



# PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Millbrook

## Seminarian John Aburn writes ...

As I conclude my time here at Holy Family I'm immensely grateful for the many kindnesses I've received. I reiterate my thanks to Fr Benjamin for his kind welcome and generous hospitality throughout my stay. Reflecting on my time here, I've realised just how busy the life of a Priest is, from praying the Divine Office, to the Mass, to regular meetings with various Parish groups and also visiting the University three times a week. It's been a very worthwhile experience as well as being able to meet you all, whether at the door after Sunday Mass or in the Louis Suite over a nice hot cup of something.

I'm going to share with you a little bit about someone special in Valladolid, and that is Our Lady Vulnerata, the Mother of our College. The statue of Our Lady Vulnerata (the Wounded One) has been housed in the Church since 8th September 1600, having been disfigured in 1596 when around 14,000 English and Dutch sailors led by the Earl of Essex set sail for the southern port of Cadiz intending to capture the Spanish fleet. Some of the English troops dragged a statue of the Virgin Mary and Child Jesus from the cathedral to the market square where they hacked off both of Our Lady's arms with their sabres and slashed her face. By the time the statue was thrown onto a rubbish heap outside the city, all that remained of the infant Jesus were two stumps where his tiny feet have dangled from his mother's knee. Abandoned there, she was recovered by the Adelantado (Captain-General) of Castile, the Count of Santa Gadea and his wife who gave the image pride of place in their chapel in Madrid before it was transferred to the College.

Every week since 1600, the St Alban's community has prayed in front of Our Lady Vulnerata, offering reparation for the wounds inflicted by the English sailors. Each Monday of Holy Week since 2002 she has been carried to the street outside the college for a moving encounter with a statue of her crucified son, Cristo del Olvido, Christ the Forgotten, an event that draws growing crowds each year, something which I'm personally looking forward to this coming Holy Week. The medal I wear in the Sanctuary is the medal of the Penitential Confraternity of Our Lady Vulnerata, which the Seminarians automatically become members of when they are sent to Valladolid and to which we were formally admitted and received the insignia on the Solemnity (in Avila and Valladolid) of St Teresa of Avila.

In our readings this Sunday, we respond to the Psalm with these words "O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts." This could be another calling from Our Lord to encourage young men to consider whether they are being called to the Priesthood, Diaconate or Religious Life. Be not afraid! If you think you're being called, talk to someone about it, because you never know what God may have in store! Why not, also, join us this afternoon and every Sunday at 4:00pm for Rosary, Vespers and Benediction which is offered for Vocations.

I thank you all once again for your warm welcome. Please keep praying for me as I return to Valladolid in the coming days to resume my studies and know that I will be praying for all of you. "May Our Lady Vulnerata and all our Martyr Saints intercede for us with the Lord, that our students and benefactors past and present may be helped and saved by Him. Amen."

## Rosary and Benediction for Vocations

We have been truly blessed to host one of our young seminarians, John Aburn, and will continue to pray for him when he returns to Valladolid. Please join us on Sunday evening at 4pm for Rosary, Vespers and Benediction in thanksgiving for our priests and seminarians and for many more young many to listen to God's call.

**I will raise up a prophet and put my words into his mouth**

Moses said to the people: 'The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like myself, from among yourselves, from your own brothers; to him you must listen. This is what you yourselves asked of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the Assembly. "Do not let me hear again" you said "the voice of the Lord my God, nor look any longer on this great fire, or I shall die"; and the Lord said to me, "All they have spoken is well said. I will raise up a prophet like yourself for them from their own brothers; I will put my words into his mouth and he shall tell them all I command him. The man who does not listen to my words that he speaks in my name, shall be held answerable to me for it. But the prophet who presumes to say in my name a thing I have not commanded him to say, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.'"

**Responsorial Psalm****Psalm 94(95):1-2,6-9****O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts.'****Second reading****1 Corinthians 7:32-35****Give your undivided attention to the Lord**

I would like to see you free from all worry. An unmarried man can devote himself to the Lord's affairs, all he need worry about is pleasing the Lord; but a married man has to bother about the world's affairs and devote himself to pleasing his wife: he is torn two ways. In the same way an unmarried woman, like a young girl, can devote herself to the Lord's affairs; all she need worry about is being holy in body and spirit. The married woman, on the other hand, has to worry about the world's affairs and devote herself to pleasing her husband. I say this only to help you, not to put a halter round your necks, but simply to make sure that everything is as it should be, and that you give your undivided attention to the Lord.

**Gospel****Mark 1:21-28****Unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority**

Jesus and his disciples went as far as Capernaum, and as soon as the sabbath came he went to the synagogue and began to teach. And his teaching made a deep impression on them because, unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority.

In their synagogue just then there was a man possessed by an unclean spirit and it shouted, 'What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are: the Holy One of God.' But Jesus said sharply, 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' And the unclean spirit threw the man into convulsions and with a loud cry went out of him. The people were so astonished that they started asking each other what it all meant. 'Here is a teaching that is new' they said 'and with authority behind it: he gives orders even to unclean spirits and they obey him.' And his reputation rapidly spread everywhere, through all the surrounding Galilean countryside.

**SECOND COLLECTION TODAY FOR LEPRO (Centenary Year)**

Over 3 million people are living with undiagnosed leprosy, which if not treated early enough may result in life-changing physical and mental health issues that can destroy people's lives. Leprosy, although curable is sadly surrounded by myths and discrimination, which often prevent people from seeking treatment. Lepra, aim to ensure that people affected by leprosy have the chance to live with dignity and their disease be of little adverse consequence to their lives.



## HOLY FAMILY, SOUTHAMPTON

### **Parish Notices**

#### **Ash Wednesday**

Ash Wednesday is not that far off (14th February). Could you please return your palms from last year so that they can be burned for ashes on Ash Wednesday.

#### **Holy Family Statue**

The Holy Family statue has started its journey around the Parish. Please continue to pray for the spiritual growth of our Parish and for Vocations to the Priesthood. If you would like to host the Holy Family statue please leave your details on the list at the back of the Church or contact the office. Also, if anyone would be willing to translate the prayer card particularly into Vietnamese, I would love to hear from you.

#### **Lift to Mass**

If anybody would be able to give a lift to a lady from Teme Crescent (off Wimpson Lane) to either Saturday 6.30pm Mass or Sunday 9.00am Mass on a regular basis, would you please contact the office.

#### **Requiem**

There will be a Requiem Mass for Catherine Mercer at The Holy Family on 9th February at 9.15 am followed by refreshments. Please feel free to bring some food to share.

#### **Adoration**

Our grateful thanks to all those who spend time with Our Blessed Lord. We are still in great need of permanent adorers:

**12 noon -1 pm Fridays**

**10am -11 am Saturdays**

If you are able to help, even occasionally, please contact [ministry@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk](mailto:ministry@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk) (Angela) or [office@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk](mailto:office@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk)

#### **Rosary Beads for Seafarers**

WANTED - Rosary Beads. If you have spare and (Heaven forbid!) unused rosary beads please consider donating them to the Stella Maris charity in Southampton. Your spare beads will be passed on to the many hundreds of seafarers and their families, where there is great demand for them. You can put them in the box in the Louis Suite, hand them in at the office or post them to: Stella Maris, c/o St Edmund's Catholic Church, 14 Rockstone Pl, Southampton SO15 2EQ. Contact: [gregory.hogan@stellamarisemail.org](mailto:gregory.hogan@stellamarisemail.org)

#### ***Prayer for Vocations***

*Lord Jesus, raise up from our homes those called by Your Father; courageous and humble men to the Priesthood, generous servants to the Permanent Diaconate, faithful people to Consecrated Life, and holy men and women to the Sacrament of Marriage.*

*Holy Mary, Model of Vocations, teach us to hear and follow Your Son. Holy Mary, Queen of Priests, sanctify our priests and obtain for us many more. Holy Mary, Mother of the Church, pray for our families and intercede for our children. Amen*

# THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY



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

Sun 28 Jan	<b>FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	9.00 am (EF) 10.30 am (OF)	For the Choir Andrew & Amanda Wood & Family
Mon 29 Jan	<b>Feria</b>	7.30 pm (OF)	Nichols Family (intentions)
Tues 30 Jan	<b>Feria</b>	9.15 am (OF)	Rita (intentions)
Thurs 1 Feb	<b>Feria</b>	7.30 pm (EF)	Carmel Ingnam
Fri 2 Feb	<b>PRESENTATION OF THE LORD</b>	9.15 am (OF) 7.30 pm (EF)	Charles Vella (RIP) Anthony Redmile & Ann Redmile (RIP)
Sat 3 Feb	<b>St Blaise (blessing of throats) Vigil</b>	9.15 am (OF) 6.30 pm (OF)	Marital Breakthrough People of the Parish
Sun 4 Feb	<b>FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	9.00 am (EF) 10.30 am (OF)	John Comerford (Int) Agatha Blishen (Birthday)

Please hand Mass intentions to Fr Benjamin, to Catherine, or place in the collection basket.

<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</b> in the Louis Suite</p> <p><b>Sewing Group</b> Tuesdays at 10.00am  <b>Gardening Club</b>—Winter Break  <b>Mother's Prayers</b> Wednesdays at 2.00 pm</p> <p><b>Lunch Group</b> Fridays, fortnightly at 12.00 noon:  <b>NEXT LUNCH: 2 February</b></p> <p><b>Youth Group</b> 1st Saturdays 3-6pm  <b>Catholic Men's Group</b> 1st Saturdays at 7:30 pm</p>
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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

January	February
19th Dedication Mass Holy Family 19th Blessing of Holy Family Statue	2nd Candlemas—blessing of candles and procession 3rd St Blaise—Blessing of Throats (after Mass) 13th Pancakes! 14th Ash Wednesday

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

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<b>Parish Priest</b>	Fr Benjamin Theobald	<a href="mailto:btheobald@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk">btheobald@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</a>
<b>Parish Deacon</b>	Dcn Tom Jose	<a href="mailto:tjose@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk">tjose@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</a>
<b>Parish Administrator</b>	Catherine Merrifield	<a href="mailto:office@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk">office@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk</a>
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