that no matter how many times God has made himself known to us, in the problems and difficulties of our lives, we can quickly take our eyes off the Lord (which is what Peter does), dwell on our troubles and lose faith. And then we sink. Jesus refers to him, "O you of little faith..." In the homily this week I will suggest how our faith might be increased.

God bless, Fr Kevin.



Join our diocesan charity, for a 6-mile sponsored hike along the Downham Trail in Lancashire. This walk is for over 18's only and will help to raise funds for people in our parishes who are experiencing poverty, homelessness, and isolation. [www.caritassalford.org.uk/LancsWalk](http://www.caritassalford.org.uk/LancsWalk)

## MESSAGE FROM POPE LEO

Pope Leo has recently encouraged all Catholics, including the laity, to make greater use of the Liturgy of the Hours in daily life. At his General Audience 5 August, he described the **Eucharist and the Liturgy of the Hours** as "the breath of the life of the Church." We have been joining together to pray this together for some time - **Saturday** at 17:00 we pray **Evening prayer** at St Francis church and **Sunday** at 10:00am at Sacred Heart Church we pray **Morning Prayer**. Prayer sheets are available so please do come to the and join in.

## 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](mailto:walsingham.pilgrimage@dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

## RIGHT TO LIFE UK

On Friday, we celebrate the feast of St Maximilian Kolbe, patron saint of the pro-life movement. We ask for his intercession as we, the church, seek to support all pregnant mothers through their pregnancies, and that we would become models of support and charity to all in society. **Lord hear us.**

## ONLINE TALK ON FRANCISCAN PRAYER

Thursday 17th September 2026 7PM to 8.30PM. In this Year of St Francis, we would like to invite you to an online talk on the 'Characteristics of Franciscan Prayer'. The talk will be presented by Sr Joan Kerley FMSJ and will include the 'Heart of St Francis: Exploring his Prayers'. To register your place see: <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/talk-on-franciscan-prayer/>

**Show us, O LORD, your mercy, and grant us your salvation.**

## CONTACT US

**Parish Priest:** Fr Kevin Murphy  
**Permanent Deacon:** Davie Nalikata  
**Administrator:** Minna Moffatt-Feldman  
**Safeguarding Reps:** Kate Osemwengie, Ann Todd.  
**Parish Office:** Sacred Heart Presbytery, Levenshulme Road, Gorton, M18 7WJ.  
**Telephone:** 0161 223 0338  
[parish@sacredheartstfranciscgorton.co.uk](mailto:parish@sacredheartstfranciscgorton.co.uk)  
[www.sacredheartstfranciscgorton.co.uk](http://www.sacredheartstfranciscgorton.co.uk)  
**Facebook:** Sacred Heart & Saint Francis of Assisi Parish

## 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](mailto:fr.herbert@schoenstatt.org.uk) or Fr Bryan Cunningham at [fr.bryan@schoenstatt.org.uk](mailto: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

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** JOHN PONDERANI MTENJE NALIKATA, MARGARET SALMON, BERNADETTE REGAN

**PRIVATE INTENTION:** MICHAEL AND MARGARET DONNELLAN, ANSWERED PRAYERS.

**BIRTHDAY:** ANNIE GORDON (91), EDEN (1)

**OUR BRETHREN WHO ARE UNWELL**

JANET MCCARTHY, JENNIFER HUNTER, MARTIN BRENNAN, TOMMY LOFTUS

## AFTERNOON AT THE LALLEY COMMUNITY ALLOTMENT

Caritas Salford invite you to join them for a relaxed afternoon, which will include garden games, allotment tours, harvesting, live music, fresh food, and the chance to make your own pizza in the team's special oven! The event is free, though donations to the charity are welcome. Contact the team at [lalleycentre@caritassalford.org.uk](mailto:lalleycentre@caritassalford.org.uk) for more information or simply pop along on the day. Caritas Lalley Community Allotment, St Malachy's RC Primary School, Eggington Street, Collyhurst, Manchester, M40 7RG. Tuesday 18th August 2026. 12:00-15:30.

## KEEPING IN TOUCH

To keep you up-to-date, we use email-list, our [website](#) and our [Facebook page](#). We have a parish [WhatsApp 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 WhatsApp and printed.

## OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

| WEEKEND AUG 1ST-2ND                                                                 |         |         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|---------|
|  | Basket  | £96.00  |
|  | Basket  | £400.00 |
|  | Digital | £207.00 |

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:



**TSDD SACRED  
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FRANCIS GORT,  
20-55-34 // 20707600**