



## PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Millbrook

Fr Benjamin writes ...

It may be due to depictions from famous works of art, or because of Hollywood 'blockbuster' portrayals of the Crucifixion, that we often think of it as a crowded event, as the centre of Jerusalem's attention. Certainly, the word "crowds" (*hoi polloi*) may also legitimately contribute to this assumption. Nevertheless, it could also be interpreted as a largely unnoticed event. "Crowds" was not a word simply to describe numbers, but those who were not disciples of Our Blessed Lord. Most people's attentions would have been focused on the Temple, buying sheep for the Passover sacrifices and preparing for the Passover Feast. Having travelled hundreds, if not thousands of miles, they would not have gone to Pilate's house, which would have made them unclean in the eyes of the authorities, and they most probably would not have gone to the execution ground situated outside the city walls, where criminals were butchered. It was likely to have been low-key, anonymous event; except for those who knew Him, both *hoi polloi* and disciples.

This is very much foreshadowed by the stories we encounter into today's Sunday Gospel passage, which centre on people trying to be the centre of attention and admiration, and the scene of the Widow's Mite. We have a poor woman who gives no more than a half-penny, and yet her extraordinary gift – all she had to live on – went largely unnoticed. This was in comparison to the many people giving from their wealth. Yet, the Lord noticed. He knew what it was to be the One who gave all, and yet was unknown by all. He knew that a heart given fully to offering itself in love was the greatest treasure to God. Those who wanted their piety noted and admired had already got their reward, but the generosity of the giving of self has an eternal quality to it. We can never know how full the world is of actions which it considers to be insignificant gifts and contributions, yet which fill heaven and earth with the love of God. Just as we cannot know this, so the people of Jerusalem did not know the event which was to be the fulcrum of time and space and the end of everlasting death was taking place outside their walls. Such is humility. Such is the reality of God's little but limitless love.

**God bless you all this Sunday and always**

### PRO LIFE INTENTIONS

**All public prayers of Holy Rosary and Divine Mercy in the Church during the week will be for pro-life intentions. Please write to your MP to oppose the Euthanasia Bill.**

### November is the Month of the Holy Souls

Please pray for the salvation of souls; for those who are sick and those who care for them; for vocations to the Sacred priesthood and for the Holy Catholic Church. Please particularly pray for the sanctity of human life to be upheld throughout the world.

Please pray each day for our priests and seminarians and for vocations.

**Adoration** (Thursday evening until Saturday evening);

**Rosary, Vespers and Benediction** (Sundays 4pm)

outdoor **Rosary** Monday 9am, Tuesday 10am

**Stations of the Cross** (the Church is open from 9am until 6pm daily)

**'Jar of meal shall not be spent, jug of oil shall not be emptied'**

Elijah the Prophet went off to Sidon. And when he reached the city gate, there was a widow gathering sticks; addressing her he said, 'Please bring me a little water in a vessel for me to drink.' She was setting off to bring it when he called after her. 'Please' he said 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand.' 'As the Lord your God lives,' she replied 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die.' But Elijah said to her, 'Do not be afraid, go and do as you have said; but first make a little scone of it for me and bring it to me, and then make some for yourself and for your son. For thus the Lord speaks, the God of Israel:

"Jar of meal shall not be spent, jug of oil shall not be emptied, before the day when the Lord sends rain on the face of the earth."

The woman went and did as Elijah told her and they ate the food, she, himself and her son. The jar of meal was not spent nor the jug of oil emptied, just as the Lord had foretold through Elijah.

**Responsorial Psalm****Psalm 145(146):7-10****My soul give praise to the Lord****Second reading****Hebrews 9:24-28****Christ, our high priest, has done away with sin by sacrificing himself**

It is not as though Christ had entered a man-made sanctuary which was only modelled on the real one; but it was heaven itself, so that he could appear in the actual presence of God on our behalf. And he does not have to offer himself again and again, like the high priest going into the sanctuary year after year with the blood that is not his own, or else he would have had to suffer over and over again since the world began. Instead of that, he has made his appearance once and for all, now at the end of the last age, to do away with sin by sacrificing himself. Since men only die once, and after that comes judgement, so Christ, too, offers himself only once to take the faults of many on himself, and when he appears a second time, it will not be to deal with sin but to reward with salvation those who are waiting for him.

**Gospel****Mark 12:38-44****This poor widow has put in more than all**


In his teaching Jesus said, 'Beware of the scribes who like to walk about in long robes, to be greeted obsequiously in the market squares, to take the front seats in the synagogues and the places of honour at banquets; these are the men who swallow the property of widows, while making a show of lengthy prayers. The more severe will be the sentence they receive.'

He sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the treasury, and many of the rich put in a great deal. A poor widow came and put in two small coins, the equivalent of a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, 'I tell you solemnly, this poor widow has put more in than all who have contributed to the treasury; for they have all put in money they had over, but she from the little she had has put in everything she possessed, all she had to live on.'

**NOVEMBER MEMORIAL CANDLES**

**November Memorial Candles are now available from the repository in the Louis Suite and from the office. We are pleased to be able to keep the price to £5.**

**The candles will be arranged in front of the statue of St Joseph throughout November and as long as they last. Please do not re-arrange or add any candles as they will be organised to meet all of the safety standards required. If you do have a preference which week you would like your candles to be burning please indicate and we shall do our best to accommodate your wishes.**



# HOLY FAMILY, SOUTHAMPTON

## Parish Notices

### A Priesthood Discernment Group

Seminarian Ryan Hawkes is running this group at St Edmund's Church, The Avenue on alternate Saturday evenings for men aged 16-35 who are discerning a call to the Catholic priesthood. Contact Ryan for more information: [rhawkes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:rhawkes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

### Euthanasia Bill

There is still time to write to your MPs asking them to speak against the proposed introduction of Euthanasia. All letters must include your name and address as MPs will only deal with correspondence from their constituents. If you need help please contact the office.

**THERE WILL BE A HOLY HOUR OF PRAYER FROM 6PM ON WEDNESDAY 13TH NOVEMBER IN THE CHURCH—PLEASE SUPPORT THIS - IT IS IMPORTANT**

### Christmas Luncheon

**This year's pre-Christmas Lunch will be held on Saturday 7th December. We are pleased to keep prices to £10 per person to enable as many people as possible to attend. Tickets will be available from next weekend.**

### Adoration

**We are seeking regular Faithful Adorers of Our Blessed Lord**

**Fridays 11am-12 noon**

**Friday 4pm-5pm**

**Saturdays 12 noon -1pm**

**Saturdays 2pm -3pm**

**"Could you not watch one hour with Me?" (Matthew 26:40)**

### Confirmation

We are now taking applications for those **young people** wishing to undertake preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation—please complete this link <https://forms.office.com/e/jpMVZbmUOM>. The Confirmation registration evening will be **Monday 18th November at 6pm in the Louis Suite**.

For those **adults** who would like to become a Catholic, and those **adults** who are not yet confirmed, you are invited to join us on Mondays at 7pm in the Louis Suite.

### Stella Maris—Christmas Chocolate Appeal

What do you want for Christmas? Whatever it is, it's highly likely to have come here by sea. About 400,000 Seafarers will be working this Christmas, separated from their families and friends. Theirs is a tough, relentless life, long hours, boring, noisy, dangerous and exhausting. Stella Maris supports seafarers around the world. Please bring your chocolate gifts to the office or leave in the Louis Suite at weekends so we can ensure our seafarers they are not forgotten this Christmas.

**Job vacancies in the Diocese** <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs>

# THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY



**Holy Mass OF = Ordinary Form, EF = Extraordinary Form**

10 Nov (Sun)	<b>THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	9.00am (EF) 10.30am (OF)	John Murphy (RIP) People of the Parish
11 Nov (Mon)	<b>St Martin of Tours</b>	7.30pm (OF)	Lost Souls
12 Nov (Tues)	<b>St Josaphat</b>	9.15am (OF)	Michael & Pamela Humphrey (RIP)
14 Nov (Thurs)	<b>St Josaphat</b>	7.30pm (EF)	Geoffrey Smith (RIP)
15 Nov (Fri)	<b>St Albert the Great</b>	9.15 am (OF)	Alvina & Aaron (Thanksgiving)
16 Nov (Sat)	<b>St Edmund of Abingdon Vigil</b>	9.15 am (OF) 6.30 pm (OF)	Maria Hoang Thi Hue (RIP) People of the Parish
17 Nov (Sun)	<b>THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	9.00 am (EF) 10.30am (OF)	Bernadette Andrew (Int) Alvina & Aaron (Thanksgiving)

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<p><b>November</b> 17th Blessing of Graves 30th Golden Goa Association Annual Charity Event</p> <p><b>December</b> 3rd Advent Carol Service 6pm 7th Christmas Luncheon 8th Immaculate Conception Celebration</p>	<p><b>December</b> 9th Advent Talk 14th Rorate Mass 6am (followed by breakfast) 15th Bambini Blessing 16th Advent Talk</p>
--	--

<p><b>Confessions (when there is Mass)</b> Saturday: 5.30—6.20 pm Monday &amp; Thursday: 6.45—7.20 pm Tuesday &amp; Friday: 8.30—9.10 am</p> <p><b>Eucharistic Adoration</b> Thursday 8.00 pm to Saturday 6.00 pm</p> <p><b>Rosary, Vespers &amp; Benediction for Vocations</b> Sunday: 4.00 pm</p>	<p><b>Groups/Activities in the Louis Suite</b> <b>Outdoor Rosary</b>—Mondays at 9am; Tuesdays 10am <b>Sewing Group</b> - Tuesdays at 10.00am <b>Gardening Club</b> - Tuesdays 10am until 12 noon <b>Mother's Prayers</b> Wednesdays at 2.00 pm <b>Lunch Group</b> Fridays, fortnightly at 12.00 noon: <b>NEXT LUNCH:</b> <b>Youth Group</b> 1st Saturdays 3.00-6.00 pm <b>Catholic Men's Group</b> 1st Saturdays at 7:30 pm <b>Bring a Plate to Share Social</b> Last Saturdays at 7.30pm</p>
---	---

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

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

Grateful thanks for your generosity in August

Loose plate: £1150.16 Gift Aid:£781.01 Standing orders: £1466.66

CDP SOUTHAMPTON HOLY FAMILY SORT CODE 30-93-04 ACCOUNT NUMBER 00887898