



PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Millbrook

Fr Benjamin writes ...

“Power”: Like “love” it is a word that is misused and misunderstood by much of the world. Although we do not come across it explicitly in today’s readings, it certainly rumbles beneath the surface. It is St. Luke’s description of the Holy Spirit – the Spirit Who raised Our Lord from the dead - the Spirit Who inspired the sacred Scriptures that lead to Christ and proceed from Him, and the Spirit Who would empower the disciples to go out of the Upper Room as the Church into the entirety of the nations on earth.

It is this power which we celebrate at Easter, and it is not a power of domination and material might, but one which continues to breathe through the Church to propel it in places and situations we would either not think of going to or perhaps avoid altogether.

It is this Spirit, this power, which keeps us faithful to Our Blessed Lord, and His teachings. It is the Spirit Who helps us to recognise the voice of Him Who said “Peace be with you” to the first disciples and Who in His own way, continues to greet us in this way even today. It is the Divine power given to the Church to help it continue to live the new life of Easter and the resurrection.

There is still so much to do. Our own Parish, our Diocese and the universal Church relies on this Spirit, this self-giving and Divine love. We rely on Him for the smallest and the greatest things – from praying to evangelising, from organising Easter egg hunts to processions for Corpus Christi. We need to constantly call upon the help of the Holy Spirit, Who is the Power of God among us today. Thus we begin our time of preparation for Pentecost when we ask the Lord to renew His Church with His Spirit and His life. This may not seem powerful to the world, but it is the only power we have to rely on, and so we must call upon it every day, in faith and in love.

God bless you this Sunday and always

Rosary, Vespers and Benediction for Vocations 4pm Sunday

In the joy of the Resurrection 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.

Please cut out this Prayer for Vocations and pray it daily as part of your family prayers

Prayer for Vocations

Priest: Let us pray to God to give worthy priests and religious to His Holy Church

Priest and People: O Lord Jesus Christ, Who hast chosen the Apostles and their successors the Bishops and Priests of the Catholic Church to preach the true Faith throughout the whole world, we earnestly beseech Thee to choose from among us in this parish, priests and religious brothers and sisters who will gladly spend their entire lives to make Thee better known and loved. Amen

First reading**Acts 3:13-15, 17-19****You killed the prince of life: God, however, raised him from the dead**

Peter said to the people: 'You are Israelites, and it is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our ancestors, who has glorified his servant Jesus, the same Jesus you handed over and then disowned in the presence of Pilate after Pilate had decided to release him. It was you who accused the Holy One, the Just One, you who demanded the reprieve of a murderer while you killed the prince of life. God, however, raised him from the dead, and to that fact we are the witnesses.

'Now I know, brothers, that neither you nor your leaders had any idea what you were really doing; this was the way God carried out what he had foretold, when he said through all his prophets that his Christ would suffer. Now you must repent and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out.'

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 4:2, 4, 7,9****Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.****Second reading****1 John 5:1-6****Jesus Christ is the sacrifice that takes our sins away, and the world's**

I am writing this, my children, to stop you sinning; but if anyone should sin, we have our advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ, who is just; he is the sacrifice that takes our sins away, and not only ours, but the whole world's. We can be sure that we know God only by keeping his commandments. Anyone who says, 'I know him', and does not keep his commandments, is a liar, refusing to admit the truth. But when anyone does obey what he has said, God's love comes to perfection in him.

Gospel**Luke 24:35-48****It is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead**


The disciples told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised Jesus at the breaking of bread.

They were still talking about all this when Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you!' In a state of alarm and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost. But he said, 'Why are you so agitated, and why are these doubts rising in your hearts? Look at my hands and feet; yes, it is I indeed. Touch me and see for yourselves; a ghost has no flesh and bones as you can see I have.' And as he said this he showed them his hands and feet. Their joy was so great that they still could not believe it, and they stood there dumbfounded; so he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' And they offered him a piece of grilled fish, which he took and ate before their eyes.

Then he told them, 'This is what I meant when I said, while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets and in the Psalms has to be fulfilled.' He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that, in his name, repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be preached to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.'

Second Collection: Clergy Training Fund 21st April

Each year we appeal for help to cover the costs of training priests and deacons to serve in our Diocese. There is no state funding for seminaries or for the formation of permanent deacons, so we need to raise the money to provide each student with accommodation, living costs and tuition for a number of years. The Clergy Training Fund is also used to fund the on-going formation of diocesan clergy, for professional studies and the educational costs for those on sabbatical. Thank you for your generous support.



HOLY FAMILY, SOUTHAMPTON

Parish Notices

Safeguarding training - 4th May

Anna from St Edmund's has kindly agreed to run a safeguarding training session on **4th May 12 noon** for all of you lovely people who volunteer in roles involving children—catechists, youth group, altar servers etc. The training will take approximately an hour—allow an hour and a half. You are also very welcome to attend if you feel that you may very much like to volunteer in the future (we would be delighted to hear from anyone who would like to help with catechesis—no pressure!). Please confirm that you wish to attend safeguarding@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk or office@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk

We will arrange a separate training session at a later date for those volunteering with vulnerable adults.

For those who are sick

To unite with Our Blessed Lord's suffering for our salvation please continue to pray 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.

Youth Group

This month only—the Youth Group will meet on Saturday 13th April from 3 until 6pm.

Deeper In Faith

We have a small group of youngsters aged about 16-18 who will be preparing to be received into the Church and for those of that age who may have been baptised but not received subsequent Sacraments. We would really welcome any youngsters of about this age who would like to delve deeper into their Faith under the guidance of Fr Benjamin. This group will commence on 13th May at 6pm in the Louis Suite. For more details please get in touch with Angela ministry@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk

Egg Hunt

Enormous thanks to Siobhan and her team and everyone who helped in any way with the egg hunt. Your generosity was, as ever, eggstraordinary and everyone had eggcellent time! Enough puns—thank you.

Planned Giving/Gift Aid

Boxes of Planned Giving/Gift Aid envelopes for the coming financial year are available at the back of the Church. Please note that with the various changes that have taken place the number on your envelopes may differ from previous years. Please be assured that this does not affect your donation in any way—it is purely administrative. If you are expecting a box and it isn't there, or if you have previously used giving envelopes and would like to again, please talk to Catherine.

If you donate by standing order there will be an envelope of envelopes for you for special/second collections; if you prefer not to receive these please let the office know.

Lastly, if you are a UK taxpayer and would be happy for the Parish to reclaim from the Government an additional 25p for each pound that you donate, without any extra cost to you, please complete a Gift Aid Declaration and return it to the office. Many thanks

Job vacancies in the Diocese <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs>

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY



Holy Mass OF = Ordinary Form, EF = Extraordinary Form

Sun 14 Apr	THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER	9.00 am (EF) 10.30 am (OF)	Harrold Family (Thanksgiving) People of the Parish
Mon 15 Apr	of the third week of Easter	7.30 pm (OF)	Mary Okoro (Birthday Thanksgiving)
Tues 16 Apr	of the third week of Easter	9.15 am (OF)	Charles Vella (RIP)
Thurs 18 Apr	of the third week of Easter	7.30 pm (EF)	Carmel Ingram (birthday)
Fri 19 Apr	of the third week of Easter	9.15 am (OF)	Peter Vong, Maria Siu
Sat 20 Apr	of the third week of Easter (Vigil)	9.15 am (OF) 6.30 pm (OF)	Peter Vong Van Le, Maria Nguyen Thi Siu Shields Family (int)
Sun 21 Apr	FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	9.00 am (EF) 10.30 am (OF)	Veronica Pearce & Family (int) People of the Parish

Please hand Mass intentions to Fr Benjamin, to Catherine, or place in the collection basket. We are currently booking Masses for **May** —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 Sewing Group - Tuesdays at 10.00am Gardening Club - Tuesdays 10am until 12 noon Mother's Prayers Wednesdays at 2.00 pm Lunch Group Fridays, fortnightly at 12.00 noon: NEXT LUNCH: 19TH APRIL Youth Group **Saturday 13th April 3-6pm** Catholic Men's Group 1st Saturdays at 7:30 pm</p>
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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<p>April 13th Youth Group 3-6pm 19th Friday Lunch—all welcome 21st World Day of Prayer for Vocations</p> <p>May 4th Safeguarding Training 12 noon</p>	<p>June 2nd CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION 2nd Afternoon Tea (Fundraiser) 30th First Holy Communion</p> <p>July 7th First Holy Communion 14th First Holy Communion</p>
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