



PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Millbrook

Fr Benjamin writes ...

There is nothing new in wanting to be associated with someone of influence in order to get ahead. People have always known that if you want to become powerful you need to associate with the right people. If you want the best tickets to a concert, it helps to know the artist or their managers. In the end it's all about contacts or, as the adage has it, "to know somebody who knows somebody."

Christians have the same desire, and it is a noble desire, which is to be close to our Master, Jesus Christ. To be in communion with our Blessed Lord is the goal of the Christian life, and the only way to become a part of that Communion is through the life given to us to live on earth. It may be thought that to come closer to Christ it would be helpful to know a Pope, a bishop or a priest. Depending in the individual cleric that may be helpful, but there is nothing in the Scriptures to confirm this. What is in the Scriptures is the image found in today's Gospel for the Feast of Christ the King: to feed the hungry, tend the sick, clothe the naked and visit the imprisoned.

Common to all these groups of people is their vulnerability and their dependency on the loving actions of those around them. Christ makes the astonishing statement today, "In so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me". If we want to be close to Christ, then we will find Him in the poor, those in need and the vulnerable. To get close to the Master we must associate with those whom the world considers weak, and as being nothing at all. It is not in earthly kings, powerful figures or via fame that we come close to God, Who is the very 'top', but in the lowly, those at the 'bottom' that we find Him. This is how He is King, and this is where His Kingdom of love is to be found, and where we find its widest entrance.

God bless you all this Sunday, and always

November is the Month of the Holy Souls

Please take the opportunity to attend an extra Mass each week, spend time with Our Blessed Lord, fast and pray for the suffering souls in purgatory.

7-Day Memorial Candles will burn in front of the St Joseph Altar throughout November as a opportunity for everyone to pray for your loved ones.

The Lord will judge between sheep and sheep

The Lord says this: I am going to look after my flock myself and keep all of it in view. As a shepherd keeps all his flock in view when he stands up in the middle of his scattered sheep, so shall I keep my sheep in view. I shall rescue them from wherever they have been scattered during the mist and darkness. I myself will pasture my sheep, I myself will show them where to rest – it is the Lord who speaks. I shall look for the lost one, bring back the stray, bandage the wounded and make the weak strong. I shall watch over the fat and healthy. I shall be a true shepherd to them.

As for you, my sheep, the Lord says this: I will judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and he-goats.

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 22(23):1-3a, 5-6****The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.****Second reading****1 Corinthians 15:20-26,28****Christ will hand over the kingdom to God the Father; so that God may be all in all**

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep. Death came through one man and in the same way the resurrection of the dead has come through one man. Just as all men die in Adam, so all men will be brought to life in Christ; but all of them in their proper order: Christ as the first-fruits and then, after the coming of Christ, those who belong to him. After that will come the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, having done away with every sovereignty, authority and power. For he must be king until he has put all his enemies under his feet and the last of the enemies to be destroyed is death, for everything is to be put under his feet. And when everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will be subject in his turn to the One who subjected all things to him, so that God may be all in all.

Gospel**Matthew 25:31-46****I was naked and you clothed me; sick, and you visited me**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, escorted by all the angels, then he will take his seat on his throne of glory. All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate men one from another as the shepherd separates sheep from goats. He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left.

'Then the King will say to those on his right hand, "Come, you whom my Father has blessed, take for your heritage the kingdom prepared for you since the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me drink; I was a stranger and you made me welcome; naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to see me." Then the virtuous will say to him in reply, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you; or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and make you welcome; naked and clothe you; sick or in prison and go to see you?" And the King will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it to me."

'Next he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you never gave me food; I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink; I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, naked and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me." Then it will be their turn to ask, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty, a stranger or naked, sick or in prison, and did not come to your help?" Then he will answer, "I tell you solemnly, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me."

'And they will go away to eternal punishment, and the virtuous to eternal life.'



Parish Notices

November—Month of the Holy Souls

7-Day Memorial Candles are now available in the repository in the Louis Suite, and in the Office at £5. The candles will burn in front of the St Joseph Altar throughout November as a opportunity for everyone to pray for your loved ones. The candles have been spread out so as to comply with many Health and Safety rules—please resist the temptation to add any to the gaps!

Louis Suite—after 1030 Mass

Would parents please supervise children in the Louis Suite after 1030am Mass? Concerns have been raised about safety where children are running where there are hot drinks being consumed and some of our elderly parishioners may be bumped. We are happy for children to play in the gardens but please do supervise them as we are on a busy road and we don't want anybody getting hurt.

Christmas Luncheon Saturday 9th December

Siobhan and her Team will be cooking up a 5 course Christmas feast. Vegetarians and vegans can be catered for but prior notice is needed. This is an opportunity for us to come together as a Parish and is open to all age groups! Tickets are now on sale £10 for adults, £5 for children under 5. There is no profit in this—the price is purely to cover costs.

The Holy Family

On recent visits to bless Parishioners' houses Fr Benjamin has been asked whether we have a statue of the Holy Family which is welcomed into the homes of parishioners in rotation, both to honour the Holy Family and to strengthen the prayerful connection between the families of our Parish. We have been given a beautiful statue of the Holy Family which Father will bless on 17th December. We would like the first family to receive the statue into their homes on the Feast of the Holy Family. A daily prayer sheet will be included with the statue. If you would welcome the Holy Family into your home for one week, please sign up on the sheet at the back of the Church or contact the office.

Church Heating

We now have quotes for the upgrade to the Church and Hall heating systems. Our fundraising target is £25,000 for an upgrade of the two. Unfortunately, the church boiler cannot be repaired so our most urgent need is to replace this so as to have heating in the winter. This will be approximately £5000. Please support the fundraising initiatives so we can achieve this as soon as possible.

**FUNDRAISING
TARGET £25,000**

Christmas Hamper Raffle tickets £1 per strip of 5 are now on sale. Draw to take place on Gaudete Sunday.

Stella Maris—Christmas Chocolate Appeal - Each year, Stella Maris has a Christmas appeal that collects donated chocolate gifts for seafarers who are working far away from home in December. While we recognise that there are many calls on charitable support, we wish to continue to support the often lonely and forgotten men and women who work on the ships that provide us with essential goods. We are looking for chocolate tubs / boxes to give as treats to the ships in port around Christmas e.g. Quality Street, Celebrations, Roses etc. There will be a box in the Louis Suite from next week to collect your gifts. Thank you for your support.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY



Holy Mass OF = Ordinary Form, EF = Extraordinary Form

Sun 26 Nov	OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE	9.00 am (EF) 10.30 am (OF)	Clare Lightfoot (RIP) Danny McDermott (RIP)
Mon 27 Nov	Feria	7.30 pm (OF)	John Verner (RIP)
Tues 28 Nov	Feria	9.15 am (OF)	James & Mary James (RIP)
Thurs 30 Nov	ST ANDREW, Apostle	7.30 pm (EF)	Conversion—James T
Fri 1 Dec	Feria	09.15 am (OF)	Deceased Members Dalli Family (RIP)
Sat 2 Dec	Feria	9.15 am (OF) 6.30 pm (OF)	Joseph Shield & Family (RIP) People of the Parish
Sun 3 Dec	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	9.00 am (EF) 10.30 am (OF)	Alfred Tachie Menson & Family (RIP) Raymond Hall Snr & Hall Family (RIP)

Please hand Mass intentions to Fr Benjamin, to Catherine, or place in the collection basket

<p>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</p> <p>Eucharistic Adoration Thursday 8.00 pm to Saturday 6.00 pm</p> <p>Rosary, Vespers & Benediction for Vocations Sunday: 4.00 pm</p>	<p>Groups/Activities in the Louis Suite</p> <p>Sewing Group Tuesdays at 10.30am Gardening Club Tuesdays 1pm-3pm Mother's Prayers Wednesdays at 2.00 pm</p> <p>Lunch Group Fridays, fortnightly at 12.00 noon: NEXT LUNCH: 1st DECEMBER (LAST UNTIL NEW YEAR)</p> <p>Youth Group 1st Saturdays 3-6pm Catholic Men's Group 1st Saturdays at 7:30 pm</p>
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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Christmas Table Top Sale on Saturday 25th November in the Parish Hall (11am—3pm).

<i>December</i>	
4th Growing in Faith Talk—Advent	15th Carols by Candlelight
8th Immaculate Conception (Mulled Wine & Mince Pies)	16th Rorate Mass (followed by Bacon Butties)
9th Parish Christmas Luncheon	17th Bambini Blessing
11th School Carol Service	20th Caritas Holiday Club

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CDP Holy Family Southampton SORT CODE: 30 93 04 ACCOUNT NO: 00887898

October Parish Income from (5 Sundays)	First Collections:	£ 2031.83
	In basket Gift Aid:	£ 1093.00
	Standing Orders:	£ 1533.00