



## PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Millbrook

Fr Benjamin writes ...

It has given me great joy to see people gathering in front of the church to pray the rosary as a public witness to prayer and Our Lady's intercession. People just passing by or getting in and out of their cars hear the beautiful words that plead for the world. We need more of this. We need to show people that Catholics are people of prayer and intercession. By doing so, we raise people's minds to God, reminding them in the busyness of their lives that there is sanctuary to go to.

I am also looking forward to the Corpus Christi procession that will take place in three weeks time after the 10:30am Holy Mass. We will weave through Millbrook, singing and praying along the way. It will end with Solemn Benediction on the front steps of the Church, Our Lord giving His blessing to Millbrook and to the world. I encourage you all to join us on that wonderful occasion, and to bring family and friends as well. We will follow that celebration with another gathering in the gardens of the church where there will be refreshments. Perhaps you would like to help with some aspect of that great day? Please listen out for further announcements which will tell you how you can be a part of it.

Our Blessed Lord in today's Sunday Gospel prays to His heavenly Father that His disciples are not of this world and do not belong to it or its ways. Nevertheless, we are in the world, and we need to try to do as much as we can to bring people from this world to God's world and heavenly Kingdom. We can only do this if we follow the Lord's command to go out into the world, witnessing and teaching and hopefully Baptising.

As we gather for prayer with the Holy Rosary, with the Corpus Christi procession, and in many other ways, we can have in our hearts the words of the Baptismal rite after parents and godparents have made their profession of faith: "This is our faith, this is the faith of the Church. We are proud to profess it in Christ Jesus, Our Lord".

**God bless you this Sunday and always**

### **May is the Month of Our Blessed Lady Rosary, Vespers and Benediction for Vocations—4pm Sunday**

May is the month of Our Blessed Lady! Please make an extra effort this month to join us in offering thanksgiving for our priests and seminarians and to pray that we may all listen to God's voice in discerning our vocations whether to the priesthood, consecrated life or married life.

**Please cut out this Prayer for Vocations and pray it daily as part of your family prayers**

### *Prayer for Vocations*

*Priest: Let us pray to God to give worthy priests and religious to His Holy Church*

*Priest and People: O Lord Jesus Christ, Who hast chosen the Apostles and their successors the Bishops and Priests of the Catholic Church to preach the true Faith throughout the whole world, we earnestly beseech Thee to choose from among us in this parish, priests and religious brothers and sisters who will gladly spend their entire lives to make Thee better known and loved. Amen*

**'Let someone else take his office'**

One day Peter stood up to speak to the brothers – there were about a hundred and twenty persons in the congregation: 'Brothers, the passage of scripture had to be fulfilled in which the Holy Spirit, speaking through David, foretells the fate of Judas, who offered himself as a guide to the men who arrested Jesus – after having been one of our number and actually sharing this ministry of ours. Now in the Book of Psalms it says:

Let someone else take his office.

'We must therefore choose someone who has been with us the whole time that the Lord Jesus was travelling round with us, someone who was with us right from the time when John was baptising until the day when he was taken up from us – and he can act with us as a witness to his resurrection.'

Having nominated two candidates, Joseph known as Barsabbas, whose surname was Justus, and Matthias, they prayed, 'Lord, you can read everyone's heart; show us therefore which of these two you have chosen to take over this ministry and apostolate, which Judas abandoned to go to his proper place.' They then drew lots for them, and as the lot fell to Matthias, he was listed as one of the twelve apostles.

**Responsorial Psalm****Psalm 102(103):1-2,11-12,19-20****The Lord has set his sway in heaven****Second reading****1 John 4:11-16****Anyone who lives in love lives in God and God lives in him**

My dear people, let us love one another since love comes from God and everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God. Anyone who fails to love can never have known God, because God is love. God's love for us was revealed when God sent into the world his only Son so that we could have life through him; this is the love I mean: not our love for God, but God's love for us when he sent his Son to be the sacrifice that takes our sins away.

**Gospel****John 17:11-19****Father, keep those you have given me true to your name**

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

'Holy Father, keep those you have given me true to your name, so that they may be one like us. While I was with them, I kept those you had given me true to your name. I have watched over them and not one is lost except the one who chose to be lost, and this was to fulfil the scriptures. But now I am coming to you and while still in the world I say these things to share my joy with them to the full. I passed your word on to them, and the world hated them, because they belong to the world no more than I belong to the world.

I am not asking you to remove them from the world, but to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world any more than I belong to the world. Consecrate them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world, and for their sake I consecrate myself so that they too may be consecrated in truth.'

\*\*\*\*\*

**Second collection this week—12th May 2024****Catholic Communications Network—thank you for your generosity**



## **Parish Notices**

### **50,000 Rosaries**

The Universal Church is offering 50, 000 Rosaries this May praying specifically for the people we know who have left the Church, also asking for the strength and wisdom we need to effectively evangelise in our families, workplaces and communities. As well as our usual Sunday afternoon Rosary at 4pm we will pray the Holy Rosary outside the Church on Tuesday mornings after Mass and Wednesday mornings at 10am. The sun shone on us last week—please join us this week!

### **Deeper In Faith—13th May—this Monday**

We have a small group of youngsters aged about 16-18 who will be preparing to be received into the Church and for those of that age who may have been baptised but not received subsequent Sacraments. We would really welcome any youngsters of about this age who would like to delve deeper into their Faith under the guidance of Fr Benjamin. This group will commence on 13th May at 6pm in the Louis Suite. For more details please get in touch with Angela [ministry@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk](mailto:ministry@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk)

### **Corpus Christi Procession 2 June 2024**

On 2 June after 1030 am Mass we shall take Our Blessed Lord in procession around the Millbrook area.

We would appreciate the following volunteers:

Marshalls, (preferable people who have no other responsibilities).

A first aider or two (just in case)

We may need some volunteers who are prepared to assist some of the elderly members of the Parish.

Help also needed with preparation of the hall for our Afternoon Tea Fundraiser £5 per head for one of Siobhan's extravaganzas! Ice creams will be sold on the day.

### **Poor Fund**

Prayerful thanks to those who contribute to the Poor Fund—your generosity made a huge difference to somebody's life last weekend. Please pray for the person concerned.

### **Gardening with Father**

Fr Benjamin would welcome help in getting the grounds ready for the Corpus Christi procession and generally helping to make the place more presentable. Gardening dates will be Saturdays 1st, 8th and 15th June from 12 until 2pm. On the 1st we shall concentrate on the area in front of the Church. Jobs include edging the lawns, trimming, strimming and planting up the planters, weeding and cleaning up the steps.

### **Stella Maris Southampton—Volunteers**

Stella Maris Southampton are looking for volunteers to staff their new Seafarers Club in Southampton. As part of a team you would provide a friendly welcome to visiting seafarers and offer practical advice on the city's attractions. More information on [www.stellamaris.org.uk/seafarerscentre/southampton](http://www.stellamaris.org.uk/seafarerscentre/southampton)

### **For those who are sick**

To unite with Our Blessed Lord's suffering for our salvation please continue to pray for all those, particularly in The Holy Family Parish, who are sick; undergoing medical treatment; for their families and for those who care for them.

**Job vacancies in the Diocese** <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/other/jobs>

# THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY



**Holy Mass OF = Ordinary Form, EF = Extraordinary Form**

Sun 12 May	<b>SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	9.00 am (EF) 10.30 am (OF)	Bishop Elect Bosco MacDonald Martin & Rose Colette Nwasibi (Wedding Anniv)
Mon 13 May	Our Lady of Fatima	7.30 pm (OF)	Private Intention
Tues 14 May	St Matthias, Apostle	9.15 am (OF)	Thomas Joseph (Thanksgiving)
Thurs 16 May	of the 7th week of Easter	7.30 pm (EF)	John Comerford (Int)
Fri 17 May	of the 7th week of Easter	9.15 am (OF)	Nichols Family (Int)
Sat 18 May	of the 7th week of Easter (Vigil)	9.15 am (OF) 6.30 pm (OF)	Moses (Thanksgiving) People of the Parish
Sun 19 May	<b>PENTECOST</b>	9.00 am (EF) 10.30 am (OF)	John Comerford (Int) For all those baptised in the last year

Please hand Mass intentions to Fr Benjamin, to Catherine, or place in the collection basket. We are currently booking Mass intentions for **June** (EF Masses for mid-August) Thank you.

**Please note changes to Mass times this week. Thank you.**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<b>May</b>	8th Gardening with Father
13th Deeper in Faith 6pm	15th Gardening with Father
14th Outdoor Rosary after Mass	<b>June</b>
14th Outdoor Rosary 10am	29th <b>STS PETER AND PAUL</b>
<b>June</b>	29th Bring a Plate of Food to Share Social
1st Gardening with Father	30th First Holy Communion
<b>2nd CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION</b>	<b>July</b>
2nd Afternoon Tea (Fundraiser and Social)	7th First Holy Communion
7th SACRED HEART	14th First Holy Communion

**THE CHURCH WILL REMAIN OPEN FROM 9AM UNTIL 7PM EACH DAY**

<b>Confessions (when there is Mass)</b>	<b>Groups/Activities in the Louis Suite</b>
Saturday: 5.30—6.20 pm	<b>Sewing Group</b> - Tuesdays at 10.00am
Monday & Thursday: 6.45—7.20 pm	<b>Gardening Club</b> - Tuesdays 10am until 12 noon
Tuesday & Friday: 8.30—9.10 am	<b>Mother's Prayers</b> Wednesdays at 2.00 pm
<b>Eucharistic Adoration</b>	<b>Lunch Group</b> Fridays, fortnightly at 12.00 noon:
Thursday 8.00 pm to Saturday 6.00 pm	<b>NEXT LUNCH: 17 May</b>
<b>Rosary, Vespers &amp; Benediction for Vocations</b>	<b>Youth Group</b> 1st Saturdays 3.00-6.00 pm
Sunday: 4.00 pm	<b>Catholic Men's Group</b> 1st Saturdays at 7:30 pm

The Holy Family Catholic Church  
Redbridge Hill, Southampton SO16 4PL  
Email: office@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk Tel: 023 80 778203  
Website: www.holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk

<b>Parish Priest</b>	Fr Benjamin Theobald	btheobald@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
<b>Parish Deacon</b>	Dcn Tom Jose	tjose@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
<b>Parish Administrator</b>	Catherine Merrifield	office@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk
<b>Safeguarding</b>	Catherine Merrifield	safeguarding@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk
<b>Lead Catechist</b>	Angela Wood	ministry@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk
<b>Youth &amp; Confirmation</b>	Ben Nichols	youth@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk

Grateful thanks for your generosity in April

Loose plate: £1706.87 Gift Aid: £853 Standing orders: £1598

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