



PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Millbrook

Fr Benjamin writes ...

Obstacles – this is not my favourite word. I shouldn't think anybody likes it or what it signifies. Our Blessed Lord speaks of obstacles in today's Sunday Gospel, but most ominously of all, He speaks of His disciples as being potential obstacles, obstacles to faith. In short, the Lord is concerned that we may put people off from living their faith, either through bad example or scandal, or through our own lukewarmness. He is also concerned that we may discourage those who are new to the life of faith – "Alas for the world that there should be such obstacles!" He cries.

One of the greatest obstacles in the Church today is talking about God – we do not do it as much as we should. In fact, this is all the Church should do. There are some days where I speak more about leaking roofs than I do of Good News of Jesus Christ. This simply should not and cannot be. I'm not saying roofs and ceilings are not important, as I think they are (as well as boilers), but they are not more important than that which we are here to live and preach: the Kingdom of God. As soon as the Church starts to speak more of the things of the world, and less of God, then it puts a millstone around its own neck. The Lord's solution is simple. If it is taking the rightful place of God – which is the biblical definition of idolatry – then we must "cut it out". In other words, if we find that there are things in life which distract us so much that they take us away from seeing God as our primary focus of worship, we will forget Him and end up in the bad places from which God sent His Son to save us.

Obstacles can take many forms, both blatant and subtle, but they only become such things when they obscure our life with God, and from knowing Him as Love. Nothing, surely is more important or beautiful than the reality that God is Love and that we can know Him and be in perpetual and everlasting communion with Him?

God bless you this Sunday and always

Stressed?

Relax in the presence of Our Blessed Lord, bathe in His Love

The Parish is seeking regular Adorers of Our Blessed Lord

11-12 noon Saturday mornings

2-3 pm Saturday afternoons

And other hours from 8pm Thursdays right through until 6pm Saturdays

Please contact ministry@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk

September is the Month of the Most Holy Rosary

Endeavour this month to pray at least one Rosary every day, preferably as a family. 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 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 7pm daily)

If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets!

The Lord came down in the Cloud. He spoke with Moses, but took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the spirit came on them they prophesied, but not again.

Two men had stayed back in the camp; one was called Eldad and the other Medad. The spirit came down on them; though they had not gone to the Tent, their names were enrolled among the rest. These began to prophesy in the camp. The young man ran to tell this to Moses, 'Look,' he said, 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.' Then said Joshua the son of Nun, who had served Moses from his youth, 'My Lord Moses, stop them!' Moses answered him, 'Are you jealous on my account? If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all!'

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 18(19):8,10,12-14****The precepts of the Lord gladden the heart****Second reading****James 5:1-6****The Lord hears the cries of those you have cheated**

An answer for the rich. Start crying, weep for the miseries that are coming to you. Your wealth is all rotting, your clothes are all eaten up by moths. All your gold and your silver are corroding away, and the same corrosion will be your own sentence, and eat into your body. It was a burning fire that you stored up as your treasure for the last days. Labourers mowed your fields, and you cheated them – listen to the wages that you kept back, calling out; realise that the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. On earth you have had a life of comfort and luxury; in the time of slaughter you went on eating to your heart's content. It was you who condemned the innocent and killed them; they offered you no resistance.


Gospel**Mark 9:38-43,45,47-48****Do not stop anyone from working a miracle in my name**

John said to Jesus, 'Master, we saw a man who is not one of us casting out devils in your name; and because he was not one of us we tried to stop him.' But Jesus said, 'You must not stop him: no one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us.'

'If anyone gives you a cup of water to drink just because you belong to Christ, then I tell you solemnly, he will most certainly not lose his reward.'

'But anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith, would be better thrown into the sea with a great millstone round his neck. And if your hand should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life crippled, than to have two hands and go to hell, into the fire that cannot be put out. And if your foot should cause you to sin, cut it off; it is better for you to enter into life lame, than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye should cause you to sin, tear it out; it is better for you to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where their worm does not die nor their fire go out.'

*****SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK*******CAFOD Family Fast Day**



HOLY FAMILY, SOUTHAMPTON

Parish Notices

BRING AND SHARE—PARISH FINANCIAL UPDATE— THIS SATURDAY 28th SEPTEMBER

We are all invited to this month's Bring and Share after Saturday evening Mass (approx. 7.15pm) This month we shall have a presentation of the Parish's accounts for the last financial year; an update on current and future projects; and an exciting new fundraising initiative. Please bring a plate of food to share with others.

Spiritual Bouquet for Fr Jean-Patrice

We would like to send a spiritual bouquet for the speedy recovery of our dear friend Fr Jean-Patrice. If you would like to commit to praying a rosary, having a Mass offered, or similar please make a note on the list at the back of the Church and we will send the bouquet for his speedy recovery.

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>

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 Monday 30th September at 7pm in the Louis Suite.

Please contact ministry@holysouthampton.org.uk

First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Preparation

Please keep in your prayers the families of all those who, this weekend, are starting the journey to prepare for the First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

Our Lady of Walsingham—Procession and High Mass

St Agatha's Church, Portsmouth will hold a Procession and High Mass in honour of Our Lady of Walsingham on

Saturday 28th September at 11am.

Music: Mozart's Little Credo Mass. Refreshments follow. All are welcome. Ave Maria!

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL—VACANCY-FOUNDATION GOVERNOR(S)

The school is seeking a practising, committed Catholic for the extremely important role of Foundation Governor. As well as the shared responsibilities of:

- ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- holding the headteacher to account for the education performance of the school, its pupils and performance management of staff and overseeing the financial performance of school etc.

Foundation governors are appointed to ensure

- the religious character of the school is preserved
- the school is conducted in accordance with its trust deed
- that the religious education curriculum is in accordance with the Bishop's policy for this Diocese

Training given. Nomination forms from Mrs A Wood awood1@sinclairlive.net or governors@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

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

29 Sept (Sun)	TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.00 am (EF) 10.30 am (OF)	James Officer (RIP) People of the Parish
30 Sept (Mon)	NO MASS TODAY		
1 Oct (Tues)	NO MASS TODAY		
3 Oct (Thur)	St Teresa of the Child Jesus	7.30 pm (EF)	Eileen Liptrot(RIP)
4 Oct (Fri)	St Francis of Assisi	9.15 am (OF)	Charles Blishen (birthday)
5 Oct (Sat)	NO MORNING MASS Vigil	6.30 pm (OF)	Special Intention
6 Oct (Sun)	TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.00 am (EF) 10.30 am (OF)	Lothar & Harry Merrifield (Int) People of the Parish

Please hand Mass intentions to Fr Benjamin, to Catherine, or place in the collection basket.
We are currently booking Mass intentions for **November**.
EF Mass intentions are now fully booked for this year.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

September 27th Macmillan Coffee & Cake 10am 28th Marian procession St Agatha's 11am 28th Bring & Share and Parish Finance Update 30th Church boiler installation commences!!!!	October 12th Rosary Crusade, London 20th Rite of Welcome 31st All Saints Eve Children's Party
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

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

<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: 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>
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

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

Grateful thanks for your generosity in July
 Loose plate: £1603.75 Gift Aid:£1040 Standing orders: £1291.66

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