

A reflection on Sunday's Second Reading: Fearing or Taunting Death

The fear of dying haunts our days. We treasure every day we have, with all its joys and sorrows. But our fears can cause bad choices. We spend more on ourselves than on our neighbour. We seek our pleasures above those of others. We want as much from life as we can get, as if our happiness comes from things that pass away. But God created us as eternal beings. We can receive eternal happiness if we think of others, not just ourselves, and if we strive to do God's will, not just our own. Death carries a sting. It can cause bad choices. The fear of death can lead to sin. But through Jesus, God has removed the sting of death. God has given us a victory, a promise of salvation. St. Paul shared with the Corinthians a song that taunted death: "Death is swallowed up in victory. / Where, O death, is your victory? / Where, O death, is your sting?" Today we celebrate the Assumption of Mary into heaven. We believe that God received Mary into heaven as a sign of the promise in which we all share. Mary was created for an eternal mission. She lived her life with eternal values. She lives now eternally, forever with God. Mary helps us put away our fears of dying, to live for others and to do the will of God. She helps us make good choices that lead to ever lasting joy.

*Lectionary Bulletin Inserts: Reflections on the
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Turner. Lectionary for Mass © 2001, CCD*

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

One structural issue that needs to be addressed has to do with the locations, neighbourhoods, homes and cities where the poor live and spend their time. All of us appreciate the beauty of “those cities which overcome paralyzing mistrust, integrate those who are different and make this very integration a new factor of development! How attractive are those cities which, even in their architectural design, are full of spaces which connect, relate and favor the recognition of others!” Yet, at the same time, “we cannot fail to consider the effects on people’s lives of environmental deterioration, current models of development and the throwaway culture.” For “the deterioration of the environment and of society affects the most vulnerable people on the planet.”

All members of the People of God have a duty to make their voices heard, albeit in different ways, to point out and denounce such structural issues, even at the cost of appearing foolish or naïve. Unjust structures need to be recognized and eradicated by the force of good, by changing mindsets but also, with the help of science and technology, by developing effective policies for societal change. It must never be forgotten that the Gospel message has to do not only with an individual's personal relationship with the Lord, but also with something greater: "the Kingdom of God; it is about loving God who reigns in our world. To the extent that he reigns within us, the life of society will be a setting for universal fraternity, justice, peace and dignity. Both Christian preaching and life, then, are meant to have an impact on society. We are seeking God's Kingdom."

Finally, in a document that was not initially well received by everyone, we find a reflection that remains timely today: “The defenders of orthodoxy are sometimes accused of passivity, indulgence, or culpable complicity regarding the intolerable situations of injustice and the political regimes which prolong them. Spiritual conversion, the intensity of the love of God and neighbour, zeal for justice and peace, the Gospel meaning of the poor and of poverty, are required of everyone, and especially of pastors and those in positions of responsibility. The concern for the purity of the faith demands giving the answer of effective witness in the service of one’s neighbour, the poor and the oppressed in particular, in an integral theological fashion.”



Pope Leo XIV's First Encyclical

Magnifica Humanitas: On Safeguarding the Human Person in the Age of Artificial Intelligence

Pope Leo published his first Encyclical, Magnifica Humanitas. We read and reflect on it each week:

The Vatican Council reminds us that “it is the task of the whole People of God, particularly of pastors and theologians, to listen to and distinguish the many voices of our times and to interpret them in the light of God’s word, in order that the revealed Truth may be more deeply penetrated, better understood and more suitably presented.” Listening to the “many voices” is no mere sociological exercise, but instead requires spiritual discernment. Guided by the Spirit, the People of God come to recognize in cultural and social transformations both the signs of the presence of Christ, who comes and guides history toward its fulfilment, and those aberrations that obscure his face. The essential core of revealed Truth is not altered, but made explicit and adopted as a living standard for guiding concrete choices, inspiring paths of personal and communal conversion, promoting structural reforms and supporting new forms of evangelical witness in public life. History is understood as one of the places in which the Church allows herself to be taught by the Spirit about the humanizing power of the Gospel; and she learns to develop her own teaching at the service of the dignity of every person and the good of all peoples.

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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!



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)
Anthony Nguyen (seminarian in residence)



Fr. Cletus Magugu, (Chaplain to the Zimbabwean Catholic Community –in residence)
Fr. Anthony Nnaji for (Chaplain to the Central Manchester Hospitals-in residence)
Presentation Sisters, Missionaries of Charity Brothers, Sisters of Our Lady of Evron

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Amanda Donoghue (Parish Secretary)'s contact details	Email: <i>Amanda.donoghue@dioceseofsalford.org.uk</i>

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

16th August 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

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGEN MARY Revelation 11:19;12:1-6,10 1 Corinthians 15:20-27 Luke 1:39-56	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
MONDAY Ezekiel 24:15-24 Matthew 19:16-22	Exposition of the Bl Sacrament 8:45 - Mass 9:15am
TUESDAY Ezekiel 28:1-10 Matthew 19:23-30	Exposition of the Bl Sacrament 8:45 - Mass 9:15am
WEDNESDAY <i>St John Eudes</i> Ezekiel 34:1-11 Matthew 20:1-16	Exposition of the Bl Sacrament 8:45 - Mass 9:15am
THURSDAY ST Bernard Ezekiel 36:23-28 Matthew 22:1-14	Exposition of the Bl Sacrament 8:45 - Mass 9:15am
FRI St Pius X Abstinence Ezekiel 37:1-14 Matthew 22:34-40	Exposition of the Bl Sacrament 8:45 - Mass 9:15am
SATURDAY Our Lady, Mother and Queen Ezekiel 43:1-7 Matthew 23:1-12	Mass 10am, followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions, Benediction 11am Month's Mind Mass for Christy Joyce 12noon Confessions 5pm, Mass 5.30pm (St. M)
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIM Isaiah 22:15, 19-23 Romans 11:33-36 Matthew 16:13-20	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 (Spanish) 3pm

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.

USE OUR CAR PARK AT THE END OF NOBBY STILES DRIVE UNLESS YOU HAVE A RESIDENTS' PERMIT FOR THIS ZONE OR BLUE BADGE.

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



Solemnity of the Assumption

THE CATHOLIC Church believes that Mary, the mother of Jesus, was assumed body and soul into heaven at the end of her life. We believe in the resurrection of bodies that decay after death; Mary needed no resurrection of the body because hers was preserved from corruption. She was assumed into heaven.

This belief is a counterpart to the Catholic belief in the Immaculate Conception. To prepare a womb for the coming of the Word Made Flesh, God preserved Mary from all sin from the moment of her conception. Mary did not experience any sin—including original sin, which leads to further sin and death. Hence, sinless (immaculate) Mary also did not experience death as other mortals do. She was assumed into heaven.

The Preface for this day was composed after the Second Vatican Council. It includes these ideas about Mary, as well as this idea about the Church: We are a pilgrim people. This image had been enshrined in the council’s *Dogmatic Constitution on the Church*. The entire Church makes a pilgrimage toward heaven. Mary, who achieved this goal, is a sign of hope and comfort for everyone else along the way. She is the beginning and the image of the Church as it comes to perfection.

The Mass for the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is celebrated in the evening of August 14 and anytime during the day on August 15. When this solemnity falls on a Sunday, it replaces the prayers and readings of Ordinary Time. August 15 is a holyday of obligation in the United States of America, except in those years when it falls on a Saturday or a Monday. This allows those responsible for preparing Sunday worship to relax a bit more.

Bulletin Inserts for the Liturgical Life of the Parish: The Liturgical Year © 2020
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Written by Paul Turner

This Week’s Feasts:

Wed: St. John Eudes, born in 1601, became a priest and a Missioner, travelling to many parishes in his native France. He propagated devotion to the Sacred Heart, and founded a congregation to promote the formation of priests; he also founded the Congregation of Our Lady of the Refuge, to rescue women and girls trying to escape from a life of prostitution. He died in 1680.

Bl. Hugh Green was educated at Cambridge, converted to Catholicism, and went to Douai, France. There he was ordained in 1612. Returning to England, Hugh laboured in Dorset until his arrest. He was hanged at Dorchester on this day in 1642.

Thurs: St. Bernard, born near Citeaux in 1090, joined the monastery there in 1111; his presence revitalised the Cistercian house, and he eventually became abbot of nearby Clairvaux; he was much in demand for advice, and worked to overcome divisions in the Church, writing many theological works. He is credited with writing the Memorare.

Fri: Pope St. Pius X born in Riese (Italy) into a very poor family in 1835, was ordained and worked as parish priest for 17 years before being made spiritual director at the diocesan seminary; from there he became bishop of Mantua, Patriarch of Venice, and was elected Pope in 1903. He renewed Christian life, by emphasising charity and the Eucharist; he worked strenuously to avoid war in 1914, but died shortly after its outbreak, on the 20th August.

Sat: The Queenship of Mary.
St Ita, founded many monasteries in West Cork, dying c 600.

Pope Leo’s Intention for August: Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.

In our Diocese this week we pray for the parish of St. Mary and St. Philip Neri, Radcliffe, for Father Philip Brady, their parish priest, and for their parish primary schools.

In our parish we pray for all who live or work on Bendix Street, Thompson Street and Cassidy Close

For Lucy Hickey and all the sick.

For Eddie Foley, Janice Gibson, Danny Evans and all who have died recently, and Laurence Penlington, Denis Dermody, Bernadette Poyning and all remembered at this time.

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

ASSUMPTION, by Jeffrey Essmann

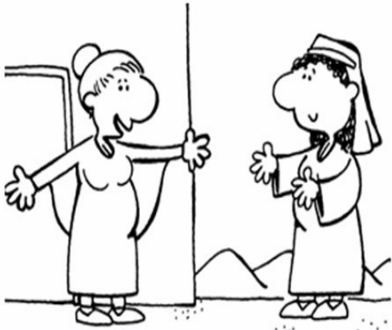
The sky could not contain in all its blue
The purity that soared to its embrace;
Even the sun felt oddly out of place
When virgin brilliance sent its rays askew.
For all creation held its breath anew,
As once it did when, young and full of grace,
She said her yes and changed the human race,
So now, fulfilled, as heavenward she flew.
And Gabriel, serene and strangely proud,
Observed her climb to glory cloud by cloud.
My earthly eyes can such things hardly spy,
Though sometimes by God’s grace I seem allowed
To glimpse that which I cannot disavow:
The richer blue her soul has lent the sky.



During the recent Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes two large candles were lit and placed across from the Grotto for the intentions of all our parishioners, friends and family.

H	I	R	A	H	C	E	Z	T	E
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Z	I	M	E	A	E	D	S	F	P
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C	O	A	L	E	B	H	L	I	I
M	E	N	E	Z	E	C	B	E	T
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MARY	JUDAH	ZECHARIAH
ELIZABETH	CHILD	WOMB
HOLY	SPIRIT	CRY
BLESSED	FRUIT	LEAPT



HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW OUR PARISH STORY?

1842 This year, for the first time in Manchester, devotions for the month of May were begun in our Schools. We found it impossible to get an image of the Blessed Virgin in Manchester so we procured a statue of Queen Victoria (*remember that in 1842 Queen Victoria was aged 23*) and draped it in blue and made it as pretty an altar of Our Lady as our poverty permitted. The devotions were well attended by numbers of poor women and girls and the piety and admiration of the poor people was unbounded. One poor old woman after expressing her delight exclaimed with the greatest simplicity ‘but what a pity you did not dress her in green rather than blue. You know she was an Irish girl.’”

The garden belonging to the Convent had been entirely neglected for three or four years as the Community could not afford to pay for a gardener to keep it in order. Several poor Irishmen out of employment offered their services without the least expectation of remuneration. They set to work and several of these poor men collected money to pay for tools, trees, soil, gravel, etc and to the surprise of the Nuns they presented forty pounds to be spent upon the grounds.



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

Thank you for your generosity last weekend £484.75 (loose) £173(GiftAided) and £70 (contactless machine).

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