



PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Millbrook

Our grateful thanks to Fr George, Fr David and Fr Jean-Patrice for offering the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass during Fr Benjamin's absence on retreat. Those attending Mass this Saturday evening will have the opportunity to receive a "First Blessing" from Fr David during the first year since his ordination to the priesthood. May we be blessed with many more good and holy priests in our Diocese.

Adoration continues, as usual from 8pm Thursday evening until 6pm on Saturday evening. More "permanent" adorers are always welcome! This gives plenty of opportunity to spend special time with Our Blessed Lord this Lent.

6 Holy Habits

Still struggling to decide how to enjoy a holy Lent? Remember the Six Holy Habits:

- Spend five minutes a day in prayer
- Attend Mass on Sunday
- Keep Friday as a day of penance
- Pay a fortnightly visit to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament
- Go to Confession once per month
- Join a small group for formation, prayer and fellowship
- There is also a list of suggestions at the back of the Church.

The Holy Family Statue

The Holy Family statue is journeying 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, we would love to hear from you.

"We always find that those who walked closest to Christ were those who had to bear the greatest trials"

St Teresa of Avila



Divine Mercy Chaplet, Vespers and Benediction for Vocations 4pm Sunday

This Lent 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.

First reading**Genesis 22:1-2,9-13,15-18****The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith**

God put Abraham to the test. 'Abraham, Abraham' he called. 'Here I am' he replied. 'Take your son,' God said 'your only child Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah. There you shall offer him as a burnt offering, on a mountain I will point out to you.'

When they arrived at the place God had pointed out to him, Abraham built an altar there, and arranged the wood. Then he bound his son Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. Abraham stretched out his hand and seized the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven. 'Abraham, Abraham' he said. 'I am here' he replied. 'Do not raise your hand against the boy' the angel said. 'Do not harm him, for now I know you fear God. You have not refused me your son, your only son.' Then looking up, Abraham saw a ram caught by its horns in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt-offering in place of his son.

The angel of the Lord called Abraham a second time from heaven. 'I swear by my own self – it is the Lord who speaks – because you have done this, because you have not refused me your son, your only son, I will shower blessings on you, I will make your descendants as many as the stars of heaven and the grains of sand on the seashore. Your descendants shall gain possession of the gates of their enemies. All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants, as a reward for your obedience.'

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 115(116):10,15-19****I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living****Second reading****Romans 8:31-34****God did not spare his own Son**

With God on our side who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Christ Jesus? No! He not only died for us – he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

Gospel**Mark 9:2-10****This is my Son, the Beloved**

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone by themselves. There in their presence he was transfigured: his clothes became dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them. Elijah appeared to them with Moses; and they were talking with Jesus. Then Peter spoke to Jesus: 'Rabbi,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He did not know what to say; they were so frightened. And a cloud came, covering them in shadow; and there came a voice from the cloud, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Then suddenly, when they looked round, they saw no one with them any more but only Jesus.

As they came down from the mountain he warned them to tell no one what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. They observed the warning faithfully, though among themselves they discussed what 'rising from the dead' could mean.



HOLY FAMILY, SOUTHAMPTON

Parish Notices

Fanning the Flame

Saturday 2nd March 2024 10.00am until 5.30pm

There's never anything for youngsters?

Young people between the ages of 14 and 21 are invited to spend a day exploring the current ethical issues we encounter in our lives, armed with the knowledge that our dignity comes from Christ. This is an opportunity to discover the beautiful and positive response the Church has to the many problems society faces.

There will be plenty of opportunities to ask questions and to get help in talking to others about tricky topics!

For information, and to book, please go to www.FanningtheFlame.co.uk

Price £10. Please bring your own packed lunch—other refreshments will be provided.

Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving this Lent

To unite with Our Blessed Lord's suffering for our salvation please pray this Lent 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.

RCIA

On Saturday 17th February those preparing to be received into the Church or be Confirmed in Faith attended the Cathedral for the Rite of Election. Please continue to pray for Huong, Luke, Naomi, Katherine, Trinh and Lorenzo who will be received into the Church this Easter.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE BILL

Please, please, please complete the cards at the back of the Church asking your MP to speak and vote in support of the amendment to the Criminal Justice Bill to lower the abortion time limit to 22 weeks. It is a small step towards saving the lives of unborn babies in this country. The important details to complete are your name and address to verify you are a constituent. Cards can either be posted directly to your MP or returned to the Parish office for posting.

Planned Giving and Gift Aid

"Planned Giving" helps the Parish to manage finances by knowing roughly how much income we will receive each month, to cover expenses such as electricity, gas and maintenance. Planned giving can be by means of regular offerings using numbered envelopes or by Direct Debit.

"Gift Aid" allows the Parish to reclaim from the Government tax which you have already paid (that is 25 pence for every £1 you give to the Church). To claim Gift Aid we must be able to show that the taxpayer authorises us to do so. If you pay UK tax and are willing to Gift Aid, please complete a Gift Aid Declaration form. The office will be contacting by email those who have previously signed GADs but for whom we do not have an updated Gift Aid form. Obviously Gift Aid can make a considerable difference to Parish income without costing parishioners any extra.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY



Holy Mass OF = Ordinary Form, EF = Extraordinary Form

Sun 25 Feb	SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT	9.00 am (EF) 10.30 am (OF)	Marie Therese L'Enfant Catherine Mercer (RIP)
Mon 26 Feb	NO MASS TODAY	NO MASS	
Tues 27 Feb	NO MASS TODAY	NO MASS	
Thurs 29 Feb	of the second week of Lent	7.30 pm (EF)	David Comerford
Fri 1 Mar	St David	9.15 AM (OF)	Sam Daniel
Sat 2 Mar	of the second week of Lent Vigil	12 NOON 6.30 pm (OF)	Peter Dung Maria Duc People of the Parish
Sun 3 Mar	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT	9.00 am (EF) 10.30 am (OF)	O'Farrell Family (Int) Thanksgiving Lijo Joseph

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

<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 10.00am Gardening Club -Winter Break Mother's Prayers Wednesdays at 2.00 pm 'Warm Space' Group Thursdays 10am until 12.00 noon Lunch Group Fridays, fortnightly at 12.00 noon: NEXT LUNCH: 1 March 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

March	
2nd FANNING THE FLAME	30th Children's Stations of the Cross
10th Laetare/Mothering Sunday	31st Easter Sunday
24th Palm Sunday	

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

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