

A reflection on Sunday’s First Reading: Acts of God

There is a legal term for a natural disaster. It is called an “act of God.” It is a little unfair to libel God with deeds of destruction. Even so, when the forces of nature reveal their strength, people become aware of their own weaknesses and meditate on the power of God.

But when people go in search of God, they rarely go to the place of an earthquake, a fire, or a tornado. They go to a quiet place. They watch the sunrise. They pick a wayside chapel. They sit by the ocean. They find God’s majestic voice in whispers of peace.

When Elijah fled the grasp of the angry and murderous Jezebel, he found himself in a cave on the mountain of God, Horeb. There he witnessed God passing by. Not in the strong wind, not in the earthquake, not in fire did Elijah behold God’s presence, but in a tiny whispering sound.

Noise surrounds much of our day. The radio or TV breaks the morning silence. Music filters through elevators and grocery stores. Our cars don’t block out the noise of traffic. It may not take an act of God for us to be able to find God. It may just take a quiet space.

Lectionary Bulletin Inserts: Reflections on the First and Second Readings, Year A © 2019 Archdiocese of Chicago: Liturgy Training Publications. All rights reserved. Written by Paul 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

We need to be increasingly committed to resolving the structural causes of poverty. This is a pressing need that “cannot be delayed, not only for its urgency for the good order of society, but because society needs to be cured of a sickness which is weakening and frustrating it, and which can only lead to new crises. Welfare projects, which meet certain urgent needs, should be considered merely provisional responses.” Inequality “is the root of social ills.” “It frequently becomes clear that, in practice, human rights are not equal for all.”

“The current model, with its emphasis on success and self-reliance, does not favour investment in efforts to help the slow, the weak or the less talented to find opportunities in life.” The same questions keep coming back to us. Does this mean that the less gifted are not human beings? Or that the weak do not have the same dignity as ourselves? Are those born with fewer opportunities of lesser value as human beings? Should they limit themselves merely to surviving? The worth of our societies, and our own future, depends on the answers we give to these questions.

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

Recognizing that God upholds the freedom of men and women in the unfolding of history, the Second Vatican Council affirmed the distinction between the church community and the political community, emphasizing that each must operate with full autonomy. The Church’s presence in the world is expressed through her relationship with civil society and public institutions. By engaging with these, the Church acknowledges the value of social and political realities and honours their specific responsibilities, supporting everything that fosters the wellbeing of individuals and strengthens the fabric of society. The Church does not claim to assume the functions belonging to the State. On the contrary, she esteems those who serve the common good, and she firmly acknowledges the responsibility that civil institutions hold within society. At the same time, the mission entrusted to the Church prompts her to address the real suffering of the men and women of our time. This closeness does not stem from an intent to supplant civil institutions, much less from an implicit criticism of their work. Rather, it stems from Gospel charity, which impels the Church to draw near to the wounds of humanity whenever they surface with greater severity. When the Church intervenes, she does so following the example of the Good Samaritan, with discretion and closeness, aware that what arises from urgent necessity cannot become the norm, nor replace the institutional responsibilities proper to the civil com-

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW OUR PARISH STORY?

1842 Gas was introduced to the Convent and School. A night school was opened particularly for the instruction of poor women and young girls.

There was a great disturbance in the town. Many thousands of men were out of work and some riots were caused by the discontented. The soldiers were said to be on duty. Cannons were placed in the streets, one at the end of Livesey St. The Nuns were in great terror.

Public charity provided a small subsistence for many destitute families. Large kitchens were made and soup etc was shared. We have seen 800 or 900 strong working men standing around the burial ground at St. Patrick’s several times in the week waiting for the tickets Fr Hearne used to give them to receive some soup for themselves and their families. Our poor children frequently fainted on school from want and weakness. We had not anything to give them except some ricj of which several bags were sent by a gentleman in the South of England. We used to put water and a little salt with the rice into a large pan and let it soak in the oven, It was given to the children at dinner hour and there never was a morsel left. There never was a morsel left. They were only too glad to get anything to eat. These were distressing times.

Isten hozott Bemmenute Xush kelibsiz MAUYA MAYEMOGACHO YEVKAR Maraba FAILTE ቅዱስ ዳሕነድ እንትድነኑ Karibu Ongi etorri Bun venit Tonga soa Benvingut Benvidos Failte Ort Dynnargh dhywgh Wylcome KAABO BIENVENIDOS WITAMY ласкаво просимо Nno வருக WILKOMMEN WELCOME Chào Mừng καλώς ήρθες WELKOM Wajolo vu 歡迎 Benvingut བུ་ཤུག་ལོ་ BIENVENUES BEMVINDOS وش آم أهلاً وسهلاًBENVENUTI



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 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
Postal address: St. Patrick’s Rectory, 2 Nobby Stiles Drive, Collyhurst, M4 4JF

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

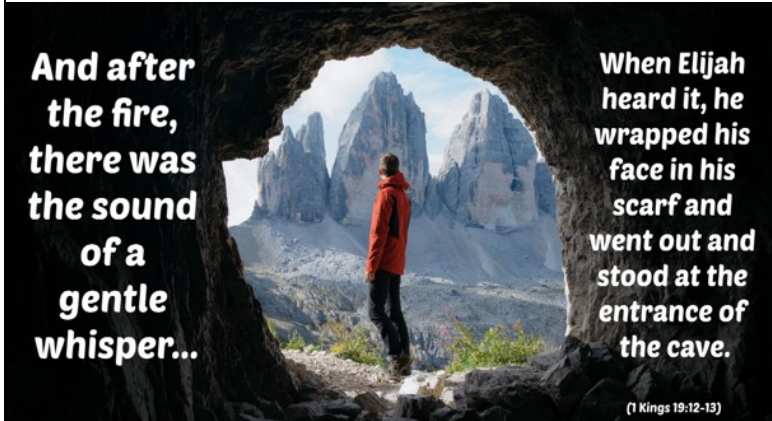
TELEPHONE: 0161 383 5295 for the parish office or priests

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Fr. Jose’s contact details: Email jose.netto@dioceseofsalford.org.uk
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Deacon Stephen’s contact details: Tel: 07864994709 Email: stephen.scott@dioceseofsalford.org.uk
Amanda Donoghue (Parish Secretary)’s contact details Email: Amanda.donoghue@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

OUR PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOLS
St. Malachy’s, Eggington St, 0161 205 3496

St. Edmund’s, Upper Monsall St 0161 205 1700
St. Patrick’s, Livesey St, 0161 834 9004

9th August 2026 Masses at St. Patrick’s unless marked St M OR St E	
LIVESTREAM ON https://st-patricks-collyhurst.click2stream.com/ Website sspatrickmalachy.org.uk	
THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 11 Kings 19:9,11-13 Romans 9:1-5 Matthew 14:22-33	Confessions 9-9.15am Mass 9.30am, Confessions 11-11.15am Mass 11.30am (signed) Confessions 10-10.15am Mass 10:30am (St. M)
MON ST LAURENCE 2 Corinthians 9:6-10 John 12:24-26	Exposition of the Bl Sacrament 8:45 - Mass 9:15am
TUESDAY St Clare Ezekiel 2:8-3:4 Matthew 18:1-5,10,12-14	Exposition of the Bl Sacrament 8:45 - Mass 9:15am
WED St Jane Frances de Chantal Ezekiel 9:1-7; 10:18-22 Matthew 18:15-20	Exposition of the Bl Sacrament 8:45 - Mass 9:15am
THU SS Pontian and Hippolytus Ez 12:1-12 Matthew 18:21-19:1	Exposition of the Bl Sacrament 8:45 - Mass 9:15am
FRI St Maximilian Kolbe Abstinence Ez 16:1-15,60,63 Mt 19:3-12	Exposition of the Bl Sacrament 8:45 - Mass 9:15am
SATURDAY St Dominic Habakkuk 1:12-2:4 Matthew 17:14-20	Mass 10am, followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions, Benediction 11am Confessions 5pm, Mass 5.30pm (St. M)
THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGAN 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



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.

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



Q Since many of us were baptized as infants and have no memories of our baptism, how can we come to appreciate the importance of baptism in our lives?

A Those baptized as adults treasure the memory of their baptism. Those baptized as infants can also, with a little effort. Find out the date of your baptism and make that anniversary special by lighting a candle and renewing your baptismal promises. Make a pilgrimage to the font where you were baptized. Track down photos from that day. When your parish celebrates a baptism, join in the celebration and notice what happens. Through those experiences you can relive your own baptism vicariously and deepen your appreciation. Pray for those preparing for baptism. Even if you don't remember your baptism, know how important it continues to be: Baptism is our entry into the life of Christ, our participation in the paschal mystery of his life, death, and resurrection. Baptism is a sacramental encounter with Christ that lasts a lifetime.

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On Saturday 10th October Fr Paul will be joining the 2026 Caritas Diocese of Salford Big Sleep Out, at the Old Bedians Sports Centre in Didsbury, 7pm till 6am. It is an opportunity to come together in solidarity with people experiencing homelessness, to raise awareness and funds, and to reflect on the realities faced by to many in our communities.

Nearer the time Fr Paul will seek your sponsorship. If anyone, aged 18 and over, would like to join him, please drop him an email.

Here are some examples of what sponsorship could pay for:
£50 - it could pay for 70 people to have a hot shower at one of our day centres
£90 - could ensure that 30 people receive a hot and nutritious lunch
£350 - could provide a training programme for skills to ready a person for work
£1,500 - could sponsor a room for a year to support someone who otherwise would be homeless.

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 Our Lady of Grace, Prestwich and for Father Gerard Byrne, their parish priest. We pray for their parish primary schools, for the chaplaincy to Prestwich Hospital and for the Sisters of Our Lady of Sion.

In our parish we pray for all who live or work on Chadderton St, Goulden St and Marshall St.

For Eddie Foley and all the sick.

For Jim Mulgrew (Jimmy Cricket), Danny Glynn, Danny Evans, Michael Devitt, Sean Carey, Christy Joyce and all who have died recently, and for all remembered at this time.

The Lamp in front of Our Lady's Statues burns in honour of Sr Ambrose.



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.

John Newton was an English Anglican clergyman, poet and hymn writer. He is best known as author of "Amazing Grace," one of the most beloved and widely sung hymns in the English language. Newton's life was marked by a dramatic conversion experience, after which he abandoned his career in the slave trade and became an outspoken advocate for the abolition of slavery.

There will be an open afternoon at the Lalley Community Allotment, at St. Malachy's, run by our diocesan charity, Caritas Salford, on Tuesday 18 August from 12:00-3:30PM. For information contact the team at lalleycentre@caritassalford.org.uk or simply pop along on the day, especially if you've not seen the wonderful work that they do.

Planning a wedding? See Deacon Stephen. Six months notice is required.



Peter Walks on the Water,
by John Newton
Who was John Newton? See left.

A Word from Jesus calms the sea,
The stormy wind controls;
And gives repose and liberty
To tempest-tossed souls.

To Peter on the waves he came,
And gave him instant peace;
Thus he to me revealed his name,
And bid my sorrows cease.

Then filled with wonder, joy and love,
Peter's request was mine;
Lord, call me down, I long to prove
That I am wholly thine.

Unmoved at all I have to meet
On life's tempestuous sea;
Hard, shall be easy; bitter, sweet,
So I may follow thee.

He heard and smiled, and bid me try,
I eagerly obeyed;
But when from him I turned my eye,
How was my soul dismayed!

The storm increased on every side,
I felt my spirit shrink;
And soon, with Peter, loud I cried,
Lord, save me, or I sink.

Kindly he caught me by the hand,
And said, Why dost thou fear?
Since thou art come at my command,
And I am always near.

Upon my promise rest thy hope,
And keep my love in view;
I stand engaged to hold thee up,
And guide thee safely through.

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

Planning a baptism? See Fr Paul

Want to become a Catholic? Open to the idea? See Fr Paul

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.



This Week's Feasts: Mon: St Lawrence was a deacon in Rome in the time of Pope Sixtus II in charge of the charitable work of the Roman church. Being arrested, he was asked for the Church's treasure: his pointed to the poor and hungry, lepers and widows he served. Tradition tells that Lawrence was killed being roasted on a grid.

Tues: St Clare: born in Assisi in 1193, she followed St Francis in his life of poverty and was the founder of an order of nuns (Poor Clares). She died in 1253.

Bl John Sandys and Stephen Rowsham, priests and martyrs; **Bl William Lampley**, martyr: #executed at Gloucester under Elizabeth I in 1586, 1587 and 1588 respectively.

Wed: St Jane Frances de Chantal was born in Dijon in 1572, and was married with 6 children. After her husband died she entered religious life and founded the Visitation Order. She died in 1641.

St. Muredach, Bishop of Killala, appointed by St. Patrick in 442.

St. Liadhain, Celtic nun, who gave her name to Killeely in Limerick.

Thurs: Ss Pontian and Hippolyus, Pope and priest who disagreed on matters of Church Law, but were eventually reconciled when they were both exiled to the mines of Sardinia in 235; they died there, and their bodies were returned to Rome.

Bl Patrick O'Healy, Bishop of Mayo, and **Conan O'Rourke**, martyred in Limerick in 1579.

Bl William Freeman, martyred in 1595 at Warwick.

Fri: St Maximilian Mary Kolbe, born in Poland in 1894, became a Franciscan in 1910. Arrested by the invading German forces in 1939 and sentenced to the extermination camp at Auschwitz; when a married man was chosen to be executed, Maximilian took his place: he was killed by lethal injection on 14th August 1941.

St. Fachtna, bishop of Ross, a pupil of St Ita, founded many monasteries in West Cork, dying c 600.

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DISCIPLES	BOAT	PRAY
LAKE	HEADWIND	TERRIFIED
GHOST	FEAR	COURAGE
SINK	FAITH	DOUBT



Sr Joan Kerley, of the Franciscan Missionaries of St. Joseph, will be giving an online talk on the **Praying with St Francis** on Thursday 17 September from 7pm, for this Year of St. Francis. Please visit the diocesan website to register your place: <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/talk-on-franciscan-prayer/>



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

Thank you for your generosity last weekend £474.26 (loose) £145 (GiftAided) and the one before £419.41 (loose) and £220 (giftaided).

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