

We continue **Pope Leo's Letter** on the Church's option for the poor, Dilexi Te

The mendicant orders were a living response to exclusion and indifference. They did not expressly propose social reforms, but an individual and communal conversion to the logic of the Kingdom. For them, poverty was not a consequence of a scarcity of goods, but a free choice: to make themselves small in order to welcome the small. Thomas of Celano said of Francis: "He loved the poor intensely. He often stripped himself naked to clothe the poor, whom he sought to resemble." Beggars became the symbol of a pilgrim, humble and fraternal Church, living among the poor not to proselytize but as an expression of their true identity. They teach us that the Church is a light when she strips herself of everything, and that holiness passes through a humble heart devoted to the least among us.

Addressing educators, Pope Francis recalled that education has always been one of the highest expressions of Christian charity: "Yours is a mission full of obstacles as well as joys... A mission of love, because you cannot teach without loving." In this sense, since ancient times, Christians have understood that knowledge liberates, gives dignity, and brings us closer to the truth. For the Church, teaching the poor was an act of justice and faith. Inspired by the example of the Master who taught people divine and human truths, she took on the mission of forming children and young people, especially the poorest, in truth and love. This mission took shape with the founding of congregations dedicated to education.

Pope Francis on the Sacred Heart in his last Letter, Dilexit Nos, on the Sacred Heart

"God sought to limit himself in such a way that many of the things we think of as evils, dangers or sources of suffering, are in reality part of the pains of childbirth which he uses to draw us into the act of cooperation with the Creator". This cooperation on our part can allow the power and the love of God to expand in our lives and in the world, whereas our refusal or indifference can prevent it. Several passages of the Bible express this metaphorically, as when the Lord cries out, "If only you would return to me, O Israel!". Or when, confronted with rejection by his people, he says, "My heart recoils within me; my compassion grows warm and tender".

Even though it is not possible to speak of new suffering on the part of the glorified Lord, "the paschal mystery of Christ, and all that Christ is, all that he did and suffered for all people – participates in the divine eternity, and so transcends all times while being made present in them all". He has allowed the expansive glory of his resurrection to be limited and the diffusion of his immense and burning love to be contained, in order to leave room for our free cooperation with his heart. Our rejection of his love erects a barrier to that gracious gift, whereas our trusting acceptance of it opens a space, a channel enabling it to pour into our hearts. Our rejection or indifference limits the effects of his power and the fruitfulness of his love in us. If he does not encounter openness and confidence in me, his love is deprived, because he himself has willed it, of its extension, unique and unrepeatable, in my life and in this world, where he calls me to make him present. This does not stem from any weakness on his part but rather from his infinite freedom, his mysterious power and his perfect love for each of us. When God's power is revealed in the weakness of our human freedom, "only faith can discern it".

St Margaret Mary recounted that, in one of Christ's appearances, he spoke of his heart's passionate love for us, telling her that, "unable to contain the flames of his burning charity, he must spread them abroad". Since the Lord, who can do all things, desired in his divine freedom to require our cooperation, reparation can be understood as our removal of the obstacles we place before the expansion of Christ's love in the world by our lack of trust, gratitude and self-sacrifice.

We turn once more to the luminous spirituality of St Therese of the Child Jesus. Therese was aware that in certain quarters an extreme form of reparation had developed, based on a willingness to offer oneself in sacrifice for others, and to become in some sense a "lightning rod" for the chastisements of divine justice. In her words, "I thought about the souls who offer themselves as victims of God's justice in order to turn away the punishments reserved to sinners, drawing them upon themselves". However, as great and generous as such an offering might appear, she did not find it overly appealing: "I was far from feeling attracted to making it". So great an emphasis on God's justice might lead to the notion that Christ's sacrifice was somehow incomplete or only partly efficacious, or that his mercy was not sufficiently powerful.

With her great spiritual insight, St Therese discovered that we can offer ourselves in another way, without the need to satisfy divine justice but by allowing the Lord's infinite love to spread freely: "O my God! Is your disdained love going to remain closed up within your heart? It seems to me that if you were to find souls offering themselves as victims of holocaust to your love, you would consume them rapidly; it seems to me, too, that you would be happy not to hold back the waves of infinite tenderness within you".

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THE PARISH OF ST. PATRICK with ST. MALACHY'S CHURCH, COLLYHURST and ST JOSEPH'S CHAPLAINCY TO DEAF PEOPLE
SERVING THE PEOPLE OF COLLYHURST & N. MANCHESTER CONTINUOUSLY SINCE 1832!
incorporating parts of the former parishes of St. Michael, Ancoats, Corpus Christi, Miles Platting, St. Edmund, Monsall, St. Joseph, Goulden St, St. William, Gould St and St. Casimir, Collyhurst



Parish Team: Canon Paul Daly, Parish Priest;
 Fr. Jose Netto, Assistant Priest, Rev. Stephen Scott, Deacon;
 Sister Anne, Sister Regina, Parish Sisters; Amanda Donoghue (Parish Secretary- Cover)
 Fr. Cletus Magugu, (Chaplain to the Zimbabwean Catholic Community –in residence)
 Fr. Anthony Nnajofofor (Chaplain to the Central Manchester Hospitals-in residence)
 Presentation Sisters, Missionaries of Charity Brothers, Sisters of Our Lady of Evron

St. Patrick's Church, Livesey St, M4 5HF St. Malachy's Church, Eggington St, M40 7RG
 Postal address: St. Patrick's Rectory, 2 Nobby Stiles Drive, Collyhurst, M4 4JF

TELEPHONE: 0161 383 5295 for the parish office or priests

Fr. Paul's contact details: Email: paul.daly@dioceseofsalford.org.uk
 Fr. Jose's contact details: Email jose.netto@dioceseofsalford.org.uk
 Fr. Anthony's contact details: Email: anthony.nnajofofor@dioceseofsalford.org.uk
 Deacon Stephen's contact details: Tel: 07864994709 Email: stephen.scott@dioceseofsalford.org.uk
 Gracielli Polaini's (Parish Secretary)'s contact details Email: gracielli.polaini@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

OUR PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOLS St. Edmund's, Upper Monsall St 0161 205 1700
 St. Malachy's, Eggington St, 0161 205 3496 St. Patrick's, Livesey St, 0161 834 9004

10th MAY 2026 Masses at St. Patrick's unless marked St M OR St E

LIVESTREAM ON <https://st-patricks-collyhurst.click2stream.com/> Website sppatrickmalachy.org.uk

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Acts 8:5-8, 14-17 1 Peter 3: 15-18 John 14:15-21	Confessions 9-9.15am Mass 9.30am, Confessions 11-11.15am Mass 11.30am (signed) Confessions 10-10.15am Mass 10:30am (St. M)
MONDAY Acts 16:11-15 John 15:26-16:4	Exposition of the Bl Sacrament 8:45 - Mass 9:15am
TUE SS Nereus and Achilleus, St. Pancras Acts 16:22-34 Jn 16:5-11	Exposition of the Bl Sacrament 8:45 - Mass 9:15am
WED Our Lady of Fatima Acts 17:15, 22-18:1 Jn 16:12-15	Exposition of the Bl Sacrament 8:45 - Mass 9:15am
THURSDAY THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD HOLIDAY OF OBLIGATION Acts 1:1-1 Ephesians 1:16-23 Matthew 28:16-20	Mass 9:15am with St. Patrick's school (signed) Mass 11am (St M) with St. Malachy's school Requiem Mass for Marlene Short 11:45am Mass 2pm (St E) at St. Edmund's school Mass 6pm
FRIDAY Abstinence Acts 18:9-18 John 16:20-23	Exposition of the Bl Sacrament 8:45 - Mass 9:15am Requiem Mass for David Connor 10:30am
SATURDAY Acts 18:23-28 John 16:23-28	Mass 10am, followed by Confessions and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until Benediction at 11am Confessions 5.15pm, Mass 5.30pm (St. M)
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Acts 1:12-14 1 Peter 4:13-16 John 17:1-11	Confessions 9-9.15am Mass 9.30am, Confessions 11-11.15am Mass 11.30am (signed) Confessions 10-10.15am Mass 10:30am (St. M) Mass (Vietnamese) 4pm

Under no circumstances are young children allowed to go to the toilets unaccompanied. Make sure your children are accompanied. Children must be supervised when using the stairs and lift. The stairs are only to access the Upper Hall under parental supervision. Ensure your children do not play on or under the stairs.



Do help the parish via QR code OR BY MACHINE in the church porches.

Thank you for your generosity last weekend £403.56 (loose), £128.70 (giftaid).

Use your phone's camera to try it out

If you would like an 8 day light to burn for a particular intention in front of the BI Sacrament, Our Lady or St. Joseph please write the intention on an envelope. If you can enclose a donation we suggest £10.

To keep in touch with you we invite you to register as parishioners. A Google Form has been created. Do use the QR code (right) to submit it.



Thursday 14th May is the Solemn Feast of the Ascension of the Lord. IT IS A HOLYDAY OF OBLIGATION, that is a day equal to a Sunday when Catholics are obliged to attend Mass, unless prevented by serious illness, work or another grave reason.

This is a serious obligation which, sadly, even most Catholics who regularly attend Sunday Mass seem to neglect. We should want to celebrate these great Feasts by coming to Mass but also by celebrating it as a family. Treat yourself to a glass of wine or a nice dessert as well as Mass! Have a family treat together.

Masses on Ascension Thursday are: 9.15am St. Patrick's with school (signed) 11am St. Malachy's with school 2pm St. Edmund's school 6pm St. Patrick's



Might you be called to become a priest? Open to exploring it further?

Come along to a prayerful day of Reflection at St John Fisher, Manchester Road, Kearsley, Bolton, on Saturday 13th June, 10am -2:30pm

The day will includes talks from our Vocations Directors; Mass; Adoration; time for personal prayer and strolls around the beautiful grounds. Lunch included.

Spaces are limited, so to registryour interest, email michael.deas@dioceseofsalford.org.uk and your booking will be confirmed in due course.



We wish our Parish Secretary many blessings as she starts her maternity leave. We are grateful to Amanda Donoghue, Parish Secretary at Our Lady of Mount Carmel with St. John Bosco, Blackley, for providing cover.

On Bank Holiday Monday, 26th May, the Manchester and Salford Ecumenical Whit Walk takes place. We are warmly welcome and encouraged to take part. You may wish to walk with Manchester Cathedral, which is our nearest neighbouring church taking part, or with the Holy Name and Manchester Universities Catholic Chaplaincy.

9.30am—Assemble in behind Manchester Cathedral 10.00am - Procession to St Peter's Square via Deansgate 10.45am - Act of worship 11.30am - Return procession.

Free energy bill advice from Caritas If you are worried about rising energy costs, our diocesan charity Caritas Salford runs a range of free drop-in advice sessions to help with everything from energy debt to making your home more energy efficient. You can find out more about these and other ways the team can help people across Greater Manchester and Lancashire on the Caritas website at www.caritassalford.org.uk/energysupport

Word search grid with words: DISCIPLES, LOVE, FATHER, ANOTHER, ADVOCATE, SPIRIT, TRUTH, WORLD, ORPHANS, UNDERSTAND, SHOW, MYSELF, T I U E C P K S A L, O C T V R O P R E E, N S H O W I V E S S, A I E L R V S D K Y, E D S I V O L N A M, N A T R E D N U R T. Includes cartoon of Jesus and two people.

Pope Leo's Intention for May: That everyone might have food Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food. Click on Pope's May prayer intention: 'That everyone might have food' - Vatican News to see the Pope lead this prayer in a short video.

In our Diocese we pray this week for the people of the parish of St Edward, Lees, for Fr. Callum Brown, their parish priest, and for their parish primary school.

In our parish we pray for all who live on St. Augustine Street, Rutherglen Walk and Ruislip Avenue.

For all the sick. For Patrick McCabe, David Connor, Marlene Short, Grace Gee, Mary Connolly, Casie Marshall and all who have died recently, and James Penlingtonand all remembered at this time.

The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week for peace in the Middle East, the lamp in Our Lady's Chapel burns this week in memory of Dominic Leech and the lamp in St. Joseph's Chapel for an end to anti-semitism in this country and abroad.



This Week's Feasts: Tue: Ss Nereus and Achilleus, Roman soldiers who converted to Christianity and were executed. St Pancras suffered martyrdom under Diocletian (c.304), buried on the Via Aurelia, with a basilica over his tomb.

Wed: Our Lady of Fatima: The Blessed Virgin appeared 6 times to 3 shepherd children, Lucia, Francisco, and Jacinta, between May 13 and October 13, 1917 in the Portuguese village, with a message of repentance, so that the world may be transformed into the place of grace and peace willed by Almighty God.

Thu: THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD St Matthias, chosen by the apostles to take the place of Judas Iscariot. Matthias went on to preach in Ethiopia. St. Carthage, also known as Mochuda, was born in Kerry c555. He spent his youth as a swineherd near Castlemaine before entering a monastery and being ordained priest. He became a hermit at Killtallagh, founding several monasteries, settling at Lismore where he died in 637.

Fri: St. Carentoc, son of a Welsh chieftain, went to Ireland to study under St. Patrick, coming to Cornwall as missionary. St. Brendan, born nr Tralee, educated by St. Ita, ordained by St. Erc, established churches before setting out on his voyage to Tir na N'Og, the Island of the Blessed. He travelled to Wales and Iona. In 563 he established the monastery of Clonfert where he is buried. St. Simon Stock in the 13th century was an Englishman who became Prior General of the Carmelite Order. He popularised the brown scapular of Our Lady of Mt Carmel.

ASCENSION DAY, by Malcolm Guite We saw his light break through the cloud of glory Whilst we were rooted still in time and place As earth became a part of Heaven's story And heaven opened to his human face. We saw him go and yet we were not parted He took us with him to the heart of things The heart that broke for all the broken-hearted Is whole and Heaven-centred now, and sings, Sings in the strength that rises out of weakness, Sings through the clouds that veil him from our sight, Whilst we our selves become his clouds of witness And sing the waning darkness into light, His light in us, and ours in him concealed, Which all creation waits to see revealed .

Wish to plan a baptism? speak to Fr. Paul

If you, or someone you know, unwell and would like to receive a home visit, tell Fr. Jose.

To book a wedding contact Deacon Stephen.

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW OUR PARISH STORY? 1836 Fr Hearne arranged that his servant should wait on the Nuns and that they should provide everything that might be required out of a common stock of St. Patrick's House. There was often great provision of expensive things unfit for Nuns, and Mother Magdalen would remark to Fr Hearne that they were not accustomed to such living; plain food provided by themselves is that they wished for but he thought nothing was too good for them and his servants were very attentive. Mother Magdalen would urge the propriety of their having more plain diet regularly and they should know at what expense they were living, but to no purpose (all through kindness).