



PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Millbrook

Fr Benjamin writes ...

Praying the holy Rosary, I have the strong sense of Our Blessed Lady listening. She listens not only to the words of the prayers, but the intentions behind them and to heart of the one uttering them. She listens whether or not we are concentrating; she answers, whether or not our hearts are completely engaged in our plea, "pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death".

For many, and particularly many who are not Catholic, this relationship with our Holy Mother, is a stumbling block. The question is often posed, "Why can I not pray to God directly?", to which the answer is, "You can." Such a question, however, does not address the truth we celebrate this day, which is: it is possible to have a living relationship with Mary, and to come to know her in a very deep and beautiful way, simply because she is in Heaven.

When we say she has been assumed into heaven, we are saying she is not only with God, but that she is in God. She belongs so fully to God that, without losing her unique identity, she becomes part of God. God, Who is in all places, times and hearts now brings Mary and all the Saints with Him. As God is seeing, Mary sees; because God hears, Mary and the saints hear. Because the Son of God is risen, life is saved and made new by being assumed into the Life of God.

Mary is very near because God is with us, and her listening and praying for us is all part of the new creation won by her Son as the New Adam Who reversed the curse of the old. This Feast teaches us what is truly important and what matters most, which is our life with God. Mary shows us that all our actions in this life prepare us for our worthiness for the next. We should ask ourselves whether we want to settle for that which is ultimately transitory and finite, or place our efforts in that which is everlasting and eternal? Do we wish to be consumed by this passing world, or assumed into the ever-living heart of the next?

God bless you this Sunday and always

August is the Month of The Immaculate Heart of Mary

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

Rosary for Vocations to the Sacred Priesthood Wednesday

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

First Reading	Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab
‘A woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet.’ God’s temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant was seen within his temple. And a great sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. She was pregnant and was crying out in birth pains and the agony of giving birth. And another sign appeared in heaven: behold, a great red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on his heads seven diadems. His tail swept down a third of the stars of heaven and cast them to the earth. And the dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it. She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne, and the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God. And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, ‘Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come.’	
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 45(44):10. 11. 12. 16. R10b
On your right stands the queen in gold of Ophir.	
Second Reading	1 Corinthians 15:20-27
‘Christ the first fruits, then those who belong to Christ.’ Brothers and Sisters: Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. For ‘God has put all things in subjection under his feet.’	
Gospel	Luke 1:39-56
‘He who is mighty has done great things for me; he has exalted those of humble estate.’ In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed with a loud cry, ‘Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.’ And Mary said, ‘My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring for ever.’ And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.	

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

CHANGES IN THE PARISH

Fr Benjamin will be leaving Holy Family on 1st September to minister to the Parish of Corpus Christi in Wokingham. On 8 September we will welcome Fr Ephraim Odhiambo MHM as our new shepherd. Please pray for the Bishop and for all those who are going through upheaval at the moment. Thank you

BAPTISMS

Please pray for Aisha, Lydia and Sofia who will be baptised on Sunday afternoon. May Our Blessed Lord continue to guide and protect them and their families.

ASSUMPTION OF OUR BLESSED LADY INTO HEAVEN AUGUST 15TH

Holy Day of Obligation in the Traditional Calendar

Fr Benjamin will offer Mass in the Extraordinary Form at noon followed by a procession and blessing of herbs etc. After Mass there will be a small celebration cream tea. All welcome. Please feel free to bring your own herbs for blessing and leave them on Our Blessed Lady's altar before Mass. Fr Benjamin will bless herbs after all Masses of the Assumption this weekend.

FR BENJAMIN—"FAREWELL AND THANK YOU" PARTY—Saturday 22nd August 7.30pm

We will have a bring and share get together to say thank you to Fr Benjamin. There is a list at the back of the Church, please indicate whether you will be bringing sweet or savoury. We are also trying to work out the logistics of a photo of as many parishioners as possible in front of the Church as a keepsake for Fr Benjamin. Anyone who can help with this please contact Catherine.

ADORATION—NIGHT WATCH 1-2.30am (EARLY HOURS OF FRIDAY)

One of our longstanding Faithful Adorers will be stepping down from the Adoration "night watch" from 1-2.30am in the early hours of Friday morning.

We thank Our Blessed Lord for the commitment of all Adorers and pray for a replacement.

If you are the answer to our prayers please contact

ministry@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk or office@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk

Diocesan Catechist Day – Saturday 10 October 9:30am–1:30pm St Bede's, Basingstoke

Are you involved in passing on the faith in your parish? Join catechists from across the Diocese for a morning of prayer and practical formation. Whether you are an experienced or new catechist, you are warmly invited to attend. To register <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/RFGROzEzDh> or email Meghan, ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2026-27

Registration now open—CLOSES END OF AUGUST

[The Holy Family Confirmation Registration 2026-2027 – Fill in form](#)



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

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY



Holy Mass OF = Ordinary Form, EF = Extraordinary Form

SANCTUARY LAMP INTENTION: SIANNA MALIK (CONVERSION & HEALTH)

15 Aug	Sat	ASSUMPTION BVM—HOLY DAY	12 noon (EF)	Hubert & Inez (int)
		In anticipation of	6.30pm (OF)	Celia & Jack Carton (Anniv) Fidelis & Martha (Thanksgiving)
16 Aug	Sun	Twelfth after Pentecost	9.00 am (EF)	Bronislaw (int)
	Sun	Assumption of BVM	10.30 am (OF)	People of the Parish
17 Aug	Mon	feria	7.30 pm (OF)	Shields Family (Thanksgiving)
18 Aug	Tues	feria	9.15 am (OF)	Ese Okitikpi (exams)
20 Aug	Thur	St Bernard	7.30 pm (EF)	Maria Leonora Lobo (RIP birthday) Michael Prendergast (RIP, Anniv)
21 Aug	Fri	St Pius X	9.15am (OF)	Ree Okitikpi (thanksgiving graduation)
22 Aug	Sat		No Mass	Wedding at 1pm (Winchester)
		in anticipation of	6.30pm (OF)	James & Mary James (RIP)
23 Aug	Sun	Thirteenth after Pentecost	09.00 am (EF)	David Wordley (conversion)
		Twenty First Sunday ordinary	10.30 am (OF)	People of the Parish

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 9.15am

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

AUGUST

15th 12 noon TLM, blessing of herbs, etc,
followed by cream tea

22nd Au revoir and Te Deum for Fr Benjamin

SEPTEMBER

1st Fr Benjamin leaves for Corpus Christi

8th Fr Ephraim joins Holy Family

OCTOBER

10th Diocesan Catechesis Day, Basingstoke

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

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Lead Catechist Angela Wood ministry@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk

Grateful thanks for your generosity in July

Loose plate: £1666.80 Gift Aid £1052.50 Standing orders: £1735.32

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