



PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Millbrook

Fr Benjamin writes...

Whilst the world had its eye on a chimney, I was on a hill in a tiny village in Croatia, drawing water from a spring. I was with a lady whom I had met in a church in the neighbouring fishing village. I had asked to pray there and, when she learnt I am a priest, she could not have been more welcoming. She showed me the beautiful church and described to me the worshipping community. She then asked if I would like to join her and her friends that evening to pray the Holy rosary for the Faith in Croatia and for the new Pope. I was delighted to join them.

That evening, as we prayed, white smoke was seen floating above a distant city. We continued to pray and I was asked to give a blessing. Then, having had photos and gifts given, I was invited to dinner. It was a charming fisherman's cottage, some 300 years old, on the sea coast. We received the new pope's blessing via television and we ate a simple, good meal together.

We didn't know each other, but we were Christian disciples, the Lord's own sheep, loving one another's company in the Lord. I was then given yet more gifts of candles, oil, art and rosaries and I said, "But I have nothing to give you". "You give us Jesus!" they replied with smiles as bright as the sun. "You give us Jesus!"

In my heart I thanked God for calling me to be a priest, a little shepherd, asked to feed his flock with Jesus His Son. For that is what a true shepherd must do. He must give us Christ. On this Good Shepherd Sunday, we carry in prayer our new Holy Father and shepherd, Pope Leo XIV, that he may be a good shepherd to us, and give us Jesus.

God bless you this Sunday, and always

May is the Month of Mary

Please 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. At this time please pray for the new Pope Leo XIV. Also please implore Our Blessed Lord to guide our lawmakers to uphold the sanctity of human life in the UK and throughout the world. Please make a special effort to attend St Joseph Devotions, Rosary and Adoration during Our Blessed Lady's Month.

Please pray each day for our priests and seminarians and for vocations.

Adoration (Thursday evening until Saturday evening);

Rosary, Vespers and Benediction (Sunday 4pm)

outdoor **Rosary** Monday 9am,

St Joseph Devotions Tuesday after 9.15am Mass

The Church is open for private prayer from 9am-6pm each day

First reading**Acts 13:14, 43b-52****‘Behold, we are turning to the Gentiles.’**

In those days: Paul and Barnabas went on from Perga and came to Antioch in Pisidia. And on the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. Many Jews and devout converts to Judaism followed Paul and Barnabas, who, as they spoke with them, urged them to continue in the grace of God.

The next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and began to contradict what was spoken by Paul, reviling him. And Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly, saying, ‘It was necessary that the word of God be spoken first to you. Since you thrust it aside and judge yourselves unworthy of eternal life, behold, we are turning to the Gentiles. For so the Lord has commanded us, saying, “I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.”’ And when the Gentiles heard this, they began rejoicing and glorifying the word of the Lord, and as many as were appointed to eternal life believed. And the word of the Lord was spreading throughout the whole region. But the Jews incited the devout women of high standing and the leading men of the city, stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district. But they shook off the dust from their feet against them and went to Iconium. And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm**Ps 100(99):1-2. 3. 5. R3c****We are his people, the sheep of his flock.****Second reading****Revelation 7:9, 13a, 14b-17****‘The Lamb will be their shepherd and will guide them to springs of living water.’**

I, John, looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands.

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, ‘These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.’

Gospel**John 10:27-30****‘I give eternal life to my sheep.’**

At that time: Jesus said, ‘My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand. I and the Father are one.’

Second Collection Sunday 11 May 2025 -Clergy Training Fund

The Clergy Training Fund supports our seminarians, including the 11 men currently in formation for the priesthood, for their six or seven-year journey to ordination. To sustain a seminarian costs around £30,000 each year. Our Parish is very generous in their support for vocations, please give generously to support the men who answer God’s call to the priesthood. You can donate in the second collection in our parish, or give [online here](#) via our Give As You Live online campaign.

Second Collection—25th May 2025***** FANNING THE FLAME *****

Please be generous in contributing to the running of this apostolate which strengthens and develops the faith of our young people

We can take digital donations via the Dona collection plate at the back of the Church or via the Parish Bank Account (please mark donations FTF)

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



HOLY FAMILY, SOUTHAMPTON

Parish Notices

Condolences

We offer prayerful condolences to the family and friends of our dear Edna Spiteri who went to her Eternal Reward fortified by the Rites of the Church. Her requiem will be held here at Holy Family on Friday 23 May at 10am followed by internment at Southampton Crematorium. May she rest in peace.

Baptism

Please pray for Patrick who will be baptised this Sunday. May Our Blessed Lord continue to guide and protect him and his family.

Sunday 11th May—Procession — Crowning of Our Blessed Lady

after 1030 am Mass

Please bring cake to share after Mass!

Fanning the Flame—Summer Camp 2025 18th-22nd August Ages 11-21

Join us for 5 days of faith, fellowship and fun in Kintbury, celebrating 30 years of summer camps. A well balanced mix of fun activities, teaching and prayer; we will explore the depths of the Holy Mass and how the Eucharist really is the source and summit of our faith.

Visit www.fanningtheflame.co.uk for more information and booking or speak to Ben after 10.30 Mass.

St Mary's Summer Camp

Registration for St Mary's Summer Camp 2025, ages 9-17, is now open! This year's Summer Camp will be held at Castlerigg Manor, Manor Brow, Keswick CA12 4AR.

There will be two summer camps, one for girls (4-9th Aug) and one for boys (11-16th Aug) 2025

For more information and booking <https://www.themarianfranciscans.org/summer-camp>

Prayer for Pope Leo

V. Let us pray for Leo, our Pope.

R, May the Lord preserve him, and give him life, and make him blessed upon the earth, and deliver him not up to the will of his enemies.

O God, shepherd and ruler of all the faithful, look favourably on your servant Pope Leo XIV, whom you have set at the head of your Church as her shepherd; grant, we pray, that by word and example he may be of service to those over whom he presides so that, together with the flock entrusted to his care, he may come to everlasting life.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen

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

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY



Holy Mass OF = Ordinary Form, EF = Extraordinary Form

| | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| 11 May (Sun) | FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER | 9.00 am (EF) 10.30am (OF) | Livia Tossici-Bolt (int) People of the Parish |
| 12 May (Mon) | of the 4th week of Easter | 7.30 pm (OF) | Private intention |
| 13 May (Tues) | Our Lady of Fatima | 9.15 am (OF) | Lijo (health) |
| 15 May (Thurs) | St John Baptist de la Salle | 7.30 pm (EF) | Biju & Biji (thanksgiving) |
| 16 May (Fri) | of the 4th week of Easter | 9.15 am (OF) | Kelechi & Mary (Int) |
| 17 May (Sat) | St Dunstan Vigil | 9.15 (OF) 6.30 pm (OF) | Edna Spiteri (RIP) People of the Parish |
| 18 May (Sun) | FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER | 9.00am (EF) 10.30 am (OF) | Francis Joseph Frien Pereira (RIP) Renuga (RIP) |

**Please hand Mass intentions to Fr Benjamin, to Catherine, or place in the collection basket.
We are up to date with intentions for OF Masses—
EF Mass intentions are booking some way ahead. Thank you**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

| MAY | JUNE |
|--|--|
| 11th May Procession—Crowning of Our Blessed Lady after 10.30 Mass | 22nd CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION |
| 17th First Holy Communion—Polish Community | 22nd afternoon tea (fundraiser) |
| | 22nd Confirmations |
| | 28th 29th First Holy Communion |

| Confessions (when there is Mass) | Groups/Activities in the Louis Suite |
|--|--|
| Saturday: 5.30—6.20 pm | Sewing Group - Tuesdays at 10.00am |
| Monday & Thursday: 6.45—7.20 pm | Gardening Club - Tuesdays 10am until 12 noon |
| Tuesday & Friday: 8.30—9.10 am | Mother's Prayers Wednesdays at 2.00 pm |
| Eucharistic Adoration | Lunch Group Fridays, fortnightly at 12.00 noon: |
| Thursday 8.00 pm to Saturday 6.00 pm | Next Lunch : Friday 9th May |
| Rosary, Vespers & Benediction for Vocations | Youth Group 1st Saturdays 3.00-6.00 pm |
| Sunday: 4.00 pm | Catholic Men's Group 1st Saturdays at 7:30 pm |
| Outdoor Rosary—Mondays at 9am; | |
| St Joseph Devotions—Tuesdays after Mass | |

The Holy Family Catholic Church Redbridge Hill, Southampton SO16 4PL

Email: office@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk Tel: 023 80 778203 Website: www.holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Parish Priest | Fr Benjamin Theobald | btheobald@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk |
| Parish Deacon | Dcn Tom Jose | tjose@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk |
| Parish Administrator | Catherine Merrifield | office@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk |
| Safeguarding | Catherine Merrifield | safeguarding@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk |
| Lead Catechist | Angela Wood | ministry@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk |
| Youth & Confirmation | Ben Nichols | youth@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk |

Grateful thanks for your generosity in March

Loose plate: £1613.35 Gift Aid £931.50 Standing orders: £1618.66

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