



PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY, MILLBROOK

Fr Benjamin writes...

Were I to win a million pounds, apart from buying a new roof for the church, I would invest in a super-duper telescope and gaze upon the stars. I remember when, for the very first time, I peered into the lens of a very posh telescope and looked at the moon. I was astounded. We think we know what the moon looks like, but with our little eyes, we miss so much. Through a powerful lens every crater, every texture and colour of the surface became three dimensional and real. The detail and contrast created by light and shadows was beautiful.

Jesus Christ was and is the lens that brings God into clearer focus. He calls Himself the Light of the world. He was the light of the people of Israel revealing the true Face of God to them and all the nations. He continues to reveal the true Face of God and so enlightens all people who come to Him. We may think we know God, but if we peer at Him without the lens of Jesus Christ, our sight of Him will not be so focused, the detail will be less discernible.

When Our Blessed Lord gave the gift of sight to the man born blind, everything became new for that man. Not only could he see the brightness of the sun and look upon the faces of those around him, but his entire life was transformed. He could work, he could marry, he could live his life to the full, and most importantly, he saw the Face of Jesus.

Having Jesus come into our lives does transform things and brings everything into a new and wonderful light. Faith can become alive, and the God who may once have seemed distant and indistinct, suddenly becomes seen, known, and close. Peer at Him through the Gospels, come and gaze upon Him in Eucharistic Adoration, partake of Him in the sacraments, pray through Him and in His Name, and look at God through the Lens of His Son.

God bless you this Sunday and always

Prayer to St Joseph

Oh, St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God, I place in thee all my interests and desires. Oh, St. Joseph, do assist me by thy powerful intercession, and obtain for me from thy Divine Son all spiritual blessings, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. So that, having engaged here below thy heavenly power, I may offer my thanksgiving and homage to the most loving of Fathers. Oh St Joseph, I never weary contemplating thee and Jesus asleep in thine arms, I dare not approach while he reposes in thine arms. Press him in my name and kiss his fine head for me and ask him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath. St. Joseph, Patron of departing souls, pray for me.

March is the Month of St Joseph

We pray for the salvation of souls; for those who are sick and those who care for them;
for vocations to the Sacred Priesthood; and for the Holy Catholic Church.

Adoration (Thursday evening until Saturday evening);

Rosary, Vespers and Benediction (Sunday 4.30pm) * NEW TIME

St Joseph Devotions Tuesday after 9.15am Mass

Rosary for Vocations to the Sacred Priesthood Wednesday after 9.15am Mass

Stations of the Cross Friday morning after 9.15am Mass

In those days: The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.' When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed is before him.' But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.' And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here.' And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the Lord said, 'Arise, anoint him, for this is he.' Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon David from that day forward.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 23(22):1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6. R1

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Second Reading

'Arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.'

Ephesians 5:8-14

Brothers and Sisters: At one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light, for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true, and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, 'Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.'

Gospel

'He went and washed and received his sight.'

John 9:1-41

At that time: As Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. And his disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?' Jesus answered, 'It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.' Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud and said to him, 'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam' (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, 'Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'It is he.' Others said, 'No, but he is like him.' He kept saying, 'I am the man.' So they said to him, 'Then how were your eyes opened?' He answered, 'The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, "Go to Siloam and wash." So I went and washed and received my sight.' They said to him, 'Where is he?' He said, 'I do not know.'

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.' Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?' And there was a division among them. So they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?' He said, 'He is a prophet.'

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, 'Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?' His parents answered, 'We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.' His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, 'He is of age; ask him.'

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, 'Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner.' He answered, 'Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He answered them, 'I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?' And they reviled him, saying, 'You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.' The man answered, 'Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshipper of God and does his will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.' They answered him, 'You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?' And they cast him out.

Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' He answered, 'And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?' Jesus said to him, 'You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.' He said, 'Lord, I believe', and he worshipped him. Jesus said, 'For judgement I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.' Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, 'Are we also blind?' Jesus said to them, 'If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, "We see", your guilt remains.'



HOLY FAMILY, SOUTHAMPTON

Parish Notices

BAGGINSES!

If you have inadvertently removed Latin Mass booklets or Adoration booklets from the Church please could you return them so others may use them. Our whole supply of the former has vanished and the latter somewhat diminished. No questions asked! Thank you!

ALL THINGS CHOCOLATE!

We will be very grateful over the next few weeks for chocolatey donations for the **Easter Hamper Raffle**, the **Easter Egg Hunt** and for **Stella Maris** to distribute to the merchant sailors who will be in Southampton ports over Easter. All donations can be brought to the office or left in the Louis Suite (clearly marked). Thank you, as ever, for your generosity.

19 March 2026 - Solemnity of Saint Joseph, Spouse of Our Lady

Holy Mass at 7.30 p.m.* (Latin, 1962 Missal), preceded by Procession & the Traditional Blessing of Bread and Pastries on Saint Joseph's Day.

There will be a small celebration with cake after Mass

SANCTUARY LAMP

If you would like to sponsor the Sanctuary Lamp for one week please give your intention with your donation (suggested £10) to Fr Benjamin or to the office. Many thanks

EUCCHARISTIC PROCESSION 17th March 6.45pm at Southampton University —meet at the Chaplaincy Faith and Reflection Centre (opposite big bus station) University Road (followed by Adoration). Everybody welcome. Please support our lovely students for this occasion.

LIFT TO MASS

We have two separate requests for transport to Mass once or twice a month
Saturday evening 6.30pm 1 lady
Either Saturday evening 6.30pm or Sunday morning 9.00am 1 lady. Both ladies live locally.
If you are able to help please contact Fr Benjamin or the office.

SECOND COLLECTIONS IN MARCH

15th March Clergy Assistance Fund

The Clergy Assistance Fund contributes to the work of the Department for Clergy which is responsible for the welfare, ongoing formation and personal support of our clergy, eg spiritual direction, counselling, appraisal, ongoing formation and practical advice. It organises retreats, ministerial formation days, courses and sabbaticals.

29th March Church Roof

We can take digital donations via the Dona collection plate at the back of the Church
or via the Parish Bank Account

CDP SOUTHAMPTON HOLY FAMILY SORT CODE 30-93-04 ACCOUNT NUMBER 00887898



Job vacancies in the Diocese [Careers - Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth](#)

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY



Holy Mass OF = Ordinary Form, EF = Extraordinary Form

14 Mar	Sat	of the third week of Lent (OF)	9.15 am	Our Seminarians
	Sat	in anticipation of (OF)	6.30 pm	People of the Parish
15 Mar	Sun	Laetare Sunday (EF)	9.00 am	Pauline Wood (RIP)
	Sun	Laetare Sunday (OF)	10.30 am	Mirire Okitiki (Int)
16 Mar	Mon	of the fourth week of Lent (OF)	7.30 pm	Joseph Hui Tran
17 Mar	Tues	of the fourth week of Lent	9.15am	Holy Souls
18 Mar	Weds	of the fourth week of Lent (OF)	9.15 am	Vocations
19 Mar	Thurs	ST JOSEPH	7.30 pm	Callum (birthday)
20 Mar	Fri	of the fourth week of Lent (OF)	9.15 am	Faithful Adorers of Our Blessed Lord
21 Mar	Sat	of the fourth week of Lent (OF)	9.15 am	RCIA Candidates
	Sat	in anticipation of (OF)	6.30pm	People of the Parish
22 Mar	Sun	Fifth Sunday in Lent (EF)	9.00 am	Agnieszka (birthday)
	Sun	Fifth Sunday of Lent (OF)	10.30am	Lincy Nina (Int)

SANCTUARY LAMP INTENTION: SUCCESS IN EXAMS—MARY

Please hand Mass intentions to Fr Benjamin, Dcn Tom, or Catherine, or place in the collection basket. If you would like a Mass to be offered on a particular date please give several week's notice and we will try to accommodate you. Thank you

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: 4.30 pm

St Joseph Devotions—Tuesdays after Mass

Rosary for Vocations—Weds after Mass

Groups/Activities in the Louis Suite

RCIA -	Mondays at 7.00pm
Parish Prayers	Last Tuesdays 7.00pm
Mother's Prayers	Wednesdays at 2.00 pm
Sewing Group	- Fridays at 10.00am
Lunch Group	Fridays, fortnightly at 12.00 noon:
Next Lunch :	20 MARCH noon
Catholic Men's Group	1st Saturdays at 7:30 pm

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MARCH

14th Come & See First Holy Communion
14th Gregorian Chant Course/Mass
Portsmouth Cathedral
15th Laetare Sunday

MARCH

17th Eucharistic Procession
University of Southampton Chaplaincy 7pm
19th St Joseph Mass 7.30pm Procession, Blessing of Bread & pasties, celebration.

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Grateful thanks for your generosity in January

Loose plate: £1087.14 Gift Aid £585.00 Standing orders: £1826.66

CDP SOUTHAMPTON HOLY FAMILY SORT CODE 30-93-04 ACCOUNT NUMBER 00887898



SCAN TO DONATE