



PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Millbrook

Fr Benjamin writes ...

To have a faith in God we need the Holy Spirit. Over the last nine days we have been praying the Novena to The Holy Spirit to prepare for the great day of Pentecost. Central to the prayer, said after each Holy Mass, is the pleading for the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit: **Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety and Fear of the Lord.** To summarise St Hilary of Poitiers, to have a belief in God and to live that faith without the presence of the Holy Spirit is like an eye without light, an ear without words or uttered sounds and like a lungs without air.

We need to the Holy Spirit, Who is the light to our lives and the air to the living of our lives of faith. That is why it is so wonderful to be able to call upon the Holy Spirit at any time, every day. One of the oldest prayers of the Church is, "Come, Holy Spirit". For every challenge to our communion with God, there is a gift to protect us, which we can call upon each day to help us and to transform us into living images of Christ on earth:

Wisdom – The gift that helps us to know what is truly important to life and love and to reject anything that opposes life in God.

Understanding – Given to us so that we may discern the Divine truths revealed to us.

Counsel – To choose to think and act in ways that will please God and lead to a life of affirmative holiness.

Fortitude – To be willing to bear the Cross in times of persecution and doubt.

Knowledge – The gift that helps us to see God in our daily lives and so to know Him and ourselves.

Piety – The gift that helps us to want to worship God and find His service something wonderful and pleasing.

Fear of the Lord – To love God so much that we would never want to turn away from Him, but love Him more and more.

If we pray to the Holy Spirit, asking for His gifts, then as the Body of Christ we truly live and Christ continues to live in the world.

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

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak

When Pentecost day came round, they had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 103(104):1,24,29-31,34****Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth****Second reading****Galatians 5:16-25****If you are led by the Spirit, no law can touch you**

If you are guided by the Spirit you will be in no danger of yielding to self-indulgence, since self-indulgence is the opposite of the Spirit, the Spirit is totally against such a thing, and it is precisely because the two are so opposed that you do not always carry out your good intentions. If you are led by the Spirit, no law can touch you. When self-indulgence is at work the results are obvious: fornication, gross indecency and sexual irresponsibility; idolatry and sorcery; feuds and wrangling, jealousy, bad temper and quarrels; disagreements, factions, envy; drunkenness, orgies and similar things. I warn you now, as I warned you before: those who behave like this will not inherit the kingdom of God. What the Spirit brings is very different: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self-control. There can be no law against things like that, of course. You cannot belong to Christ Jesus unless you crucify all self-indulgent passions and desires.

Since the Spirit is our life, let us be directed by the Spirit.

Gospel**John 15:26-27,16:12-15****The Spirit of truth will lead you to the complete truth**

Jesus said to his disciples:

'When the Advocate comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who issues from the Father, he will be my witness. And you too will be witnesses, because you have been with me from the outset.

'I still have many things to say to you but they would be too much for you now. But when the Spirit of truth comes he will lead you to the complete truth, since he will not be speaking as from himself but will say only what he has learnt; and he will tell you of the things to come. He will glorify me, since all he tells you will be taken from what is mine. Everything the Father has is mine; that is why I said: All he tells you will be taken from what is mine.'



HOLY FAMILY, SOUTHAMPTON

Parish Notices

Baptisms

This Sunday at 10:30am Holy Mass intention is for those who have been baptised in our Parish during the last year. We are blessed that so many have become part of our Parish family and we welcome them all to join them after Mass. Please do come and say hello and get to know them. On Sunday afternoon baby Maisie will be baptised. May God bless and keep her and her family. Please pray for all of them.

Outdoor Rosary Tuesdays and Wednesdays

As well as our Sunday afternoon Rosary at 4pm we will pray the Holy Rosary outside the Church on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings at approximately 10am. Please join us.

Deeper In Faith (16-18 year old group)

Our group met for the time to look further into their Faith with the prospect of being received into the Church in due course. This group is also for those wanting to look deeper into their Faith, perhaps filling in the gaps of their knowledge and understanding. Young people are welcome to join the group which is guided by Fr Benjamin. We next meet on 3rd June from 6-7pm in the Louis Suite—there has been talk of pizza! For more details please get in touch with Angela ministry@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk

Gardening with Father—1 June 2024

Please join Fr Benjamin in helping to prepare the Parish grounds for Corpus Christi. 1st June 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.

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. There will be an afternoon tea after the procession £5 per head. We would appreciate the following volunteers: Marshalls, (preferable people who have no other responsibilities).

A first aider or two (just in case)

Those prepared to assist the elderly members of the Parish and/or push wheelchairs.

Help also needed with preparation of the hall for our Afternoon Tea Fundraiser £5 per head, ice-creams will also be sold on the day.

Please "sign up" on the sheet at the back of the Church.

Catechesis May 25th at St. Edmund's

In conjunction with the Dominican Sisters, St Edmund's Parish invites you to explore catechesis and learn to share your Faith with others. May 25th from 12:00-4:00 in St. Edmund's Hall.

Caritas—Dementia Friends Information Session

Caritas Portsmouth is hosting the Alzheimer's Society, to run a Dementia Friends Information Session for anyone interested in hosting a Dementia Café, looking to make their parish more Dementia Friendly or just want to know more to support people in their family or community. The session will be online on **Tuesday 21st May at 7pm**. Please register in advance [HERE](#). For more information please contact caritas@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or visit <https://caritasportsmouth.org.uk>

Caritas Job Vacancy

Caritas is looking for a self-motivated, compassionate individual to join their team as a Project Development Officer. Based in the Southampton and Havant region of the Diocese, this role is central to the development of predominantly parish-based social and environmental projects that support those in need in our communities. We highly value our relationship with Caritas and the work they do within our Parish, please consider whether this could be a role for you. For more information email recruitment@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or visit <https://tinyurl.com/mrd5wazx>

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

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| Sun 19 May | SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER | 9.00 am (EF) 10.30 am (OF) | John Comerford (Int) For all those baptised in the last year |
| Mon 20 May | NO MASS TODAY | | |
| Tues 21 May | NO MASS TODAY | | |
| Thurs 23 May | | 7.30 pm (EF) | Carmel Ingram (RIP) |
| Fri 24 May | NO MASS TODAY | | |
| Sat 25 May | NO MORNING MASS TODAY (Vigil) | 6.30 pm (OF) | People of the Parish |
| Sun 26 May | THE MOST HOLY TRINITY | 9.00 am (EF) 10.30 am (OF) | Francis Friend-Pereira (RIP) Percy Cartwright |

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

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

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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| <p>May 21st Outdoor Rosary 10am 22nd Outdoor Rosary 10am</p> <p>June 1st Gardening with Father 2nd CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION 2nd Afternoon Tea (Fundraiser and Social) 20th Deeper in Faith 6pm 7th SACRED HEART (procession before evening Mass)</p> | <p>June 8th Gardening with Father 15th Gardening with Father 29th STS PETER AND PAUL 29th Bring a Plate of Food to Share Social 30th First Holy Communion</p> <p>July 7th First Holy Communion 14th First Holy Communion</p> |
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THE CHURCH WILL REMAIN OPEN FROM 9AM UNTIL 7PM EACH DAY

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| <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 Sewing Group - Tuesdays at 10.00am Gardening Club - Tuesdays 10am until 12 noon Mother's Prayers Wednesdays at 2.00 pm Lunch Group Fridays, fortnightly at 12.00 noon: NEXT LUNCH: 31 May Youth Group 1st Saturdays 3.00-6.00 pm Catholic Men's Group 1st Saturdays at 7:30 pm</p> |
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|---------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Parish Priest | Fr Benjamin Theobald | btheobald@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk |
| Parish Deacon | Dcn Tom Jose | tjose@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk |
| Parish Administrator | Catherine Merrifield | office@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk |
| Safeguarding | Catherine Merrifield | safeguarding@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk |
| Lead Catechist | Angela Wood | ministry@holyfamilysouthampton.org.uk |
| Youth & Confirmation | 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