



PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Millbrook

Fr Benjamin writes ...

It's always exciting to receive an invitation, particularly to something like a wedding. It's always helpful to the one extending the invitation to receive a reply. Whilst Our Blessed Lord doesn't need to know numbers for seating arrangements, He does expect a response. In fact, the parable goes further than that by saying He expects not only a reply but a 'yes'. Surely, we should have the freedom to say no? Indeed, we do, and God respects that freedom, but the point Our Blessed Lord is making is that if we knew the kind of feast to which we were being invited then we would never say no. He is inviting us to His Father's House to feast on His love for eternity. This is in complete contrast to the everyday things which preoccupy us: preparing meals, doing business and other earthly things. These things are important and have their place, but they are mere distractions compared to the reality of God's generous offer of His love and life.

How often are we so distracted that we forget we are invited to the greatest feast of eternity? Are there times we would prefer to go to the supermarket, to the football or watch the television, rather than witness the Mass and the Lord Himself held up above the Altar ready to give Himself for us? The Lord wants what is best for us and so He is saying this week that "You really should go" if you want the best. To opt for second best is to shortchange ourselves and to miss out on something that is out of this world.

God bless you all this Sunday, and always

Adoration—An Hour with Our Lord

We are looking for "permanent" adorers to spend an hour with Our Lord on

**Fridays from 11 until 12 and
Fridays from 12 noon until 1pm**

Please give prayerful consideration to this request and contact Angela
ministry@holysouthampton.org.uk or Catherine if you feel able to help.



October is the Month of the Holy Rosary

Make a special effort to pray the Rosary every day this month

Rosary, Vespers and Benediction—Sunday 4pm

"Give me an army saying the rosary and I will conquer the world" Pope Pius IX

The Lord will prepare a banquet for every nation

On this mountain, the Lord of hosts will prepare for all peoples a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines, of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines. On this mountain he will remove the mourning veil covering all peoples, and the shroud enwrapping all nations, he will destroy Death for ever. The Lord will wipe away the tears from every cheek; he will take away his people's shame everywhere on earth, for the Lord has said so. That day, it will be said: See, this is our God in whom we hoped for salvation; the Lord is the one in whom we hoped. We exult and we rejoice that he has saved us; for the hand of the Lord rests on this mountain.

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 22(23)****In the Lord's own house shall I dwell for ever and ever****Second reading****Philippians 4:12-14,19-20****With the help of the One who gives me strength, there is nothing I cannot master**

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel**Matthew 22:1-****14****Invite everyone you can to the wedding**

Jesus began to speak to the chief priests and elders of the people in parables: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. "Tell those who have been invited" he said "that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding." But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He despatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, "The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding." So these servants went out on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, "How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?" And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, "Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth." For many are called, but few are chosen.'

NEXT WEEKEND 21-22 October**SECOND COLLECTION—WORLD MISSION SUNDAY**

Donations and prayers on this day have a direct impact on Catholic communities overseas where the Church is too young, too small, or too poor to flourish without help from the rest of the Church. Donations help build the Church, support vocations, and enable missionaries to carry out their mission often in dangerous and remote places. Thank you for your ongoing support of Mission through prayer and charity. For more information about World Mission Sunday, please visit <https://missio.org.uk/world-mission-sunday-2023/>



Parish Notices

Sacraments

We warmly welcome Olivia and Stefan to God's family following their baptism this Sunday afternoon. Also to Lexi Li who will be baptised and confirmed on Tuesday. May God bless and keep these families.

Please keep Chief, Alexa, Ben, Braydon, Oliver, Cleven, Daisy, Lola, Ryan, and Phillip in your prayers as they start to prepare to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion.

We are blessed to have Trinh, HOUNG and Katherine preparing to enter the Church next Easter – please keep them and their sponsors in your prayers.

Let there be Light—Angels and Saints Party - All Saints Eve 5-7pm.

We shall be holding a party for the youngsters on All Saints Eve. There will be food and games, followed by a candlelight procession and night prayers in the Church. All children are invited to come to this Christian celebration. Parents are welcome to come along. Please complete a registration form so we know numbers (and allergies etc). The evening will be free, but any donations are welcome and please bring a plate of food to share.

Speaking of lights ... would you please remember to switch off lights when they are not needed, particularly in the Louis Suite and toilets. Enormous thanks!

Social and Fundraising

As you will realise, there are various parts of our Church which are in need of repair, which sadly costs money. We are looking at quotes for repairs to the Church roof and upgrades to the heating systems in the Church and Hall. Obviously a simple way to raise some funds is through **Gift Aid**, so if you are a taxpayer and eligible, please complete a Gift Aid form so we can reclaim the tax you have paid on your donations to the Parish.

We shall be hosting a **Christmas Table Top Sale** on **Saturday 25th November** in the Parish Hall (11am—3pm). Tables can be booked for £20 for you to sell your crafts, gifts and wares. The table fee goes to Parish funds; any funds you raise are yours to keep! Please contact the office 02380 778203 or office@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk to book a table.

Look out for **"Bonus Ball"** cards in the Louis Suite—a £1 ticket could win you £25!

Christmas Hamper Raffle We would welcome donations of quality items for our Christmas Hamper Raffle (either in the office or in the Louis Suite). Tickets will be on sale at a later date.

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.

The office will be closed on Thursday 19th October—apologies for any inconvenience.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY



Holy Mass OF = Ordinary Form, EF = Extraordinary Form

Sun 15 Oct	TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.00 am (EF) 10.30 am (OF)	Maureen Wilkins (Int) People of the Parish
Mon 16 Oct	Feria	7.30 pm (OF)	Marie Corton (RIP), Christine Corton (RIP)
Tues 17 Oct	St Ignatius of Antioch	9.15 am (OF)	Margaret Barrett (RIP)
Thurs 19 Oct	Feria	7.30 pm (EF)	Conversion—James T
Fri 20 Oct	Feria	9.15 am (OF)	Maria Le This An (RIP)
Sat 21 Oct	Feria DURING OCTOBER HOLY ROSARY WILL FOLLOW 9.15 MASS	9.15 am (OF) 6.30 pm (OF)	Alfred Spiteri (RIP) Maria Nguyen Thi Siu (RIP)
Sun 22 Oct	TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.00 am (EF) 10.30 am (OF)	Brenda Theobald (RIP) People of the Parish

Please give Mass intentions to Fr Benjamin, to Catherine in the office, or in the collection basket

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 all in the Louis Suite Sewing Group Tuesdays at 10.30am Gardening Club Tuesdays 1pm-3pm Mother's Prayers Wednesdays at 2.00 pm Lunch Group Fridays, fortnightly at 12.00 noon: NEXT LUNCH: FRIDAY 27th OCTOBER Youth Group 1st Saturdays 3-6pm Catholic Men's Group 1st Saturdays at 7:30 pm
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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

October 31st All Saints Eve—Let there be Light Party 31st Adoration until midnight November 1st All Saints Day 6th Growing in Faith Talk 25th Christmas Table Top Fete	December 4th Growing in Faith Talk 8th Mulled Wine & Mince Pies 9th Parish Christmas Luncheon 11th School Carol Service 16th Bacon Butties (after Rorate Mass) 17th Bambini Blessing 20th Caritas Holiday Club
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