



## PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Millbrook

Fr Benjamin writes ...

With Our Blessed Lord describing Himself as the Good Shepherd, the Church throughout the world marks this Sunday as Good Shepherd Sunday. It has become a traditional practice to promote vocations to the Priesthood on this day, a cause and lifelong commitment which needs to be close to the hearts of us all and included in all our prayers.

It is my privilege to be the Episcopal Vicar for Vocation in the Diocese of Portsmouth. That's a fancy title to describe someone appointed by the Bishop to guide the whole concept of how people are called by God to particular ways of service, from the sacred Priesthood, to the diaconate, to Spiritual Directors and the callings of marriage and family. It's a broad spectrum, but central to it is the service of the Priesthood and making sure everyone has this urgent intention on their spiritual radar.

As Episcopal Vicar, it is my hope that we will be able to be in the position that every man who practises their faith will at some time in their life be prompted to think whether they have a calling to the Priesthood. And why should they be denied such an opportunity, at least to pray and think on it.

It's a wonderful calling to be a Priest, and I thank God that He led me to this service. To be a shepherd, and to offer worship is something I fall in love with more and more every day. What many people experience in a lifetime I often experience in twenty-four hours: from births and Baptisms, marriage preparations and weddings to anointing the sick and praying for the departed at funerals. Joy and sorrow, suffering and thanksgiving are the pillars in the daily life in a Priest. To quote Psalm 118: "This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes." It is wonderful, because it is Our Blessed Lord, the Chief Shepherd, Who continues to feed us through His priests on earth.

Pray for Priests, pray for your sons and brothers to pray about Priesthood, and pray to the Lord of the harvest to send workers into His harvest.

**God bless you this Sunday and always**

### **Rosary, Vespers and Benediction for Vocations 4pm Sunday**

In the joy of the Resurrection please join us to offer thanksgiving for our priests and seminarians and to pray for many more young men to listen to God's call to the priesthood.

**Please cut out this Prayer for Vocations and pray it daily as part of your family prayers**

### *Prayer for Vocations*

*Priest: Let us pray to God to give worthy priests and religious to His Holy Church*

*Priest and People: O Lord Jesus Christ, Who hast chosen the Apostles and their successors the Bishops and Priests of the Catholic Church to preach the true Faith throughout the whole world, we earnestly beseech Thee to choose from among us in this parish, priests and religious brothers and sisters who will gladly spend their entire lives to make Thee better known and loved. Amen*

**The name of Jesus Christ is the only name in which we can be saved**

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: 'Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence, today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.'

**Responsorial Psalm****Psalm 117(118):1,8-9,21-23,26,28-29****The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone****Second reading****1 John 3:1-2****We shall be like God because we shall see him as he really is**

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are. Because the world refused to acknowledge him, therefore it does not acknowledge us. My dear people, we are already the children of God but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed; all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him because we shall see him as he really is.

**Gospel****John 10:11-18****The good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep**

Jesus said:

'I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep. The hired man, since he is not the shepherd and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming, and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep; this is because he is only a hired man and has no concern for the sheep.

'I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for my sheep. And there are other sheep I have that are not of this fold, and these I have to lead as well. They too will listen to my voice, and there will be only one flock, and one shepherd.

'The Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me; I lay it down of my own free will, and as it is in my power to lay it down, so it is in my power to take it up again; and this is the command I have been given by my Father.'

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**Second Collection: Clergy Training Fund 21st April**

Each year we appeal for help to cover the costs of training priests and deacons to serve in our Diocese. There is no state funding for seminaries or for the formation of permanent deacons, so we need to raise the money to provide each student with accommodation, living costs and tuition for a number of years. The Clergy Training Fund is also used to fund the on-going formation of diocesan clergy, for professional studies and the educational costs for those on sabbatical. Thank you for your generous support.



## Parish Notices

### Baptisms

Our parish warmly welcomes David Ukah and Kai Van Le to our community on the occasion of their Baptism on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> at 3pm. May Our Blessed Lord continue to bless and protect them and their families.

### Good Shepherd Sunday—Welcome back Adam!

We welcome back Adam Trzebinski who spent Holy Week with us here at The Holy Family. Adam is nearing the end of his second year at Allen Hall seminary in London. He will talk after all Masses this weekend about his calling to the priesthood.

### ROSARY RALLY - Saturday 27th April at 3pm Commercial Road, Portsmouth

Parishioners from across the Diocese are invited to a Rosary Rally led by The Marian Franciscans next to the QE2 Silver Jubilee Fountain in Portsmouth City centre, to combat the evils of these times and to make reparation. Now is the time we pray, sacrifice and act for the salvation of souls!

### Stella Maris—Ring of Prayer—29th April—3rd May

Stella Maris is running a “Ring of Prayer”, from 29th April—3rd May, inviting parishes around the UK to pray the rosary for the safety, care and needs of seafarers and fishermen. Please use the prayer booklets from the back of the Church to unite with the rosaries being offered in Southampton and around the country.

### Safeguarding training - 4th May

There will be a safeguarding training session on **4th May 12 noon** for everyone who volunteer in roles involving children—catechists, youth group, altar servers etc. The training will take approximately an hour—allow an hour and a half. Please confirm if you wish to attend. We will arrange a separate training session at a later date for those volunteering with vulnerable adults.

### Deeper In Faith

We have a small group of youngsters aged about 16-18 who will be preparing to be received into the Church and for those of that age who may have been baptised but not received subsequent Sacraments. We would really welcome any youngsters of about this age who would like to delve deeper into their Faith under the guidance of Fr Benjamin. This group will commence on 13th May at 6pm in the Louis Suite. For more details please get in touch with Angela [ministry@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk](mailto:ministry@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk)

### Corpus Christi Procession 2 June 2024 and 21st July (TBC) 2024

We are organising two Corpus Christi processions to take Our Blessed Lord out to the community. On 2 June we shall process around the Millbrook area after the 1030 am Mass. We are also organising a “big” procession from Holy Family to St Boniface (and back). This needs various Council approvals so we are looking at 21st July as a possible date - please note your diaries.

### For those who are sick

To unite with Our Blessed Lord’s suffering for our salvation please continue to pray for all those, particularly in The Holy Family Parish, who are sick; undergoing medical treatment; for their families and for those who care for them.

**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

Sun 21 Apr	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	9.00 am (EF) 10.30 am (OF)	Veronica Pearce & Family (int) People of the Parish
Mon 22 Apr	<b>of the fourth week of Easter</b>	10.30 am (Polish) 7.30 pm (OF)	Funeral Mass Andrzej Swedzinski Peter Vong Van Le
Tues 23 Apr	<b>St George</b>	9.15 am (OF)	Joel Nichols (int)
Thurs 25 Apr	<b>St Mark</b>	7.30 pm (EF)	Helen Leddy (RIP)
Fri 26 Apr	<b>of the fourth week of Easter</b>	9.15 am (OF)	George Ukah (birthday)
Sat 27 Apr	<b>of the fourth week of Easter (Vigil)</b>	9.15 am (OF) 6.30 pm (OF)	Maria Duc Thi Le Thomas Joseph (Thanksgiving)
Sun 28 Apr	<b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	9.00 am (EF) 10.30 am (OF)	People of the Parish Charles & Christine Blishen (Wedding Anniv)

Please hand Mass intentions to Fr Benjamin, to Catherine, or place in the collection basket. We are currently booking Masses for **May** —please give plenty of notice if you would like specific dates for Masses. Thank you.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### April

21st World Day of Prayer for Vocations  
27th Rosary Rally 3pm Portsmouth Commercial Road  
29th April—3rd May Stella Maris Ring of Prayer

### May

4th Safeguarding Training 12 noon  
13th Deeper in Faith 6pm

### June

#### 2nd CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION

2nd Afternoon Tea (Fundraiser)  
30th First Holy Communion

### July

7th First Holy Communion  
14th First Holy Communion  
21st Corpus Christi Procession to St Boniface (TBC)  
27th Parish BBQ

### 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

### Eucharistic Adoration

Thursday 8.00 pm to Saturday 6.00 pm

### Rosary, Vespers & Benediction for Vocations

Sunday: 4.00 pm

### Groups/Activities in the Louis Suite

**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: 3rd May**  
**Youth Group** 1st Saturdays 3.00-6.00 pm  
**Catholic Men's Group** 1st Saturdays at 7:30 pm

**THE CHURCH WILL REMAIN OPEN FROM 9AM UNTIL 7PM EACH DAY**

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