

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

Nor is it a question merely of providing for welfare assistance and working to ensure social justice. Christians should also be aware of another form of inconsistency in the way they treat the poor. In reality, “the worst discrimination which the poor suffer is the lack of spiritual care... Our preferential option for the poor must mainly translate into a privileged and preferential religious care.” Yet, this spiritual attentiveness to the poor is called into question, even among Christians, by certain prejudices arising from the fact that we find it easier to turn a blind eye to the poor. There are those who say: “Our task is to pray and teach sound doctrine.” Separating this religious aspect from integral development, they even say that it is the government’s job to care for them, or that it would be better not to lift them out of their poverty but simply to teach them to work. At times, pseudo-scientific data are invoked to support the claim that a free market economy will automatically solve the problem of poverty. Or even that we should opt for pastoral work with the so-called elite, since, rather than wasting time on the poor, it would be better to care for the rich, the influential and professionals, so that with their help real solutions can be found and the Church can feel protected. It is easy to perceive the worldliness behind these positions, which would lead us to view reality through superficial lenses, lacking any light from above, and to cultivate relationships that bring us security and a position of privilege.

I wish to say something about almsgiving, which nowadays is not looked upon favourably even among believers. Not only is it rarely practiced, but it is even at times disparaged. The most important way to help the disadvantaged is to assist them in finding a good job, so that they can lead a more dignified life by developing their abilities and contributing their fair share. In this sense, “lack of work means far more than simply not having a steady source of income. Work is also this, but much, much more. By working we become a fuller person, our humanity flourishes, young people become adults only by working. The Church’s social doctrine has always seen human work as a participation in God’s work of creation that continues every day, also thanks to the hands, mind and heart of the workers.” On the other hand, where this is not possible, we cannot risk abandoning others to the fate of lacking the necessities for a dignified life. Consequently, almsgiving remains, for the time being, a necessary means of contact, encounter and empathy with those less fortunate.

Those inspired by true charity know that almsgiving does not absolve competent authorities of their responsibilities, eliminate the duty of government institutions to care for the poor, or detract from rightful efforts to ensure justice. Almsgiving at least offers us a chance to halt before the poor, to look into their eyes, to touch them and to share something of ourselves with them. In any event, almsgiving, however modest, brings a touch of *pietas* into a society otherwise marked by the frenetic pursuit of personal gain. In the words of the Book of Proverbs: “Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor”.

Both the Old and New Testaments contain veritable hymns in praise of almsgiving: “Be patient with someone in humble circumstances, and do not keep him waiting for your alms. Store up almsgiving in your treasury, and it will rescue you from every disaster”. Jesus adds: “Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys”.

St John Chrysostom said: “Almsgiving is the wing of prayer. If you do not provide your prayer with wings, it will hardly fly.” St Gregory of Nazianzus ended one of his orations with these words: “If you think I have something to say, servants of Christ, his brethren and co-heirs, let us visit Christ whenever we may; let us care for him, feed him, clothe him, welcome him, honour him, not only at a meal, as some have done, or anointing him, as Mary did, or ending him a tomb, like Joseph of Arimathea, or arranging for his burial, like Nicodemus, or giving him gold, frankincense and myrrh, like the Magi before all these others. The Lord of all asks for mercy, not sacrifice. Let us show him mercy in the the poor and those who today are lying on the ground, so that when we come to leave this world they may receive us into everlasting dwelling places.”

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

Understanding that the truth is a gift to be shared, not a possession to be monopolized, frees the Church from the temptation of seeking forms of presence based on power. In order to rediscover the evangelical approach of a gentle proclamation of truth that is not imposed, St John Paul II invited us to examine honestly the times when acquiescence was given to “intolerance and even use of violence in the service of truth.” I too have reaffirmed that the Church “does not claim to possess a monopoly on truth,” because truth is not a territory to be defended, but a good to be shared. Pope Francis expressed this same perspective in his striking phrase, “time is greater than space.” What matters most is not occupying positions of power or defending cultural strongholds, but initiating good processes and enabling them to mature. In this way, the truth of the Gospel is not imposed from above, but grows over time within the concrete interweaving of lives, communities and cultures. This is not a truth that fears diversity, but instead welcomes and guides it. It does not eliminate conflicts, but transforms them, reuniting that which history tends to scatter. This concept can also be illustrated by the image of a multifaceted polyhedron, in which the one truth of the Gospel is reflected from different angles.

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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)



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

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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

11th OCTOBER 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

SUNDAY Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Isaiah 5:1-7 Philippians 4:6-9 Matthew 21:33-43	Confessions 9-9.15am, Rosary 9.10am, Mass 9.30am, Confessions 11-11.15am Mass 11.30am (signed) Confessions 10-10.15am Mass 10:30am (St. M)
MONDAY <i>St. Wilfrid, Bishop and Missionary</i> Galatians 4:22-24, 26-27,31-5:1 Luke 11:29-32	St Patrick’s church open 8.40am-6.40pm Exposition 8:45, Rosary 9am - Mass 9:15am
TUESDAY <i>St. Edward the Confessor, King</i> Galatians 5:1-6 Luke 11:37-41	St Patrick’s church open 8.40am-6.40pm Exposition,8.45am, Rosary 9am, Mass 9:15am & 6pm
WEDNESDAY <i>St. Callistus, Pope and Martyr</i> Galatians 5:18-25 Luke 11:42-46	St Patrick’s church open 8.40am-6.40pm Requiem Mass for Irene Leishman 10.30am Exposition 8:45am, Rosary 9am, Mass 9:15am & 6pm
THU <i>St Teresa of Avila, Virgin Doctor of the Church</i> Ephesians 1:1-10 Luke 11: 47-54	St Patrick’s church open 8.40am-6.40pm Exposition 8:45, Rosary 9am, Mass 9:15am & 6pm
FRI <i>St Hedwig, Religious, St Margaret Mary Alacoque, Virgin</i> ABSTINENCE FROM MEAT Ephesians 1:11-14 Luke 12:1-7	St Patrick’s church open 8.40am-6.40pm Exposition 8:45, Rosary 9am- Mass 9:15am
SATURDAY <i>St Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop, Martyr</i> Ephesians 1:15-23 Luke 12:8-12	9.40am Rosary, Mass 10am, followed by Confessions, Exposition of the Bl Sacrament til Benediction 12noon Wedding of Danh Phu Nguyen & Nezahat Ozedmir 3pm Confessions 5pm, Mass 5.30pm (St. M)
TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Isaiah 45:1, 4-6 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5 Matthew 22:15-21	Confessions 9-9.15am, Rosary 9.10am Mass 9.30am, Confessions 11-11.15am Mass 11.30am (signed) Confessions 10-10.15am Mass 10:30am (St. M) Mass (Spanish) 3pm

Young children **MUST NOT** go to the toilets unaccompanied. Make sure your children are accompanied. Children must be supervised using the stairs and lift. The stairs are only to access the Upper Hall under parental supervision. Children must not play on or under the stairs.

USE OUR CAR PARK ON NOB-BY STILES DRIVE UNLESS YOU HAVE A RESIDENTS’ PERMIT OR BLUE BADGE.

This week’s Feasts: Mon: St Wilfrid was born in Northumbria c634 and died c709. As bishop of York he was the first English bishop to appeal to the Pope, after his Diocese was divided without reference to him. Although reinstated in York, he fell out again with the king and bishops, and worked in the Midlands and Hexham. **Bl. Thomas Bullaker**, a Franciscan friar from Chichester, was arrested saying Mass and taken still vested. He was executed in London in 1642.

Tue: St Edward the Confessor became King in 1042; remarkable for generosity to the poor, he died on 5 January 1066.

St. Comgan, an 8th century monk, was son of a prince of Leinster, and brother of St. Kentigern. Wounded by neighbouring chieftains in a battle, he fled with his sister and her children to Scotland. He settled in Lochaise, near Skye where he built a monastery. He was buried on Iona.

Wed: St Callistus 1, according to tradition, was a slave who became a deacon (supervising the cemetery on the Via Appia that still bears his name) and later Pope. He was martyred in 222 and buried on the Via Aurelia.

Thur: St Teresa of Jesus, born 1515, entered the Carmelite Order, and made great progress in the way of perfection and enjoyed mystical revelations. She undertook the reform of the Order, against great opposition. She died in 1582.

Fri: St. Hedwig, born in Bavaria in 1174, married the Duke of Silesia and had 7 children; she was renowned for her kindness to the sick and the poor, for whom she built hostels. On the death of her husband she retired to a monastery where she died in 1243. St. Margaret Mary Alacoque, born in 1647, joined the sisters of the Visitation at Paray-le-Monial in 1671. Between 1673 and 1675 she was given revelations of the Sacred Heart of Jesus; she worked to spread this devotion. She died in 1690.

Sat: St Ignatius of Antioch, second bishop of Antioch, was sentenced to death in 107 and deported to Rome, where he was thrown to wild beasts. He wrote 7 letters to the Churches, in which he expounded Christian doctrine and life. **St. Richard Gwyn**, school teacher from North Wales, was fined £280 for non attendance at Anglican services and, upon not paying, was indicted for high treason and hanged, drawn and quartered in 1584.

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.



**Have you ever thought of becoming Catholic?
Would someone you know be interested?
Have you ever suggested it to someone?**

Our Journey in Faith meets in the Convent at 6.30pm on Tuesday evenings. Please let one of the sisters or Fr Paul know if you are interested.

Pope Leo’s Intention for October that mental health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

In our Diocese let us pray, this week, for the parish of the Holy Infant, Astley Bridge, and for Fr. Kieran Anderson, SDB, their parish priest. We pray for their parish primary school, for Thornleigh College, and for the Salesian community.

In our parish we pray for all who live or work on Back St. George’s Rd, Moorhead St and Sudell St.

For Gerard Downey, Maria Yates and all the sick.

For Irene Leischmann, Norman Maylett, Barry O’Grady, all who have died recently, and Joseph Fitzpatrick and all remembered at his time.

The lamp in front of the Blessed Sacrament burns for Nathalie Mbala, in Our Lady’s Chapel in St. Patrick’s for Daniel Asongwe and in St. Joseph’s Chapel for Joseph Fitzpatrick.

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.

HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW OUR STORY? recorded by the Presentation Sisters of that time

1847 Bishop Sharples came to the Convent from St. Patrick’s where he had been endeavouring for some time to straighten the parish accounts, given the state that Fr Hearne had left them in. In the five years that Fr Hearne had been their Superior the Convent had lost £900 which was meant to be for the upkeep of the sisters. This was very painful to the nuns who had, at the beginning, placed such trust in Fr. Hearne. They wondered whether it would be best to return to Ireland but the sisters had not left Ireland for this, n0r had the sisters who had joined them want to give up on the work entrusted to them. So with God’s good help they continued to work with his good time to bring things right.

IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER,
by Catherine Pulsifer

In the month of October, a season's tale unfolds,
As nature's palette shifts, vibrant colors behold.
The weather turns cooler, a crispness fills the air,
Leaves cascade like confetti, a dance without a care.

Children's hearts aflutter, counting days with glee,
Anticipating Halloween, a night of mystery.
The sun's rays wane, as twilight gently sweeps,
Shorter hours of daylight, as the world slowly sleeps.

October's charm enchants, a magical embrace,
A symphony of change, in this transient space.
With each passing day, a glimpse of nature's art,
October's beauty whispers, etching memories in the heart.

Next Sunday, 18th October, after the 10.30am Mass at St. Malachy’s people are invited to stay behind for a Litter Pick-Up and Pizza.

Equipment and bags will be provided so that we can pick up the litter around Eggington St and so make the world a cleaner place. Meanwhile the Pizza Oven will be heating up and everyone will be able to have pizza baked at The Brothers-St. Malachy’s which is the best pizzeria in Collyhurst,

D	E	S	I	L	E	N	T	E	D	KING	FEAST	WEDDING
G	A	R	M	E	N	T	E	O	E	BANQUET	OXEN	BUSINESS
N	S	S	E	N	I	S	U	B	T	FURIOUS	UNWORTHY	GARMENT
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A	H	E	A	V	E	N	U	I	L			
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St. Patrick’s church is open Monday to Friday until 6.30pm. On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings there is Mass at 6pm. Please do call in and pay a Visit to the Blessed Sacrament or attend Mass one evening. The church is covered by CCTV. If discover something untoward, let Fr Paul know on 07764791889.



Do help the parish via **QR code** OR **MACHINE** in church. Thank you for your generosity on the weekend of 27th September: £481.90 (loose), £133 (giftaid) and 4th October: £408.48 (loose), £111 (giftaid) and £375 (Vietnamese)

Q What is Christian initiation?



A Christian initiation is the process of preparing for and receiving the three sacraments of initiation: baptism, confirmation, and Eucharist. Those baptized as infants receive these sacraments over years—Eucharist at around the age of seven, and confirmation anywhere between seven and sixteen. But in the ancient Church, these sacraments were received together. That still happens for adults who wish to become Christians. Their preparation may last one or more years; they learn about and apprentice in a life of faith in the community before receiving all three sacraments at once, usually at the Easter Vigil, on the night before Easter. This journey to baptism is known as the baptismal catechumenate or the Christian initiation process. Adults baptized in other Christian traditions prepare to be received into the full communion of the Catholic Church and to receive the sacraments of confirmation and Eucharist. Depending on their background, this preparation may take a few or many months.

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On Friday 23rd October we will have the first of our Lunchtime Organ Recitals featuring our own Stephen Mann, together with the St. Francis Players. The Concert is Free of Charge and light refreshments, including cake, will be provided afterwards.

Details of the programme are available in church and will appear on here over the coming weeks.

At every Sunday Mass there are a smaller number of MASS SHEETS IN LARGER PRINT. If it would help you to follow the prayers and readings more easily that the smaller print ones, do please take one.

For a larger print Newsletter please access the Newsletter on the Website or request a weekly emailed pdf which can be enlarged on your computer, phone or laptop.

If your child is in Year 3, or above, in a non-Catholic School, and you would like them to make their First Communion this coming year, in June 2027, let Fr. Paul know as soon asap.

Would parents/carers please note that the two requirements for a child to make their First Holy Communion in June 2027 is regular, sustained attendance at Sunday Mass AND parent and child participation at the Sacramental Programme Meetings. If both of these are not fulfilled, a decision will be made by Fr Paul as to whether to delay the First Communion till the following year.