



PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Millbrook

Fr Benjamin writes ...

Being interrupted, in whatever way, can be irritating, especially if we are eager to complete what we are doing. Yet central to the story of today's Gospel passage with the calling of the first four disciples, Andrew, Peter, James and John, is the fact that the Lord comes to them as a colossal interruption. He does this, not only in the way of stopping what they are doing as they mend their nets, but moreover, through His entrance into their lives, they drop everything and follow Him.

This fast-paced response, which St Mark is eager to give us as the model response of a disciple, may seem incomprehensible to many, and unrealistic to some, but considered in its true context, it is sublime. We know, for instance, that Andrew had been earnestly waiting for the Messiah to come. He wanted God to take charge of the world and be the sovereign over all, in His mercy, justice and love. When he found this was beginning to happen, and that God's Kingdom was finally entering into the world, he was delighted and everything, including his livelihood, seemed insignificant compared to being part of this heavenly Kingdom. We don't know what it was James and John saw in the Lord, but they also leave their family in order to follow Him.

Clearly, these four men were looking for something more, and when they saw it in the Person of Jesus of Nazareth, they were determined to be a part of it. It is not uncommon to make decisions based on our 'gut feeling', and it was better to follow and see who this Man was rather than miss it and regret it for eternity.

We must all take the chance to follow the Lord, whilst we have the chance. We must be prepared to be interrupted by the Lord if that is what it takes to follow Him, to know Him and to come to love Him. If that is what it takes to enter into His heavenly Kingdom and the eternal love and life He offers, then we need to ask for the strength and the wisdom to generously respond to His call: Follow me.

God bless you all this Sunday, and always

Rosary and Benediction for Vocations

Given the graces received and number of young men discerning their vocation to the priesthood—just imagine the number of potential priests we could have if more than 10 people turned up to Rosary and Benediction on Sundays at 4pm!

The people of Nineveh renounce their evil behaviour

The word of the Lord was addressed to Jonah: 'Up!' he said 'Go to Nineveh, the great city, and preach to them as I told you to.' Jonah set out and went to Nineveh in obedience to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was a city great beyond compare: it took three days to cross it. Jonah went on into the city, making a day's journey. He preached in these words, 'Only forty days more and Nineveh is going to be destroyed.' And the people of Nineveh believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least.

God saw their efforts to renounce their evil behaviour, and God relented: he did not inflict on them the disaster which he had threatened.

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 24(25):4-6,7b-9****Lord, make me know your ways.****Second reading****1 Corinthians 7:29-31****The world as we know it is passing away**

Brothers: our time is growing short. Those who have wives should live as though they had none, and those who mourn should live as though they had nothing to mourn for; those who are enjoying life should live as though there were nothing to laugh about; those whose life is buying things should live as though they had nothing of their own; and those who have to deal with the world should not become engrossed in it. I say this because the world as we know it is passing away.

Gospel**Mark 1:14-20****I will make you into fishers of men**

After John had been arrested, Jesus went into Galilee. There he proclaimed the Good News from God. 'The time has come' he said 'and the kingdom of God is close at hand. Repent, and believe the Good News.'

As he was walking along by the Sea of Galilee he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net in the lake – for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men.' And at once they left their nets and followed him.

Going on a little further, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John; they too were in their boat, mending their nets. He called them at once and, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the men he employed, they went after him.

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY FOR THE CATHEDRAL

"I fully appreciate the financial pressures being felt by you and by your parishioners but would appeal to you to promote and support the Second Collection for the Cathedral on 21st January. Never has this annual collection by parishes for the Mother Church of the Diocese been more critical or needed. Your support is vitally important to us."

Fr James McAuley
Dean of the Cathedral



HOLY FAMILY, SOUTHAMPTON

Parish Notices

First Confessions

Some of our children will be receiving their first Sacrament of Confession this weekend. Please pray for them as they take this important step in their spiritual lives.

Holy Family Statue

On Friday Fr Benjamin blessed our statue of The Holy Family after the Mass for the Anniversary of the Dedication of The Holy Family Church. The statue will be given to the first family on Sunday 21st for them to host for a week before passing the statue to the next family.

Funeral

The Funeral of Catherine Mercer (RIP) will be on Friday 26th January at 1pm at St Boniface Church Shirley. We shall also hold a requiem at The Holy Family on 9th February at 9.15 am.

Adoration

Our grateful thanks to all those who spent time with Our Blessed Lord over Christmastide, especially those who stepped up in an emergency when others were unable to attend.

We are still in great need of permanent adorers

12 noon -1 pm Fridays

10am -11 am Saturdays

If you are able to help, even on an occasional basis, please contact

Angela ministry@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk or

Catherine office@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk

Rosary Beads for Seafarers

WANTED - Rosary Beads. If you have spare and (Heaven forbid!) unused rosary beads please consider donating them to the Stella Maris charity in Southampton. Your spare beads will be passed on to the many hundreds of seafarers and their families, where there is great demand for them. You can put them in the box in the Louis Suite, hand them in at the office or post them to: Stella Maris, c/o St Edmund's Catholic Church, 14 Rockstone Pl, Southampton SO15 2EQ. Contact: gregory.hogan@stellamarismail.org

Social and Fundraising

Many thanks for generous donations to the Heating Fund given over Christmas. We are making progress towards our initial target and have a few social and fundraising activities in the pipeline.

Social—On Thursday mornings from 10-12 we are currently hosting a Caritas “Warm Space” group in the Louis Suite. Everybody is welcome to join the group run by Victoria—just turn up!

Planning is underway for starting a 100 Club, Social and sweepstakes for the European Football Championships and our Summer Fete.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY



Holy Mass OF = Ordinary Form, EF = Extraordinary Form

Sun 21 Jan	THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.00 am (EF) 10.30 am (OF)	People of the Parish Bernard Amoah (RIP)
Mon 22 Jan	Feria	7.30 pm (OF)	Phero Le Van Rung
Tues 23Jan	Feria	9.15 am (OF)	Catherine Mercer (RIP)
Thurs 25 Jan	THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL	7.30 pm (EF)	Callum Baines (Int)
Fri 26Jan	St Timothy	9.15 am (OF)	Catherine Mercer (RIP)
Sat 27 Jan	Our Lady on a Saturday Vigil	9.15 am (OF) 6.30 pm (OF)	Maria Hoang thi Hue Phaolo Vu Van Viet People of the Parish
Sun 28 Jan	FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.00 am (EF) 10.30 am (OF)	For the Choir Andrew & Amanda Wood & Family

Please hand Mass intentions to Fr Benjamin, to Catherine, or place in the collection basket.

<p>Confessions (when there is Mass) Saturday: 5.30—6.20 pm Monday & Thursday: 6.45—7.20 pm Tuesday & Friday: 8.30—9.10 am</p> <p>Eucharistic Adoration Thursday 8.00 pm to Saturday 6.00 pm</p> <p>Rosary, Vespers & Benediction for Vocations Sunday: 4.00 pm</p>	<p>Groups/Activities in the Louis Suite</p> <p>Sewing Group Tuesdays at 10.00am Gardening Club—Winter Break Mother's Prayers Wednesdays at 2.00 pm</p> <p>Lunch Group Fridays, fortnightly at 12.00 noon: NEXT LUNCH: 2 February</p> <p>Youth Group 1st Saturdays 3-6pm Catholic Men's Group 1st Saturdays at 7:30 pm</p>
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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

January	February
19th Dedication Mass Holy Family 19th Blessing of Holy Family Statue	2nd Candlemas—blessing of candles and procession 13th Pancakes! 14th Ash Wednesday

THE CHURCH WILL REMAIN OPEN FROM 9AM UNTIL 6PM EACH DAY

The Holy Family Catholic Church
Redbridge Hill, Southampton SO16 4PL
 Email: office@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk Tel: 023 80 778203
 Website: www.holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk

Parish Priest	Fr Benjamin Theobald	btheobald@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Parish Deacon	Dcn Tom Jose	tjose@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Parish Administrator	Catherine Merrifield	office@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk
Safeguarding	Catherine Merrifield	safeguarding@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk
Lead Catechist	Angela Wood	ministry@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk
Youth & Confirmation	Ben Nichols	youth@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk