



PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Millbrook

Fr Benjamin writes ...

Last Wednesday we joined with people from across the country in a Prayer Vigil, praying for the dignity of human life to be upheld, particularly by our legislators. It was a very peaceful, Holy Hour. At the centre of all the debates, emotive stories and fears for the future, Our Blessed Lord was suddenly there at the centre of it all where He belongs. Praying before Him, there was no debate, there were no appeals to the heart and there was certainly no fear simply because of His Presence. He, Who proclaimed Himself the Resurrection and the Life was the sign we all look for, speaking the words we strain to listen to. He speaks to us today, saying “My words will not pass away” in the Sunday Gospel passage. The words He spoke two thousand years ago will never pass away, and the words He spoke were always about giving us life – God’s life. “I have come to give life that you may have it to the full” (John 10:10). Amidst the storm of opinions, arguments and debates, we need to listen to what it is the Lord has to say: “Know that He is near” he also reminds us today.

To be effective messengers of the Gospel, we first of all need to be people of prayer, praising and especially listening to the Lord. If we do not listen, or even take the time to listen, we cannot hear Him, and we cannot proclaim what He says. We must be in vigil in order to be vigilant. In that way we will always be ready “for that day or hour” which no one can predict in its coming.

The Lord’s words to us today about when He will come again is a potent reminder that we must have at least half an eye and ear on Him when we speak, when we act and when we make decisions. The things we do in this life will have consequences in the next, and since the Lord will come to bring the fullness of His Presence and Kingdom, He should always be a part – a central part – of what we do and say, especially in important matters. The comforting words of the first reading will then be more likely to be fulfilled: “The learned will shine as brightly as the vault of heaven, and those who have instructed many in virtue, as bright as stars for all eternity” (Dan 12:3).

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)

First reading**Daniel 12:1-3**

Some will wake to everlasting life, some to shame and disgrace
'At that time Michael will stand up, the great prince who mounts guard over your people. There is going to be a time of great distress, unparalleled since nations first came into existence. When that time comes, your own people will be spared, all those whose names are found written in the Book. Of those who lie sleeping in the dust of the earth many will awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting disgrace. The learned will shine as brightly as the vault of heaven, and those who have instructed many in virtue, as bright as stars for all eternity.'

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 15(16):5,8-11****Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you****Second reading****Hebrews 10:11-14,18****When all sins have been forgiven, there can be no more sin-offerings**

All the priests stand at their duties every day, offering over and over again the same sacrifices which are quite incapable of taking sins away. He, on the other hand, has offered one single sacrifice for sins, and then taken his place forever, at the right hand of God, where he is now waiting until his enemies are made into a footstool for him. By virtue of that one single offering, he has achieved the eternal perfection of all whom he is sanctifying. When all sins have been forgiven, there can be no more sin offerings.

Gospel**Mark 13:24-32****The stars will fall from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'In those days, after the time of distress, the sun will be darkened, the moon will lose its brightness, the stars will come falling from heaven and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory; then too he will send the angels to gather his chosen from the four winds, from the ends of the world to the ends of heaven.

'Take the fig tree as a parable: as soon as its twigs grow supple and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. So with you when you see these things happening: know that he is near, at the very gates. I tell you solemnly, before this generation has passed away all these things will have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'But as for that day or hour, nobody knows it, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son; no one but the Father.'


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

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

Wedding

Congratulations to Daniel and Olga on their recent Marriage. May Our Blessed Lord continue to bless, guide and protect them.

Any couples discerning their vocation to the state of Holy Matrimony should arrange to meet Fr Benjamin in order to undertake the necessary preparation.

Confirmation

The initial meeting with Fr Benjamin is **Monday 18th November at 6pm in the Louis Suite**. All those who have registered online have been contacted. If you have not yet registered please complete this link <https://forms.office.com/e/jpMVZbmUOM> today. If you have not received an invitation email please contact the office urgently. Thank you.

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 are available from the office or the Louis Suite after Mass.

Fundraising and Christmas Hamper Raffle

Thanks to the generosity of parishioners and other benefactors we have raised the money for both boilers which will, please God, be fully installed before the end of the year. Our next projects will be the **car park** (initial repairs and full scale replacement) and a new **sound system** in the Church. We also urgently need to replace the **presbytery kitchen**.

We'll kick off with the Christmas raffle.

We would appreciate any donations for the hamper raffle and will be selling tickets from next week.

Adoration

Would you spend a peaceful hour in the arms of Our Blessed Lord? We are blessed to have continual Adoration from 9pm Thursdays until 6pm on Saturdays. We currently need Adorers for

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)

Stella Maris—Christmas Chocolate Appeal

Please bring your chocolate gifts for our seafarers to the office or leave in the Louis Suite at weekends so we can ensure our seafarers know 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

17 Nov (Sun)	THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.00am (EF) 10.30am (OF)	Bernadette Andrew (Int) Alvina & Aaron (Thanksgiving)
18 Nov (Mon)	Dedication of the Basilicas of St Peter & St Paul, Rome	7.30pm (OF)	Marion Patient (RIP)
19 Nov (Tues)	Feria	9.15am (OF)	Fr Jean Patrice (health)
21 Nov (Thurs)	The Presentation of the BVM	7.30pm (EF)	Lukasz Czerwonka (RIP)
22 Nov (Fri)	St Cecilia	9.15 am (OF)	Souls of Luis, Jaime, Rolando & Maricel
23 Nov (Sat)	Our Lady on Saturday Vigil	9.15 am (OF) 6.30 pm (OF)	Joseph & Aley Pazhanchirayil (RIP) Simon Wilson (RIP)
24 Nov (Sun)	OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE	9.00 am (EF) 10.30am (OF)	Dorothy Rogerson (RIP) People of the Parish

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<p>November 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</p>	<p>December 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: 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