



PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY, MILLBROOK

Fr Benjamin writes...

Although mostly a gentle child, growing up with numerous brothers and sisters, I recall a few scraps over small things. It was easy for a small observation delivered with impeccable timing to receive a larger scale insult, which would result in a nudge, responded to with a punch and before we knew it black eyes and dead legs were being nursed amidst the sage words bellowed from another room, "Pack it in the lot of you!"

Serious arguments often begin over little things. One gunshot in Sarajevo triggered the Great War, which started revolutions, from which totalitarian regimes grew, and then the Second World War, which sprouted the Cold War and so forth.

Our Blessed Lord reiterates this important lesson. He says that serious sin grows from little seeds: murder always has its seed in anger, and adultery has its root in casual lusting. He warns. Everything has a consequence, and if we casually go around being angry and foul-mouthed and glad-eying, nothing good will come from it.

That is why the Lord is so emphatic when He says He has not come to abolish the Law (The Torah), but to bring it to completion. He wants no excuses: "Whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments ...will be called least in the kingdom of heaven". The moment we think we can bypass God's law of love or take a few moments off from following it, we risk doing it again. One little lie can justify another, then another until nothing we say is true or trustworthy. It's so easy.

The next time you're tempted to tell that little lie, or mutter that mild swear word or jokingly nudge that annoyance, think what may grow from it. Then think what can grow from truth, from forgiveness and from mercy.

God bless you this Sunday and always

Prayer to the Holy Family

HOLY FAMILY OF NAZARETH, make our family one with you. Help us to be instruments of peace. Grant that love, strengthened by grace, may prove mightier than all the weaknesses and trials through which our families sometimes pass. May we always have God at the centre of our hearts and homes until we are all one family, happy and at peace in our true home with you. Amen.

February is the Month of the Holy Family

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. Please implore Our Blessed Lord to guide the House of Lords to reject the anti-life legislation before them.

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

‘He has not commanded anyone to be ungodly.’

If you desire, you will keep the commandments, and to act faithfully is a matter of choice. He has placed before you fire and water: stretch out your hand for whichever you wish. Life and death are in front of people, and whichever one chooses will be given to him. For great is the wisdom of the Lord; he is mighty in power and sees everything; his eyes are on those who fear him, and he knows a person's every deed. He has not commanded anyone to be ungodly, and he has not given anyone permission to sin.

Responsorial Psalm**Ps 119(118):1-2. 4-5. 17-18. 33-34. R1b****Blessed are those who walk in the law of the Lord!****Second Reading****1 Corinthians 2:6-10****‘A wisdom God decreed before the ages for our glory.’**

Brothers and Sisters: Among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, ‘What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him’ — these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.

Gospel**Matthew 5:17-37****‘It was said to those of old; but I say to you.’**

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, ‘Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

‘You have heard that it was said to those of old, “You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgement.” But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgement; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, “You fool!” will be liable to the hell of fire. So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

‘You have heard that it was said, “You shall not commit adultery.” But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

‘It was also said, “Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.” But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

‘Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, “You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.” But I say to you: Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. Let what you say be simply “Yes” or “No”; anything more than this comes from evil.’

HOLY FAMILY, SOUTHAMPTON

Parish Notices

BAPTISM

We welcome to Holy Family Chinonyelum Annabelle who is being baptised today.
May our Blessed Lord guide and protect her and her family

AMALGAMATING PARISHES ACROSS SOUTHAMPTON —IMPORTANT—PLEASE READ AND ACT

The Bishop has proposed the amalgamation of the ten Parishes of Southampton into one Parish. If you wish your views to be considered, please respond to this letter. The Bishop has asked Fr Benjamin to collate responses— Please do not write directly to the Bishop.

**We shall have a further consultation meeting after 10.30am Mass on Sunday 15th February.
Please ensure you respond by Monday 16th February—LAST CHANCE!**

Parish Vacancy

Job Title: Permanent Adorer of Our Blessed Lord
Hours of Work: Saturdays 5pm until 6pm
Salary: Innumerable graces
Job description: Watch for one hour, wrapped in His love.
Contact: ministry@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk or the office



Come and See—14th February 12 noon until 1pm

This is a group for children who are in **Year 3** to find out about our Faith in a fun way as part of their **First Confession and First Holy Communion** preparation.
Come along or contact ministry@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk

ASH WEDNESDAY—FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

One full meal (NO meat) is permitted, plus two small snacks that do not add up to a full meal.
Fasting binds all from the age of 18 to 65 and abstinence from meat binds all from the age of 14.
Masses and Distribution of Ashes 9.15am (OF) 7.30pm (EF)

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

14 Feb	Sat	Our Lady on Saturday(OF)	9.15 am	Nina Reczko (RIP)
14 Feb	Sat	in anticipation of (OF)	6.30 pm	People of the Parish
15 Feb	Sun	Quinquagesima (EF)	9.00 am	Fr David Keniry (RIP)
	Sun	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (OF)	10.30 am	Anton Gonzales Castno (RIP)
16 Feb	Mon	feria	7.30 pm	Jim O'Regan (Int)
17 Feb	Tues	NO MASS TODAY	9..15am	
18 Feb	Weds	ASH WEDNESDAY*	9.15 am (OF) 7.30 pm (EF)	John Kweis Villars (RIP) Emma (conversion)
19 Feb	Thurs	feria	7.30 pm	Robert Sziliagyi (RIP)
20 Feb	Fri	after Ash Wednesday (OF)	9.15 am	Lijo
21 Feb	Sat	after Ash Wednesday (OF)	9.15 am	Vocations
	Sat	in anticipation of (OF)	6.30pm	James & Mary James (RIP)
22 Feb	Sun	FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT(EF)	9.00 am	Bill Fortune (RIP)
	Sun	FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT (OF)	10.30am	People of the Parish

HOSPITAL VISITS

If you, or a loved one, will be going into hospital, or have been taken in unexpectedly, please would you let Fr Benjamin know (either directly, or via the office).
Hospital staff are no longer able to phone on your behalf.

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 : TBC

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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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Masses and Distribution of Ashes 9.15am (OF) 7.30pm (EF)

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

Parish Priest	Fr Benjamin Theobald	btheobald@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
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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

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



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