



Fr Benjamin writes ...

It is well known in the Parish that if someone says to me, "I'm only human" when trying to excuse some transgression or error, a kindly look of exasperation will cross my face. This will be followed by a brief lesson on why this is not a Christian excuse. Why? Because to be human is to be the highest of all God's creation. Made in the Image and Likeness of God, our being is so precious to Him that He became one of us in order to save us and make us even more special in the future.

Our Blessed Lord is, as St Paul says, the "image of the invisible God". He is what it is to be truly human, to be the perfect reflection of what God in human form is like. If we ever transgress, sin, or err, it is not because we are human, but because we are not human enough.

That may sound a harsh thing to say, but it is purely biblical in its reasoning. When we get things wrong or do anything that is not of God, we do not become less human in the sense of being dehumanised, but a damaged form of the perfect human, Our Lord Jesus Christ. The phrase "to err is human, to forgive is Divine" is only half true, because in the Christian sense, the more like the Divine we become, so too we become more authentically human.

This is the core meaning of sainthood, or sanctity, which is to choose to live in such way that our lives clearly reflect Our Lord Jesus Christ's life on earth. For Christ, the central aspect of His human identity was His love and obedience of the Father. The more we learn of God and His holy Will, and the more we choose to follow it, the more we resemble the Son of God. This is not just through the large gestures of self-giving, but the everyday offering of self and tasks to God and neighbour, for God's glory and their good.

If someone says, "I'm only human" tell them of the perfect human being Who walked on earth 2000 years ago.

God bless you this weekend 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)

November is the month of the Holy Souls in Purgatory,

It is a time to pray for all the faithful departed, especially those who have no one to pray for them. Let us commend them to the mercy of God and ask that they may rest in His peace. We also continue to 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. Please pray earnestly that the House of Lords rejects the anti-life legislation before them, and remember

Adoration (Thursday evening until Saturday evening);

Rosary, Vespers and Benediction (Sunday 4pm)

St Joseph Devotions Tuesday after 9.15am Mass

‘Behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages.’

I, John, saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, with the seal of the living God, and he called with a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm earth and sea, saying, ‘Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.’ And I heard the number of the sealed, one hundred and forty-four thousand, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel.

After this I 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, and crying out with a loud voice, ‘Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!’ And all the angels were standing round the throne and round the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, saying, ‘Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.’

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, ‘Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?’ I said to him, ‘Sir, you know.’ And he said to me, ‘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.’

Responsorial Psalm Ps 24(23):1-2. 3-4b. 5-6. ☩ cf. 6

Such are the people who seek your face, O Lord.

Second Reading

1 John 3:1-3

‘We shall see God as he is.’

Beloved: See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12a

‘Blessed are the poor in spirit.’

At that time: Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: ‘Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven.’

SECOND COLLECTIONS—NOVEMBER

2nd—Bamenda

9th Holy Family Church Roof Fund (Roof)

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



SCAN ME

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HOLY FAMILY, SOUTHAMPTON

Parish Notices

ADOPT A SEMINARIAN

In response to Fr Benjamin's "call to arms" to double down on our prayers for vocations, we are introducing a spiritual adoption of our current seminarians "plus one more". In which participants daily pray for their allocated seminarian and ask Our Blessed Lord for "one more". A prayer card will be produced to facilitate this. If anyone is interested in meeting regularly to pray an additional Rosary for Vocations please contact the office and we'll try to organise a time which suits people. Many thanks to those who have already volunteered to spiritually adopt a seminarian.

RCIA

If you or any adult you know is interested in becoming a Catholic and/or learning more about the Faith Holy Family's preparation continues on **Mondays** at **7pm** in the Louis Suite (which is the room adjacent to the Church at the top of the Church steps, straight ahead). If you are already baptised but have not yet received further Sacraments this is also the group for you!

Please contact Angela ministry@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk or the office office@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk if you would like to join this group.

Rosary Sale

Students from the Fr Benjamin's University Chaplaincy will be selling rosaries after Masses this Sunday 2nd November to raise funds for their spiritual retreat.

Please pray for these young people and please be generous!

Adoration from 8pm Thursday until 6pm Saturday every week.

Our Parish benefits from many graces flowing from time spend in Adoration.

We appeal for a regular Adorer on Saturday afternoons 5pm until 6pm

Please contact office@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk or ministry@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk if you are the answer to many prayers.

November Memorial Candles

November Memorial Candles are now on sale in the repository and from the office.

We are keeping the cost to £5 so that it is affordable to light a 7-day candle in memory of a loved one.

These will be arranged, as usual, in front of the statue of St Joseph during the month of November so all may pray for those who have died.

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

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY



Holy Mass OF = Ordinary Form, EF = Extraordinary Form

01 Nov	Sat	Our Lady on Saturday (OF)	9.15am	Mary James (RIP)
		All Saints' Day (Traditional) (EF)	12.00 noon	John Comerford (RIP)
		Mass in anticipation of	6.30 p.m.	People of the Parish
02 Nov	Sun	21st Sunday After Pentecost(EF)	9.00 a.m.	Lucy Canning (int)
		All Saints' Day (Transferred Solemnity)(OF)	10.30 a.m.	Nina Reczko (RIP)
03 Nov	Mon	The Commemoration of All The Faithful Departed (Mass of All Souls' Day) (EF)	7.30 p.m.	Suffering Souls in Purgatory
04 Nov	Tue	Saint Charles Borromeo, Bishop (OF)	9.15 a.m.	Maria Le Thi An
06 Nov	Thurs	Feria (EF)	7.30 a.m.	John Paul Urbina (Int)
07 Nov	Fri	feria (OF)	9.15 a.m.	Sara's parents (RIP)
08 Nov	Sat	Our Lady on Saturday (OF)	9.15 a.m.	Peter le Van Vong
		Mass in anticipation of (OF)	6.30 p.m.	People of the Parish
09 Nov	Sun	Dedication of the Archbasilica of Our Saviour	9.00 a.m.	Marta Stachowska (RIP)
		Dedication of St John of Lateran (OF)	10.30 a.m.	Louisa Gonzales (RIP)

Please hand Mass intentions to Fr Benjamin, Dcn Tom, or Catherine, or place in the collection basket

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: 4.00 pm

St Joseph Devotions—Tuesdays after Mass

Groups/Activities in the Louis Suite

RCIA Mondays at 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 : **7 November**
Youth Group 1st Saturdays 3.00-6.00 pm
Catholic Men's Group 1st Saturdays at 7:30 pm

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

NOVEMBER

1st All Saints Day—Holy Day of Obligation
9.15am Holy Mass (OF)
12.00 noon Holy Mass (EF)
3rd All Souls -
7.30pm Holy Mass (EF)

DECEMBER

6th Parish Pre-Christmas Luncheon
8th Immaculate Conception Mass & Celebration
9th Parish Lessons, Carols, Celebration
13th Rorate Mass 6am (followed by breakfast)
18th School Carol Service in Church

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

Parish Priest	Fr Benjamin Theobald	btheobald@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
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Lead Catechist	Angela Wood	ministry@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk
Youth	Ben Nichols	youth@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk



Grateful thanks for your generosity in August

Loose plate: £1772.22 Gift Aid £804.00 Standing orders: £1618.66

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