



Fr Benjamin writes ...

It is no accident that the themes of Temple and Temple worship pervade the scriptures and Christian tradition. First of all, we encounter the Temple of the Cosmos, which is God's whole creation. God created everything to be a reflection of His Glory. In Six days, He created the Temple of creation, placing the Divine Image at its centre, when He made man. The first two chapters of the Book of Genesis are all about Temple Worship.

Then there is the Temple in Jerusalem and the worship offered there as sacrifice. Not only was it a place of atonement, it was also a place of meeting, a microcosm of heaven and earth coming together in the Holy of Holies where God dwelt amongst His people, Israel.

We hear echoes of that atonement worship and of God dwelling amongst us in the Person of Christ, Who as the Word made flesh, pitched His Tent among us. In the Person of Jesus Christ, the true Image and Likeness of God dwells, completing both the Jerusalem Temple and the Temple of the Cosmos. All things are fulfilled in Christ.

Finally, there is the Temple of Christ's Body, the Church. In today's Gospel, Our Blessed Lord hints that His Body is a Temple to be given over in worship to God, and He also says that those Who follow Him will be a part of His Body. The Church of God is a living part of Christ, giving worship and sacrificial atonement to God through the Eucharist.

It is marvellous how everything, from Genesis to the worship we offer this very day comes together as a revelation of God's plan. That plan was that He would create us out of love, to be in a loving communion with Him; that heaven and earth would be union and everything would be sanctified by looking to God and reflecting Him in the world.

As we celebrate the feast day of the mother of all churches throughout the world, we celebrate the maternal nature of Temple worship, a worship that creates, unifies, restores and saves. Every time we enter a Church or within the temple of our souls, praying to God, we enter into the living wonder of God's beautiful plan.

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

‘I saw water flowing from the Temple, and all to whom this water came were saved.’

In those days: The angel brought me back to the door of the Temple, and behold, water was issuing from below the threshold of the Temple towards the east (for the Temple faced east). The water was flowing down from below the south end of the threshold of the Temple, south of the altar. Then he brought me out by way of the north gate and led me round on the outside to the outer gate that faces towards the east; and behold, the water was trickling out on the south side.

And he said to me, ‘This water flows towards the eastern region and goes down into the Arabah, and enters the sea; when the water flows into the sea, the water will become fresh. And wherever the river goes, every living creature that swarms will live, and there will be very many fish. For this water goes there, that the waters of the sea may become fresh; so everything will live where the river goes. And on the banks, on both sides of the river, there will grow all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither, nor their fruit fail, but they will bear fresh fruit every month, because the water for them flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for healing.’

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 46(45):2-3. 5-6. 8-9. 25

The waters of a river give joy to God’s city, the holy place, the abode of the Most High

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 3:9c-11, 16-17

‘You are God’s temple.’

Brothers and Sisters: You are God’s building. According to the grace of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building upon it. Let each one take care how he builds upon it. For no one can lay a foundation other than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in you? If anyone destroys God’s temple, God will destroy him. For God’s temple is holy, and you are that temple.

Gospel

John 2:13-22

He was speaking about the temple of his body.

The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the Temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the Temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. And he told those who sold the pigeons, ‘Take these things away; do not make my Father’s house a house of trade.’ His disciples remembered that it was written, ‘Zeal for your house will consume me.’

So the Jews said to him, ‘What sign do you show us for doing these things?’ Jesus answered them, ‘Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.’ The Jews then said, ‘It has taken forty-six years to build this Temple, and will you raise it up in three days?’ But he was speaking about the temple of his body. When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

SECOND COLLECTIONS—NOVEMBER

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)

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SCAN ME



HOLY FAMILY, SOUTHAMPTON

Parish Notices

CONDOLENCES

In your charity please pray for the repose of the souls of

Doris Baldacchino and

Edgar D'Bell

who have died recently, and for the comfort of their families in their loss.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.

NEW YEAR Ceilidh Saturday 3rd January 2026

Join us in welcoming in the New Year with a ceilidh (Irish/Scottish dance) in the Parish Hall. This family event will start at 7pm with music from 7.30pm. All donations for a finger buffet will be gratefully received. Ticket price £10 each to raise funds for the Church roof.

The ticket does not include alcohol—please BYO (bring your own).

Rosary Sale

Enormous thanks from the students from the Fr Benjamin's University Chaplaincy to everyone who supported their Rosary sale fundraiser you helped them to raise over £350.

Please join us in praying the holy Rosary for Vocations at 4pm Sundays and at 10am Tuesdays

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.

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". Prayer cards will be available next week. 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.

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

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY



Holy Mass OF = Ordinary Form, EF = Extraordinary Form

08 Nov	Sat	NO MASS THIS MORNING		
		Mass in anticipation of	6.30 pm	People of the Parish
09 Nov	Sun	The Dedication of the Archbasilica of Our Saviour	9.00 am	Marta Stachowska (RIP)
		Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	10.30 am	Louisa Gonzales (RIP)
10 Nov	Mon	St Leo the Great	7.30 pm	Peter le Van Vong
11 Nov	Tue	NO MASS TODAY—St Joseph Devotions continue	9.15 am	
13 Nov	Thurs	St Didacus	7.30 pm	Jacek Obuchowicz (health)
14 Nov	Fri	feria	9.15 am	Elizabeth Abanto (birthday)
15 Nov	Sat	Our Lady on Saturday	9.15 am	Maria le Thi Sui
		Mass in anticipation of	6.30 pm	Stefania's parents (RIP)
16 Nov	Sun	23rd Sunday after Pentecost	9.00 am	Dorothy Rogerson (RIP)
		St Edmund of Abingdon	10.30 am	People of the Parish

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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

NOVEMBER

25th Advent Talk

DECEMBER

8th Immaculate Conception Mass & Celebration
9th Parish Lessons & Carols, Celebration
9th Advent Talk
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
Parish Deacon	Dcn Tom Jose	tjose@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Parish Administrator	Catherine Merrifield	office@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk
Safeguarding	Catherine Merrifield	safeguarding@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk
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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SCAN TO DONATE