



PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY, MILLBROOK

Fr Benjamin writes...

Good description is an art. It is not easy to convey a scene with all its sights and smells in both an engaging and convincing way. Either it is boring and laborious in all the details rendered, or it is flat and two dimensional, still leaving much to the imagination. Then comes the art of describing people – what they smell like, what shape nose they are blessed with and their overall character. Whole biographies have been written spilling gallons of ink in describing a person and their life.

Now move onto a more transcendent level. Try to describe God. You will find you cannot. Indeed, St Thomas Aquinas said that we have to settle with the fact we can only accurately describe what God is *not*. Nevertheless, the Evangelists had the unenviable but beautiful task of describing Our Blessed Lord Who is the Image of the invisible God. Notice they never describe what He looks like; that is until the moment known grandly as 'The Transfiguration': "His Face shone like the Sun". What a wonderful description. If, in any biography written about me, the author said "Fr Benjamin's face shone like the sun" I would be content to authorise its publication.

"His Face shone like the Sun" was the only physical feature we are given of Our Blessed Lord. It describes perfectly His reality on earth. The light of God shone through Him into the world, and as it did so, it revealed the nature of God as the loving communion of the Father and the Son in the Holy Spirit.

Yet the disciples were forbidden by the Lord to speak of this likeness. They could not accurately describe it and its significance "until the Son of Man is raised from the dead". They had to experience seeing the Lord upon the Cross, not stood between Moses and Elijah, but hung between two thieves. Only then, once He had risen from the dead, could an accurate description of the Lord be given, as the light that shines in the darkness.

Our Blessed Lord can never be described without His Cross, because it was from His Cross that He shone His Face upon us in His loving forgiveness and self-gift. In the end, it is describing what He does that shows us Who God is, and in knowing Who He truly is makes the world and all the faces upon it shine like the 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

First Reading**Genesis 12:1-4a****The call of Abram, the father of the People of God.**

In those days: The Lord said to Abram, 'Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonours you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.' So Abram went, as the Lord had told him.

**Responsorial Psalm
R5b****Ps 33(32):4-5. 18-19. 20, 22.**

May your merciful love be upon us, as we hope in you, O Lord.

Second Reading**2 Timothy 1:8b-10****God calls and enlightens us.**

Beloved: We share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, who saved us and called us to a holy calling not because of our works, but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

Gospel**Matthew 17:1-9****'His face shone like the sun.'**

At that time: Jesus took with him Peter and James and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. And Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.' When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Rise, and have no fear.' And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one, but Jesus only. And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, 'Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead.'

SECOND COLLECTIONS IN MARCH

15th March Clergy Assistance Fund
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

HOLY FAMILY, SOUTHAMPTON

Parish Notices

ADORATION

We are truly blessed that Adoration has re-commenced so quickly. We give grateful thanks to Our Blessed Lord for Angela, for all the time and work she gives to ensure we are able to adore Our Lord each week and to all of the Faithful Adorers for their commitment.

If you would like to join this devoted team of Adorers of Our Blessed Lord please contact ministry@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk or office@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk

Parish Vacancy

Job Title: Adorer of Our Blessed Lord

Hours of Work: One hour between Thursday evening and Saturday evening

Salary: Innumerable graces

Job description: Watch for one hour, wrapped in His love.

Contact: ministry@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk or the office



GIFT AID AND PLANNED GIVING

We are in the process of sorting the boxes of planned giving envelopes for the next financial year. If you would like envelopes for your weekly offering and/or if you are a taxpayer who is willing to gift aid please contact the office office@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk

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

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.

Parish Registration

It would be particularly helpful if parishioners could complete an updated Parish Registration form [The Holy Family Millbrook, Southampton, Parish Registration Form – Fill in form](#)

Hard copies are also available at the back of the Church or from the office but completing the online form avoids inaccuracies in data entry. Many thanks indeed for your help.



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

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY



Holy Mass OF = Ordinary Form, EF = Extraordinary Form

28 Feb	Sat	of the first week of Lent	9.15 am	Lijo (RIP)
	Sat	in anticipation of (OF)	6.30 pm	People of the Parish
1 Mar	Sun	SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT(EF)	9.00 am	John Ryan (RIP)
	Sun	SECOND SUNDAY of LENT (OF)	10.30 am	Nina Reczko (RIP)
2 Mar	Mon	NO MASS TODAY	7.30 pm	-
3 Mar	Tues	of the second week of Lent	9.15am	Vocations
4 Mar	Weds	of the second week of Lent (OF)	9.15 am	Holy Family Parish
5 Mar	Thurs	feria	7.30 pm	Madeleine Beard (Int)
6 Mar	Fri	of the second week of Lent	9.15 am	Faithful Adorers of Our Blessed Lord
7 Mar	Sat	of the second week of Lent	9.15 am	Wojciech & family (grateful thanks)
	Sat	in anticipation of (OF)	6.30pm	People of the Parish
8 Mar	Sun	THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT (EF)	9.00 am	Vivian & Lillian Makinde
	Sun	THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (OF)	10.30am	Anton Gonzales (RIP)

SANCTUARY LAMP INTENTION: FOR THE PROTECTION OF MARRIAGES AND FAMILY LIFE

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 : 6 MARCH noon

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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MARCH

14th Gregorian Chant Course
Dominican Rite Mass at
Portsmouth Cathedral 3pm
60 Voice Choir

17th Eucharistic Procession
University of Southampton
Catholic Chaplaincy

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

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

Parish Priest	Fr Benjamin Theobald	btheobald@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Asst. Priest	Fr Benedikt Timpe	btimpe@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Parish Deacon	Dcn Tom Jose	tjose@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Parish Administrator	Catherine Merrifield	office@holycatholicchurch.co.uk
Safeguarding	Catherine Merrifield	safeguarding@holycatholicchurch.co.uk
Lead Catechist	Angela Wood	ministry@holycatholicchurch.co.uk

Grateful thanks for your generosity in January

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

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SCAN TO DONATE