



PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Millbrook

Fr Benjamin writes ...

Imagine being given the most beautiful treasure – a diamond, a painting, a piece of sculpture – something that is so beautiful it is beyond compare. Imagine being given it by someone who wants no money for it, because it is priceless, and who attaches only one instruction when you are given it: Look after this treasure. Imagine being dazzled by it and awestruck at its incomparable beauty. And then you bury it, so that no one else can see it.

This is something of the scenario Our Blessed Lord sketches in His famous Parable of the Talents. He describes how God has given gifts to Israel which are priceless: Divine revelation, the Law, the Commandments and the knowledge that He will save them. Our Lord says that, rather than sharing this Divine treasure, the Pharisees and Temple Priests bury it so that no-one, especially the poor and the outcast and even the rest of the world, may never know of it. This is the figure He presents in the person who receives the treasure of the one Talent and does nothing with it but bury it.

Our Lord does not just speak of the Pharisees, but to all of us who have been blessed with the gift of Faith and the Knowledge of salvation in Christ. What do we do with this inestimable treasure? Do we bury it so that no one knows we are Christians? Do we forget the life of mercy, forgiveness and compassion that we are all called to by the example given by Christ? Or do we try to display it for all to see?

Every moment of our lives is an opportunity to show the treasure of Jesus Christ: to be patient in times of impatience, to forgive when offended, to bless when insulted and to love with no expectation of any return. To try to live this way is to show to the world around us the Talent that is God, the gift that is ours, and the treasure that has been given so that others may receive it and in turn spread its wonder through the world.

God bless you all this Sunday, and always

November is the Month of the Holy Souls

Please take the opportunity to attend an extra Mass each week, spend time with Our Blessed Lord, fast and pray for the suffering souls in purgatory.

7-Day Memorial Candles will burn in front of the St Joseph Altar throughout November as a opportunity for everyone to pray for your loved ones.

A perfect wife—who can find her?

A perfect wife – who can find her? She is far beyond the price of pearls. Her husband's heart has confidence in her, from her he will derive no little profit. Advantage and not hurt she brings him all the days of her life. She is always busy with wool and with flax, she does her work with eager hands. She sets her hands to the distaff, her fingers grasp the spindle. She holds out her hand to the poor, she opens her arms to the needy. Charm is deceitful, and beauty empty; the woman who is wise is the one to praise. Give her a share in what her hands have worked for, and let her works tell her praises at the city gates.

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 127(128):1-5****O blessed are those who fear the Lord****Second reading****1 Thessalonians 5:1-6****God will bring with him those who have died in Jesus**

You will not be expecting us to write anything to you, brothers, about 'times and seasons', since you know very well that the Day of the Lord is going to come like a thief in the night. It is when people are saying, 'How quiet and peaceful it is' that the worst suddenly happens, as suddenly as labour pains come on a pregnant woman; and there will be no way for anybody to evade it.

But it is not as if you live in the dark, my brothers, for that Day to overtake you like a thief. No, you are all sons of light and sons of the day: we do not belong to the night or to darkness, so we should not go on sleeping, as everyone else does, but stay wide awake and sober.

Gospel**Matthew 25:14-30****You have been faithful in small things: come and join in your master's happiness**

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: 'The kingdom of Heaven is like a man on his way abroad who summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to a third one; each in proportion to his ability. Then he set out.

'The man who had received the five talents promptly went and traded with them and made five more. The man who had received two made two more in the same way. But the man who had received one went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

'Now a long time after, the master of those servants came back and went through his accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents came forward bringing five more. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with five talents; here are five more that I have made."

'His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness."

'Next the man with the two talents came forward. "Sir," he said "you entrusted me with two talents; here are two more that I have made." His master said to him, "Well done, good and faithful servant; you have shown you can be faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater; come and join in your master's happiness."

'Last came forward the man who had the one talent. "Sir," said he "I had heard you were a hard man, reaping where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered; so I was afraid, and I went off and hid your talent in the ground. Here it is; it was yours, you have it back." But his master answered him, "You wicked and lazy servant! So you knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered? Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have recovered my capital with interest. So now, take the talent from him and give it to the man who has the five talents. For to everyone who has will be given more, and he will have more than enough; but from the man who has not, even what he has will be taken away. As for this good-for-nothing servant, throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.'"



HOLY FAMILY, SOUTHAMPTON

Parish Notices

November—Month of the Holy Souls

7-Day Memorial Candles are now available in the repository in the Louis Suite, and in the Office at £5. The candles will burn in front of the St Joseph Altar throughout November as a opportunity for everyone to pray for your loved ones. The candles have been spread out so as to comply with many Health and Safety rules—please resist the temptation to add any to the gaps!

Church Heating

We now have quotes for the upgrade to the Church and Hall boiler/heating systems. Our fundraising target is £25,000 for a upgrade of the two.

Unfortunately, the church boiler cannot be repaired so our most urgent need is to replace this so as to have heating in the winter. This will be approximately £5000. Please support the fundraising initiatives so we can achieve this as soon as possible.

**FUNDRAISING
TARGET £25,000**

Christmas Table Top Sale on Saturday 25th November in the Parish Hall (11am—3pm).

Please come along to support this fundraiser! We are very grateful for the many donations already received and would be grateful for anyone who is able to help with selling on the day! If you can help please contact the office 02380 778203 or office@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk

Christmas Hamper Raffle tickets £1 per strip of 5 are now on sale. Draw to take place on Gaudete Sunday.

Christmas Luncheon Saturday 9th December—Siobhan and her Team will be cooking up a 5 course Christmas feast. Vegetarians and vegans can be catered for but prior notice is needed. This is an opportunity for us to come together as a Parish and is open to all age groups! Tickets are now on sale £10 for adults, £5 for children under 5. There is no profit in this—the price is purely to cover costs.

Stella Maris—Christmas Chocolate Appeal - Each year, Stella Maris has a Christmas appeal that collects donated chocolate gifts for seafarers who are working far away from home in December. While we recognise that there are many calls on charitable support, we wish to continue to support the often lonely and forgotten men and women who work on the ships that provide us with essential goods. We are looking for chocolate tubs / boxes to give as treats to the ships in port around Christmas e.g. Quality Street, Celebrations, Roses etc. There will be a box in the Louis Suite from next week to collect your gifts. Thank you for your support.

Caritas—Holiday Club in December. We would be very grateful for volunteers to help on 20th December. Please contact the office or Victoria at Caritas if you can help.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY



Holy Mass OF = Ordinary Form, EF = Extraordinary Form

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| Sun 19 Nov | THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 9.00 am (EF) 10.30 am (OF) | Dorothy Rogerson (RIP) People of the Parish |
| Mon 20 Nov | Feria | 7.30 pm (OF) | Maria Nguyen Thi Suu (RIP) |
| Tues 21 Nov | The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary | 9.15 am (OF) | Roger Strong & Jeanne Schenkels-van der Kraan (RIP) |
| Thurs 23 Nov | Feria | 10.30 am 7.30 pm (EF) | Funeral Jolanta Szubryt Conversion James T |
| Fri 24 Nov | St Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest & Companions | 10.45 am (OF) | Celestine Shannon (RIP) |
| Sat 25 Nov | Feria | 9.15 am (OF) 6.30 pm (OF) | Holy Souls People of the Parish |
| Sun 26 Nov | THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME | 9.00 am (EF) 10.30 am (OF) | Clare Lightfoot (RIP) Danny McDermott (RIP) |

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

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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</p> <p>Sewing Group Tuesdays at 10.30am Gardening Club Tuesdays 1pm-3pm Mother's Prayers Wednesdays at 2.00 pm</p> <p>Lunch Group Fridays, fortnightly at 12.00 noon: NEXT LUNCH: 1st DECEMBER (LAST UNTIL NEW YEAR)</p> <p>Youth Group 1st Saturdays 3-6pm Catholic Men's Group 1st Saturdays at 7:30 pm</p> |
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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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| <p><i>November</i></p> <p>11th Youth Group 25th Christmas Table Top Fete</p> | <p><i>December</i></p> <p>4th Growing in Faith Talk—Advent 8th Immaculate Conception (Mulled Wine & Mince Pies) 9th Parish Christmas Luncheon 11th School Carol Service 15th Carols by Candlelight 16th Rorate Mass (followed by Bacon Butties) 17th Bambini Blessing 20th Caritas Holiday Club</p> |
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The Holy Family Catholic Church

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CDP Holy Family Southampton SORT CODE: 30 93 04 ACCOUNT NO: 00887898

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| October Parish Income from (5 Sundays) | First Collections: | £ 2031.83 |
| | In basket Gift Aid: | £ 1093.00 |
| | Standing Orders: | £ 1533.00 |