



"LEAVING THE VINEYARD"



SUNDAY OCTOBER 4TH 2026 - 27TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME (A)

The three main readings this week all speak about vineyards. Of course, the vineyard is not used in a literal sense. It comes to stand for the kingdom of God, the Christian life and the Church. The vine is a symbol of the Faith growing and spreading around the world.

We could look at the parish as a sort of vineyard that we have tried to cultivate together. I announced last weekend that after seven years here, I will be leaving the parish to take up another appointment. I will be moving to Craig Lodge, Family House of Prayer in Dalmally Scotland, where I will serve as Priest/Chaplain to the community and Mission House. It is where Mary's Meals is based.

Of course I am very sad to be leaving, but also excited about the new ministry ahead. What makes things a lot easier for me is the extraordinary provision that is being made for this parish. It is going to be run by three priests who belong to a religious order, namely the Xaverian Missionaries. I have met with Fr John, Fr Paddy and Fr Maurice several times as we arrange the handover and in fact they have already helped out in this parish quite a bit in the last year.

So, this is a great time and a great opportunity for the parish, for the vineyard that you are called to cultivate. The psalmist prays, "Visit this vine and protect it..." The three priests have great experience of ministering around the world, especially in missionary situations and I am sure that with your cooperation, support and prayer, they are going to bring great blessing to the parish.

I am very grateful for the farewell event that is being planned for Saturday 17 October and will say a proper goodbye then. But I will get some extended breaks from the ministry in Scotland and really do intend to keep the contact with the parish and come to visit and concelebrate mass from time to time.

Thank you very much indeed for all you have contributed to this vineyard in the last seven years.

God bless, Fr Kevin.

GORTON MONASTERY: OCT 4TH, 2PM

There will be a special event at Gorton Monastery from 2.00 – 3.30 p.m. which will feature readings, prayers, songs, hymns and reflections as well as a procession of our school children and a performance by our choir.

SCHEDULE 1/2		
SUN 4TH	Ordinary Time: 27th Sunday 09:15 Adoration & Confession 10:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Mass & Choir 11:30 Church Clean	
	Parish Community 11:45 Refreshments	
MON 5TH	Ordinary Time Wk 27 08:00 Mass	
TUE 6TH	Ordinary Time Wk 27 09:15 Mass with SH School	
WED	Our Lady of the Rosary	—
THU 8TH	Community Garden Open 10:00-12:00	
	Ordinary Time Wk 27 12:00 Mass	
	Parish Community 12:30 Friendship Group	
FRI	St John Henry Newman	---
SAT 10TH	Community Garden Open 10:00-12:00	
	Ordinary Time Wk 27	---
	Ordinary Time: 28th Sunday 17:00 Confession, Adoration & Evening Prayer 17:30 Vigil Mass	
SUN 11TH	Ordinary Time: 28th Sunday 09:15 Adoration & Confession 10:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Mass & Choir 11:30 Church Clean	
	Parish Community 12:00 Refreshments	

SCHEDULE 2/2		
MON 12TH	Ordinary Time Wk 28 08:00 Mass	
TUE 13TH	Ordinary Time Wk 28 09:15 Mass	
WED	Ordinary Time Wk 28	—
THU 15TH	Community Garden Open 10:00-12:00	
	Requiem Mass 12:00 Lee Ludford	
	Parish Community 12:30 Friendship Group	
FRI 16TH	Ordinary Time Wk 28 09:15 Mass with SF school	
SAT 17TH	Community Garden Open 10:00-12:00	
	Ordinary Time Wk 27 11:00 Confession & Adoration 12:00 Mass	
	Farewell Mass 18:00 Celebration of thanksgiving	
	Farewell Celebration 19:00 All are welcome!	
SUN 18TH	Ordinary Time: 28th Sunday 09:15 Adoration & Confession 10:00 Morning Prayer 10:30 Mass & Choir 11:30 Church Clean	
	Parish Community 12:00 Refreshments	

GIFT AID

When you donate money to the church, if you are a tax payer, we can claim an additional 25% from HMRC. It won't cost you anything and it doesn't impact you in anyway. We just need your permission to claim this in your name (as a tax payer). If you have paid online—we can back-date this FOUR YEARS! Minna just needs your name address and signature and we will sort out the rest.

TWO WEEK NEWSLETTER

Please note that this newsletter covers the next two weeks. There will be some slight changes to weekday mass times, so please take note of these. However, the biggest change to note is that the evening mass on **SATURDAY 17 October** will be at **6.00 p.m. at SACRED HEART CHURCH**. It will be followed immediately afterwards by a farewell event as I leave the parish.

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. Add to the offertory or pass to Minna/Father.

Private Intention: One

Ordination Anniversary: Fr Joe Evans

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

RIGHT TO LIFE UK

Today is the feast day of St Francis of Assisi. Let us pray with his powerful intercession for our Government, that their ability to support the vulnerable would increase and that they would anchor themselves on the desire to protect all human life. Lord hear us.

CARITAS CONFERENCE

Tackling poverty and injustice in the Diocese of Salford. A free day of learning and reflection on the social teaching of Pope Leo XIV including insights into *Dilexi te* and *Magnifica humanitas*, looking at what the documents mean for us when responding to injustice locally. Guest speaker: theologian Anna Rowlands*, as well as others. Lunch will be provided.
<https://www.caritassalford.org.uk/event/conference-2026/>



*Do not be anxious about anything,
but in everything by prayer and
supplication with thanksgiving let your
requests be made known to God.
Philippians 4:6*

GREATER MANCHESTER CHURCHES TOGETHER ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

GMCT invites you to their Annual Assembly entitled 'The Quiet Revival'. There will be a presentation by the Bible Society and Q&A break out sessions on 'Engaging with Young People' and 'Engaging with Children'. Parking will be available on-site. Salford Cathedral Centre, 3 Ford Street, M3 6DP, Wednesday 14th October 2026, 6.30PM to 9PM.

CONTACT US

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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
20707600**

