



Holy Family, Millbrook

Fr Ephraim writes...

Which is the greatest commandment of the Law?

Jesus gives us an answer by simplifying the commandments into two, love of God and love of our neighbour. Whereas in the Decalogue the commandments are punitive, “you shall not”, Jesus brings in a positive dimension of “you shall”. The first three commandments of the Decalogue are about our love and service to God, whereas the remaining seven direct us to love and service to our neighbour.

At this stage, someone may ask, “and who is my neighbour?” This is answered by Jesus in the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37). Likewise, this Sunday we can turn our attention to the first reading, where the Lord tells us how to care for those we deem to be strangers among us, especially immigrants. These are our neighbours, fellow human beings made in the image and likeness of God. These are our brothers and sisters, fellow pilgrims here on earth just as the Lord says: “for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt”. Our church should be a welcoming community where everyone feels at home. Our love of God and neighbour is inseparable. Our love of God shows forth in our love and concern for our neighbour.

With the age of technology, we may be carried away by turning to idols: worshiping wealth; spending more time on social media; mobile phones and TV, while forgetting about God or simply making Him a Sunday God, and seeing our neighbour as an unnecessary burden. We are invited to adore and to serve our God. He is alive and always with us.

At times we make a mistake of thinking that the Lord does not listen to us. We pray and we do not get the answer we are looking for. Remember we cannot manipulate God, for He is not an idol, the work of our hands. Though immanent, God is transcendent. He is beyond our thoughts and ideas. He provides for us and He alone is necessary and sufficient in our lives.

We cannot say we love God if we do not love our neighbour, otherwise we are Pharisaic. The greatest of the commandments is to love God and to love our neighbour, just as Jesus loves us to the point of giving up His own life for our salvation.

God bless you this Sunday and always

“If there is no priest, then there is no Holy Mass; if there is no Holy Mass, then there is no consecration of the Sacred Host. Without the consecration of the Sacred Host, there is no Holy Communion; and if there is no Holy Communion, then there is no Sacramental Presence of Jesus. That means that we become spiritual orphans.”

(St. Jean Marie Vianney, Cure d’Ars; Catechism on the Priesthood)

October is the Month of The Most Holy Rosary

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

St Joseph Devotions Tuesday after 9.15am Mass

Holy Rosary Tuesdays after St Joseph Devotions

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

First Reading	Exodus 22:21-27
‘If you mistreat any widow or fatherless child, my wrath will burn against you.’ Thus says the Lord: ‘You shall not wrong a sojourner or oppress him, for you were sojourners in the land of Egypt. You shall not mistreat any widow or fatherless child. If you do mistreat them, and they cry out to me, I will surely hear their cry, and my wrath will burn, and I will kill you with the sword, and your wives shall become widows and your children fatherless. If you lend money to any of my people with you who is poor, you shall not be like a money-lender to him, and you shall not exact interest from him. If ever you take your neighbour’s cloak in pledge, you shall return it to him before the sun goes down, for that is his only covering, and it is his cloak for his body; in what else shall he sleep? And if he cries to me, I will hear, for I am compassionate.’	
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 18(17):2-3a. 3b-4. 47, 51ab. R2
I love you, Lord, my strength.	
Second Reading	1 Thessalonians 1:5c-10
‘You turned away from idols to serve God and to wait for his Son.’ Brothers and Sisters: You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.	
Gospel	Matthew 22:34-40
‘You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.’ At that time: When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. ‘Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?’ And he said to him, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.’	

THE PARISH HALL IS AVAILABLE FOR BOOKINGS

We have availability for booking the Parish Hall during weekdays from 9am until 5pm
We may be able to take some Saturday bookings.
Please email the Parish office office@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk to discuss your needs.

SECOND COLLECTIONS IN OCTOBER

17TH MISSIO - WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

24TH HOLY FAMILY CHURCH BUILDINGS AND MAINTENANCE

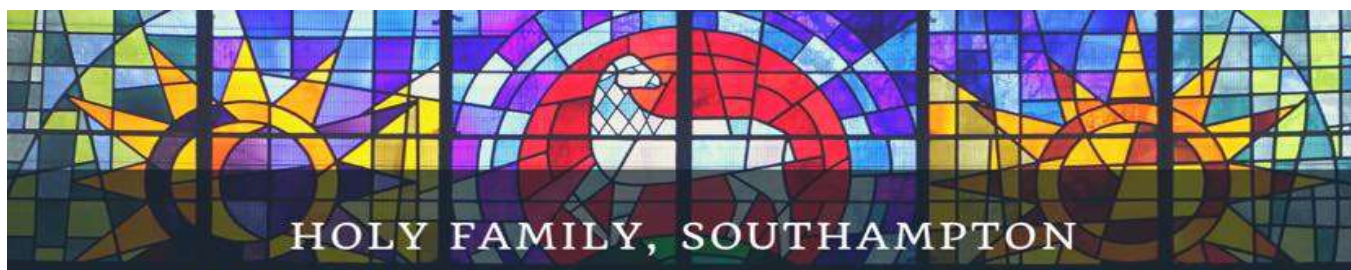
We can take digital donations via the Dona collection plate at the back of the Church

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](#)



OCTOBER DEVOTIONS

It's never too late to start! If you haven't yet started praying a daily Rosary, start now before the end of October; join us for Rosary and Benediction on Sunday evenings at 4.30pm or pray the Rosary after Tuesday morning Mass after St Joseph Devotions.

We are privileged to have for veneration a small fragment from a vestment of Our Lady of the Rosary of Granada, accompanied by its certificate of authenticity. The historic image of the Virgin was carried to the Battle of Lepanto in 1571 aboard the galley La Loba of Don Alvaro de Bazan. The fragment will be placed on Our Lady's side altar where the faithful may venerate it and pray the Holy Rosary.

TUESDAY PRAYER GROUP 28th October

A reminder that the Tuesday Prayer Group meets this Tuesday 28th October in the Church from 7-8pm

This lovely group will pray for all prayer intentions in the prayer request book in Our Blessed Lady's altar and any which you bring with you to this group.

Don't forget the Holy Habits – join a prayer group – this one! Everyone welcome.

ADORATION

Can you spend one hour with Our Blessed Lord?

We are looking for a generous soul to spend one hour in Adoration on Saturday mornings from 10am until 11am for the next couple of months as temporary cover for one of the Faithful Adorers or Our Blessed Lord.

Please, if you could exchange one hour of your busy life for one hour of tranquillity, contact Angela ministry@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk or Catherine office@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk

NOVEMBER MEMORIAL CANDLES AND SANCTUARY LAMP INTENTIONS

November Memorial Candles are now available in the repository and in the office. We are keeping these at £5 each so as to make them affordable to everybody. If you wish and are able to make an additional donation please feel free to do so!

We have spaces for Sanctuary Lamp intentions until the end of the year. Again, by keeping the cost at £10 each we hope this will make them affordable for everyone.

VOLUNTEERING IN THE PARISH

We are enormously grateful to those who have offered to join the cleaning teams. If you would like to be added to the WhatsApp group to join the cleaning rota please contact the office.

We are still in urgent need of Catechists for First Confession, First Holy Communion and Confirmation

We would be grateful for help counting collections once a month after Mass on Sundays

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY



Holy Mass OF = Ordinary Form, EF = Extraordinary Form

SANCTUARY LAMP INTENTION: Holy Souls

24 Oct	Sat	Our Lady on Saturday	9.15am (OF)	T.P.Thresiamma Paul Jose
		In anticipation of	6.30pm (OF)	People of the Parish
25 Oct	Sun	CHRIST THE KING	9.00am (EF)	Rachel (Thanksgiving)
	Sun	THIRTIETH SUNDAY ORDINARY	10.30am (OF)	Monto Lobo (RIP)(Anniv)
26 Oct	Mon	feria	7.30 pm (OF)	John Kwesi Villars (RIP)(Anniv)
27 Oct	Tue	feria	9.15 am (OF)	Pamela & Michael Humphrey
29 Oct	Thu	feria	7.30 pm (EF)	Tom Lovett (exams)
30 Oct	Fri	feria	9.15am (OF)	Good Health for whole family
31 Oct	Sat	Our Lady on Saturday	9.15am (OF)	Healing and Recovery
		in anticipation of	6.30pm (OF)	People of the Parish
1 Nov	Sun	ALL SAINTS	9.00am (EF)	Catherine Russell
		ALL SAINTS	10.30 am (OF)	Mary James (RIP)

Please place Mass intentions in the collection basket.

Whilst there is no obligation to make an offering for a Mass intention, the offering does make up a considerable part of a priest's income.

If you would like to send Mass intentions to the Missions please speak to Fr Ephraim. 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

Groups/Activities in the Louis Suite

RCIA - Mondays at 7.00pm

Parish Prayers* Last Tuesdays 7.00-8.00pm

Mother's Prayers Wednesdays at 2.00 pm

Sewing Group - Fridays at 10.00am

Lunch Group Fridays, fortnightly at 12.00 noon:

Next Lunch :

Catholic Men's Group 1st Saturdays at 7:30 pm

*This group prays for the intentions in the Holy Family Prayer book and for all additional intentions brought to the group.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER	
1 November All Souls Masses at 9.15am (OF) and 7.30pm (EF)	9th Jan 2027 Parish Ceilidh

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

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Parish Administrator Catherine Merrifield office@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk
Safeguarding safeguarding@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk
Lead Catechist Angela Wood ministry@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk



Grateful thanks for your generosity in September

Loose plate: £1059.69 Gift Aid £790 Standing orders: £1735.32

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

SCAN TO DONATE