



PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Millbrook

Fr Benjamin writes ...

There are many words, even in English, which can be equated with love: adore, cherish, treasure and so many more. Somehow, they do not equate to what both the Book of Deuteronomy and Our Blessed Lord speak of when they command: "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength." The word used in the Hebrew of Deuteronomy is quite difficult to translate. It has the sense of a stubborn doggedness, of remaining faithful come what may. The word used by Our Blessed Lord for love, *agape*, is even more untranslatable when trying to convey its sheer strength and power. The best I can do is to describe it as a torrent of self-giving, a sacrificial love that expects nothing in return but gives all. St John of Avila put it beautifully in his *Treatise on the Love of God*: "He who loves, gives himself with everything he has, until he has nothing left" (No.1).

You can see how, from this, we can often debase the concept of love when we say how much we love chocolate, or love a television programme – "like", yes, but *love* as revealed by God? When we see love in the way it is described and seen in the scriptures, then perhaps we will apply it more carefully. I say, 'see love', because it has been revealed and shown. The world has seen this love in the form of a person and in a supreme act. Love came as a man, and that Son of Man emptied Himself of His glory and even of His Blood in order to give His whole Self to us. He stuck with the Will of His Father, loving Him in the sense of Deuteronomy, and outpoured Himself in *agape*.

There is then another marvel: we are called to experience this love for ourselves, in fidelity and in self-giving, so that the Presence of God can still be known and lived, seen and followed. Love can only be known, not as obedience to a command, but as for what it is, a pure gift. It is this which brings the Kingdom of God on earth, and it is this which gives us direct contact with the living God.

God bless you all and may the light of His Face shine upon you.

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)

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart

Moses said to the people: 'If you fear the Lord your God all the days of your life and if you keep all his laws and commandments which I lay on you, you will have a long life, you and your son and your grandson. Listen then, Israel, keep and observe what will make you prosper and give you great increase, as the Lord the God of your fathers has promised you, giving you a land where milk and honey flow.

'Listen, Israel: the Lord our God is the one Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words I urge on you today be written on your heart.'

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 17(18):2-4, 47, 51****I love you, Lord, my strength****Second reading****Hebrews 7:23-28****Christ, because he remains for ever, can never lose his priesthood**

There used to be a great number of priests under the former covenant, because death put an end to each one of them; but this one, because he remains for ever, can never lose his priesthood. It follows, then, that his power to save is utterly certain, since he is living for ever to intercede for all who come to God through him.

To suit us, the ideal high priest would have to be holy, innocent and uncontaminated, beyond the influence of sinners, and raised up above the heavens; one who would not need to offer sacrifices every day, as the other high priests do for their own sins and then for those of the people, because he has done this once and for all by offering himself. The Law appoints high priests who are men subject to weakness; but the promise on oath, which came after the Law, appointed the Son who is made perfect for ever.

Gospel**Mark 12:28-34****'You are not far from the kingdom of God'**

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.' The scribe said to him, 'Well spoken, Master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken, said, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And after that no one dared to question him any more.


**SECOND COLLECTION
SUNDAY 3RD NOVEMBER**

BAMENDA SUNDAY—This year marks the golden jubilee of Portsmouth Diocese twinning with Bamenda

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

Euthanasia Bill

It is extremely important that as many people as possible write to their MPs asking them to speak against the proposed introduction of Euthanasia. There are proforma letters at the back of the Church and in the office but MPs respond much more favourably to personal letters. All letters must include your name and address as MPs will only deal with correspondence from their constituents. If you need help with this please contact the office.

Condolences

We pray for the repose of the soul of 9 old old Abel Santhosh whose funeral will be held at The Holy Family on Tuesday 5th November at 12 noon. May Our Blessed Lord and His Blessed Mother comfort his grieving family. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord.

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/jpMVZbmU0M>. 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.

Baptism

Parents & Expectant Parents – you are invited to register online for your child’s baptism : [Baptism | Holy Family Parish \(holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk\)](#) Once you have registered, we will contact and arrange to meet you. We will discuss preparation for this sacrament and the dates for the baptism.

All Saints Eve Party—Thank you!

Enormous thanks to all those who made this such an enjoyable evening. To the Catechetical Team for organising and guiding it; the volunteers who came to help; to the parents for bringing their saints in the making. We would welcome more volunteers so that we can put on more events for youngsters. Please get in touch if there is any way in which you would like to help our Parish Community.

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

3 Nov (Sun)	THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.00am (EF) 10.30am (OF)	Clare Officer (Int) Nichols Family (Int)
4 Nov (Mon)	St Charles Borromeo	7.30pm (OF)	Jozef Kusy (RIP)
5 Nov (Tues)	Feria Funeral	9.15am (OF) 11.00am	Agatha (Special Intentions) Abel Santhosh (RIP)
7 Nov (Thurs)	Feria	7.30pm (EF)	Fred Mercer (RIP)
8 Nov (Fri)	Feria	9.15 am (OF)	With grateful thanks for Wojciech and Adam
9 Nov (Sat)	THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA Vigil	9.15 am (OF) 6.30 pm (OF)	Maria Hoang Thi Hue (RIP) Maria Hoang Thi Hue
10 Nov (Sun)	THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.00 am (EF) 10.30am (OF)	John Murphy (RIP) People of the Parish

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<p>November 1st All Saints—Holy Day OF Obligation Masses: 9.15 (OF), 7.30pm (EF) 2nd All Souls Masses: 9.15 (OF), 12 noon (EF), 2pm (Polish) 2nd Youth Group 3-6pm 2nd Men's Group 17th Blessing of Graves 30th Golden Goa Association Annual Charity Event</p>	<p>December 3rd Advent Carol Service 6pm 7th Christmas Luncheon 8th Immaculate Conception Celebration 9th Advent Talk 14th Rorate Mass 6am (followed by breakfast) 15th Bambini Blessing 16th Advent Talk</p>
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<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 Outdoor Rosary—Mondays at 9am; Tuesdays 10am Sewing Group - Tuesdays at 10.00am Gardening Club - Tuesdays 10am until 12 noon Mother's Prayers Wednesdays at 2.00 pm Lunch Group Fridays, fortnightly at 12.00 noon: NEXT LUNCH: 1st November Youth Group 1st Saturdays 3.00-6.00 pm Catholic Men's Group 1st Saturdays at 7:30 pm Bring a Plate to Share Social Last Saturdays at 7.30pm</p>
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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