



## PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Millbrook

Fr Benjamin writes ...

“It was very early on the first day of the week” (Jn 20:1). Some translations of this verse put it another way; they call it the “Eighth day”. Either way, this Gospel proclamation of the Easter Sunday Holy Mass points to a new beginning and a new age – the age of resurrection. *Surrexit Dominus vere! Alleluia!* The Lord has truly risen! Alleluia!

Just as St John begins His Gospel with words that remind us of the opening of the Book of Genesis, “In the beginning”, so too He reminds us with these words that, after six days, God rested on the seventh. Six days of Holy Week have been marked, with Jesus resting on the seventh day after His death and burial in the Tomb. With His resurrection we have started a new week, and entered into the new creation, the creation of true rest, which is rest from sin and death, but also much, much more. It is a rest where we are so revitalised that we can act.

When we hear the word ‘rest’, we usually think of things like no longer working, re-charging our batteries through leisurely activity, or simply doing nothing. In the biblical meaning of the word, rest means something more. It means readiness. In the first creation of Genesis, God readied the world to be a place where He would be worshipped, and have His light shared amongst His people. Now, with the new creation of this “first day of the week” the time of new life and reconciliation with God, we have been made ready to make Jesus known, loved and followed, so that all may live the saving effects of His Cross and Resurrection. In other words, God’s rest means ‘good action’ where everything is in place to live the life for which were created, which is to worship, to love and to serve.

Just as a house is built, not just to stand empty, but to be made so that a life may be well lived, so this is what God’s rest really means. Christ came to take away the sins of the world. Christ came, so that in touching death, He would destroy it and thus open the gates to eternal life. Now is the time to live the meaning of that sacrifice and salvation, because He has made everything ready so that we can do so – He is risen!

**God bless you this Easter Sunday and always**

### Mass Times

**Please note that Fr Benjamin is intending to offer the usual Masses during the week after Easter. However, as he is supposed to be taking some time off(!), rather than hearing confessions before each Mass he will hear confessions only by appointment. Thank you for your understanding.**

## **Rosary, Vespers and Benediction for Vocations**

### **Easter Sunday 6pm**

In the joy of the Resurrection please join us to offer thanksgiving for our priests and seminarians and to pray for many more young men to listen to God's call to the priesthood.

Please note that on Easter Sunday Rosary, Vespers and Benediction will be at 6pm instead of 4pm.

Good day to everybody, I have been present in the parish for the last few days, as many might already know I'm a seminarian for our diocese currently studying in Allen Hall seminary. I'm close to finishing my second year of formation known as the second discipleship. For Holy Week I have been given a great privilege of serving in this wonderful parish as well as observing and learning from Father Benjamin Theobald. It has been an amazing privilege and a great experience in seeing how the parish is run especially during this very holy and busy time of the year. As for the seminary my time there has been quite rich in experience and I continue to discover how God touches the lives of others in unique ways, through my service in different parishes in Westminster Diocese, as well as ours and also through my work in St Joseph Pastoral Centre, which aims to enable adults with learning difficulties to participate fully in the life of their church and community. I always find the dedication of people and their desire to be part of the Church, especially young people and families who may not have much free time, to be deeply inspiring. To look and see Christ manifest himself in others no matter how different we may be, is always a great lesson and inspiration for me. I have always strongly believed in an old Church teaching of Lex Orandi, Lex Credendi, Lex Vivendi, which roughly translates to; As we worship, So we believe, So we live. To anyone who will read this, please remember me in your prayers. I'm an ordinary man with many faults who has been called to this unique vocation of priesthood which I know I don't deserve.

Please pray for me and all our seminarians currently in formation, and I wish you all a week filled with holiness and a wonderful Easter season. Christus vincit! Christus regnat! Christus imperat!

Kind regards and God bless,

Adam Paweł Fidelis Trzebinski.

## **Adoration**

**In the joy of the Resurrection all are welcome to spend time in Adoration of Our risen Lord from 8pm Thursday evening 8pm until 6pm Saturday evening**

## ***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***



## HOLY FAMILY, SOUTHAMPTON

### **Parish Notices**

#### **Children's Stations of the Cross**

**Holy Saturday at 11.30**

We would be delighted if you would bring your children to join our First Holy Communion children in praying the Stations of the Cross this Saturday at 11.30am.

#### **RCIA**

Please continue to pray for Trinh, Houn, Katherine, Naomi, and Luke as they either join the Church or come into full communion in Confirmation this Easter and going forward please continue to welcome and support them as they continue to grow in Faith.

#### **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.

#### **The Holy Family—Grand Easter Raffle—Last chance!**

Please be tempted to buy tickets for our Grand Easter Raffle! £1 for a strip of 5. Tickets are still on sale. The draw will take place of Easter Sunday after 1030 Mass. Enormous thanks for the very generous donations of prizes.

#### **Youth Group**

**This month only—the Youth Group will meet on Saturday 13th April from 3 until 6pm.**

#### **Egg Hunt—Low Sunday (7th April)**

Next Sunday, 7th April, after 10.30 Mass, we shall be holding an egg hunt for children (of all ages!). Please bring a picnic lunch for sharing. We have (papier mache) eggs for the children to decorate, followed by a mad hunt for chocolate eggs. We welcome any volunteers to help and any resources for decorating eggs would be greatly appreciated. For safeguarding reasons all children must be accompanied by a responsible person.

#### **Planned Giving/Gift Aid**

We shall soon be distributing boxes of Planned Giving/Gift Aid envelopes for the coming financial year. Please note that with the various changes that have taken place the number on your envelopes may differ from previous years. Please be assured that this does not affect your donation in any way—it is purely administrative. If you donate by standing order there will be a box of envelopes for you for special/second collections; if you prefer not to receive these please let the office know. Lastly, if you are a UK taxpayer and would be happy for the Parish to reclaim from the Government an additional 25p for each pound that you donate, please complete a Gift Aid Declaration and return it to the office. Many thanks

**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 31 Mar	<b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>	9.00 am (EF) 10.30 am (OF)	Michael and Pamela O'Farrell (Int) Nichols Family (Int)
Mon 1 Apr	<b>within Octave of Easter</b>	7.30 pm (OF)	Peter Vung Le
Tues 2 Apr	<b>within Octave of Easter</b>	9.15 am (OF)	Nichols Family (Int)
Thurs 4 Apr	<b>within Octave of Easter</b>	7.30 pm (EF)	Geoff Smith (RIP)
Fri 5 Apr	<b>within Octave of Easter</b>	9.15 am (OF)	Maria Hat Domily Lo Tin
Sat 6 Apr	<b>within Octave of Easter</b>	9.15 am (OF) 6.30 pm (OF)	Andrew & Amanda Wood & Family (Int) People of the Parish
Sun 7	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	9.00 am (EF) 10.30 am (OF)	The Faithful Adorers of Our Blessed Lord Ngoze Nwaine (Thanksgiving)

**Please hand Mass intentions to Fr Benjamin, to Catherine, or place in the collection basket. We are currently booking Masses for **May** —please give plenty of notice if you would like specific dates for Masses. Thank you.**

<p><b>Confessions</b> <b><u>This week by appointment only</u></b> <b>Eucharistic Adoration</b> Thursday 8.00 pm to Saturday 6.00 pm <b>Rosary, Vespers &amp; Benediction for Vocations</b> Sunday: 4.00 pm</p>	<p><b>Groups/Activities</b> in the Louis Suite <b>Sewing Group</b> - Tuesdays at 10.00am <b>Gardening Club</b> - Tuesdays 10am until 12 noon <b>Mother's Prayers</b> Wednesdays at 2.00 pm <b>Lunch Group</b> Fridays, fortnightly at 12.00 noon: <b>NEXT LUNCH: TBC</b> <b>Youth Group</b> <b>**Saturday 13th April 3-6pm**</b> <b>Catholic Men's Group</b> 1st Saturdays at 7:30 pm</p>
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## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<p><b>March</b></p> <p>30th Children's Stations of the Cross—ALL WELCOME 31st Easter Sunday 31st Grand Easter Raffle Draw</p>	<p><b>April</b></p> <p>7th Divine Mercy Sunday 7th Egg Hunt and children's activities —AFTER 1030 Mass 13th <b>Youth Group 3-6pm</b></p>
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**THE CHURCH WILL REMAIN OPEN FROM 9AM UNTIL 6PM EACH DAY**

**THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED DURING THE WEEK AFTER EASTER**

**The Holy Family Catholic Church**  
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