



11th October 2026

Holy Family, Millbrook

Fr Ephraim writes...

God's plan is for all humanity to be saved. Today's Gospel parable brings this out very clearly that God is calling everyone to the wedding feast foretold by prophet Isaiah in the first reading. It is a feast of joy and happiness where death is defeated and there is no more mourning.

However not all invited guests are prepared to accept the invitation. They give excuses as they reject the invitation. But God does not give up. He goes beyond the list of the invitees and sends His messenger to call those on the side streets and thoroughfares, for no one is excluded from the house of God. The banquet is inclusive, the holy ones and sinners, good and bad alike have room. However, there is a requirement of a wedding garment. This garment refers to conversion that we wholly accept the invitation and be open to the reception of grace that spurs us to be bearers of the Good News, communicants of love, charity and mercy.

The Church through her sacraments communicates God's grace to us. We welcome this grace in our hearts and share it with others. When we do so we can truly call ourselves a Eucharistic community.

Next Sunday is the World Mission Sunday when we show forth our charity to our brothers and sisters who are desperate. By our generosity we reach out to them with practical and spiritual help. We shall take up a retiring collection.

I wish you all a happy week and ask you not to forget the garment of love, charity and mercy. Where there is love and charity God abides.

God bless you this Sunday 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)

October is the Month of The Most Holy Rosary

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

Holy Rosary Tuesdays after St Joseph Devotions

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

First Reading	Isaiah 25:6-10a
‘The Lord will make a feast, and he will wipe away tears from all faces.’ On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined. And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. He will swallow up death for ever; and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, ‘Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the Lord; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.’ For the hand of the Lord will rest on this mountain.	
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 23(22):1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6. R1
In the Lord’s own house shall I dwell for length of days unending.	
Second Reading	Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20
‘I can do all things through him who strengthens me.’ Brothers and Sisters: I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me. Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.	
Gospel	Matthew 22:1-14
‘Invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.’ At that time: Jesus again spoke to the chief priests and the elders of the people, in parables, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying, “Tell those who are invited, ‘See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.’ ” But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, “The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.” And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests. ‘But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. And he said to him, “Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?” And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” For many are called, but few are chosen.’	

**THIS WEEKEND IS THE LAST OF FOUR WEEKENDS FOR THIS YEAR IN WHICH THE “MASS COUNT” IS TAKEN FOR NATIONAL STATISTICS – PLEASE CONTINUE TO BRING A FRIEND
SALVATION IS FOR ETERNAL LIFE, NOT JUST FOR MASS COUNTS!**

SECOND COLLECTIONS IN OCTOBER

17TH MISSIO - WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

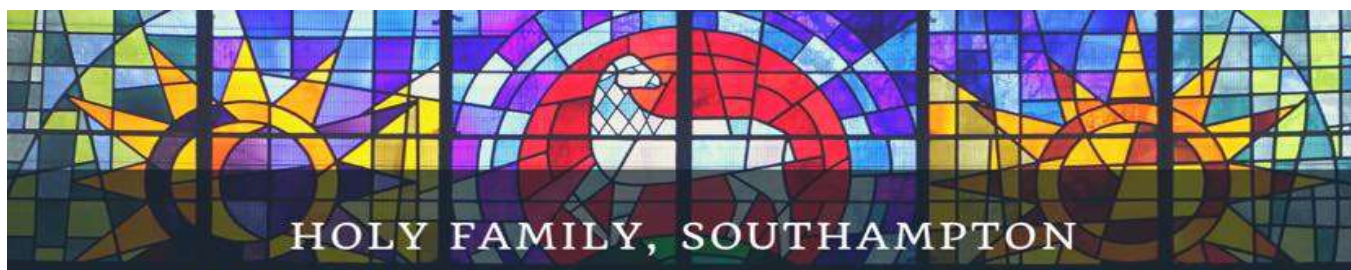
24TH CHURCH BUILDINGS AND MAINTENANCE

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**



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



OCTOBER DEVOTIONS

During the month of the Most Holy Rosary, please make every effort to pray the Holy Rosary each day. Perhaps make a special effort to come to Rosary and Benediction on Sunday evenings at 4.30pm. The Rosary will also be prayed after Tuesday morning Mass after St Joseph Devotions.

We are privileged to have for veneration a small fragment from a vestment of Our Lady of the Rosary of Granada, accompanied by its certificate of authenticity. The historic image of the Virgin was carried to the Battle of Lepanto in 1571 aboard the galley La Loba of Don Alvaro de Bazan. The fragment will be placed on Our Lady's side altar where the faithful may venerate it and pray the Holy Rosary.

May this month dedicated to Our Lady encourage us to rediscover the Rosary as a prayer of faith, perseverance and confidence in her maternal intercession.

RCIA

RCIA has recommenced and meets on Monday evenings 7pm (until 9pm) in the Louis Suite. If you or any of your friends would like to learn more about our beautiful Faith you are very welcome to join this very rewarding group. This group is also suitable for those **adults** who have perhaps been baptised Catholic as a child but have yet to receive the Sacraments of Confession, Holy Communion and Confirmation. Everybody welcome.

FIRST CONFESSION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

For all those who registered and met Father and Angela in July, you will receive or have received an email about the first meeting in October. Unfortunately, we were very over-subscribed and being limited to the number of available catechists, we are unable to take any late applications. We are desperate for more catechists as this will continue to be an issue in future years. Please give prayerful consideration to training in this vital area.

Our beloved Sisters in Christ, the Dominican Sisters at Sway have an online catechetical training session which may be of interest [Essential Training for Catechists | Light of Truth](#)

FINANCES

As a spiritually rich but financially "less so" Parish we are endeavouring to increase the Parish income whilst causing as little as possible strain on parishioner's pockets. If you very generously put money in the collection plate each week – thank you enormously. **IF** you are a **taxpayer** and rather than putting your donation "in the plate", you register for **Gift Aid** and put your donation in a numbered envelope in the plate, the Parish can reclaim from the Government the tax that you have already paid on your donation. This means that for each £1 you give, the Parish can claim an extra 25p. It all adds up, at no extra cost to you. Equally if you can afford to increase your offering, even by only £1 per week, please consider doing so. Please, if you would like to know more about GIFT AID, ask in the office and we'll certainly do our best to help!

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY



Holy Mass OF = Ordinary Form, EF = Extraordinary Form

SANCTUARY LAMP INTENTION: Eleanor de Melo (birthday)

10 Oct	Sat	Our Lady on Saturday	9.15am (OF)	
		In anticipation of	6.30pm (OF)	People of the Parish
11 Oct	Sun	TWENTIETH AFTER PENTECOST	9.00am (EF)	Roman (RIP)
	Sun	TWENTY EIGHTH ORDINARY	10.30am (OF)	
12 Oct	Mon	St Wilfrid	7.30 pm (OF)	
13 Oct	Tue	St Edward Confessor	9.15 am (OF)	
15 Oct	Thu	St Teresa	7.30 pm (EF)	Eleanor de Melo (birthday)
16 Oct	Fri	St Margaret Mary Alacoque	9.15am (OF)	Begonia & Ramiro Peroda Merello (Wed. Anniv)
17 Oct	Sat	Our Lady on Saturday	9.15am (OF)	Margaret Barrett (RIP)
		in anticipation of	6.30pm (OF)	People of the Parish
18 Oct	Sun	TWENTY FIRST AFTER PENTECOST	9.00am (EF)	Ben Carreno (RIP)
		TWENTY NINTH ORDINARY	10.30 am (OF)	

Please place Mass intentions in the collection basket. There are currently plenty of dates available for Mass Intentions especially for weekday Masses

Whilst there is no obligation to make an offering for a Mass intention, the offering does make up a considerable part of a priest's income.

If you would like to send Mass intentions to the Missions please speak to Fr Ephraim. 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

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

OCTOBER	NOVEMBER
10th Diocesan Catechesis Day, Basingstoke 17th Formation Day for Readers	

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

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Priest in Charge Fr Ephraim Odhiambo MHM eodhiambo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
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Parish Administrator Catherine Merrifield office@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk
Safeguarding safeguarding@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk
Lead Catechist Angela Wood ministry@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk

Grateful thanks for your generosity in September

Loose plate: £1059.69 Gift Aid £790 Standing orders: £1735.32

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



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