



PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY,

Millbrook

Fr Benjamin writes...

I have noticed over the years how fewer people have doorbells at their front doors. As a priest making home visits, I have had many an adventure in trying to gain admittance – knocking, tapping on windows, yelling ‘Hello?’, and phoning. Usually, the doors open and I am invited in. It used to be a lot easier. People are very careful about who they let into their homes, and quite rightly.

When the two disciples who are on their way to Emmaus reach their home, having spent part of their journey talking animatedly with an intriguing stranger, they invite Him in. He had made as if to continue His journey, but they insisted on inviting Him to stay as evening was approaching and it was dangerous to walk between villages at night. As well as having concern for His safety it is likely that Cleopas and the other disciple (who is not named) wanted Him to stay to hear more of what He had to say as when He had been speaking to them their hearts had burned with gladness at hearing the workings of God through the scriptures.

Imagine if they had let Him walk on. We know He would never force Himself into their home. After all, He says elsewhere, “I stand at the door and knock” (Rev. 3:20), not, ‘I stand at the door and I will force my way in’. If they had let Him walk on, they would not have eaten with Him, and He would not have made Himself “known to them in the breaking of the bread” (Lk 24:35). They let our Blessed Lord into their home, not knowing Who He was, but sensing He was someone very special.

Imagine if we do not let Him into our hearts and homes. Imagine, having travelled with Him through Holy Mass and catechesis, we leave Him at our door, and close the rest of our life from Him. We can learn so much from that single, simple action of Cleopas and the other disciple. They let Him in and He revealed Himself more fully to them. They let Him in and He continued to feed them with His Word and with His bread.

If you hear Him knocking at your door, or if you have been walking along with Him, let Him fully into the home of your heart and come to dwell with Him as the risen Lord. Pray to Him, listen to Him and eat with Him.

God bless you this Sunday and always

April is the Month of Holy Eucharist

We 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.

Adoration (Thursday evening until Saturday evening);

Rosary, Vespers and Benediction Sunday 4.30pm

St Joseph Devotions Tuesday after 9.15am Mass

Rosary for Vocations to the Sacred Priesthood Wednesday


First Reading	Acts 2:14, 22-33
'It was not possible for him to be held by death.'	
<p>On the day of Pentecost Peter, standing with the Eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed the crowd: 'Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst — as you yourselves know — this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it.</p> <p>'For David says concerning him, "I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence."</p> <p>'Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this which you yourselves are seeing and hearing.'</p>	
Responsorial Psalm	Ps 16(15):1-2a, 5. 7-8. 9-10. 11. 21
O Lord, you will show me the path of life.	
Second Reading	1 Peter 1:17-21
'You were ransomed with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish.'	
<p>Beloved: If you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.</p>	
Gospel	Luke 24:13-35
He was known to them in the breaking of the bread.	
<p>On the first day of the week, two of the disciples of Jesus were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognising him. And he said to them, 'What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?' And they stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?' And he said to them, 'What things?' And they said to him, 'Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see.' And he said to them, 'O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?' And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.</p> <p>So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going further, but they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, for it is towards evening and the day is now far spent.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at table with them, he took the bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognised him. And he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?' And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the Eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.</p>	

SECOND COLLECTIONS IN APRIL 26TH—CLERGY TRAINING

We can take digital donations via the Dona collection plate at the back of the Church
or via the Parish Bank Account

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





HOLY FAMILY, SOUTHAMPTON

Parish Notices

ROSARY MAKING WORKSHOP— Sunday 26th April 2pm (approx. 3hours)

The Southampton students will be holding a rosary-making workshop at the Faith & Reflection Centre to help fund student activities. You may remember these rosaries from their fundraiser last November. All materials and tools will be provided, and participants will be able to keep the rosary they make. The rosaries are of premium quality and participants will also be able to choose their preferred colour. The suggested donation is £35, but any additional contribution would be greatly appreciated and will help support student activities. Spaces are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

More information from Adrian af5g23@soton.ac.uk Booking on <https://forms.gle/MHbWvQhDJGgLmjqi6>

DOES GOD EXIST? Lecture 30 April 7pm Highfield Campus, University of Southampton

The Thomistic Institute at the University is holding their inaugural public lecture, “Does God Exist?”, given by Prof. Gaven Kerr of St Patrick’s Pontifical University, The event is free and open to the public.

Event page: <https://thomisticinstitute.org/events/does-god-exist-kerr-soton>

As this is their first event, a strong turnout would make a real difference for them to get the chapter off the ground— please support them if you can. It may appeal to anyone with an interest in the faith and reason tradition of the Church.

Eucharistic miracles exhibition at Holy Family 30 May—13th June and Corpus Christi Procession 7th June

We will need plenty of volunteers to ensure that both of these events are spiritually fruitful both for the Parish and wider community. Please contact the office if you are willing to help in any way. Thank you.

SANCTUARY LAMP

If you would like to sponsor the Sanctuary Lamp for one week please give your intention with your donation (suggested £10) to Fr Benjamin or to the office. Many thanks

LIFT TO MASS

Please, if you would be able to bring a lovely lady to 10.30 Mass on Sundays, would you contact the office. Thank you!

FIRST CONFESSION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION 2026-27 APPLICATION FOR PREPARATION COURSE

If your child/ren will be in Year 4 in September 2026 you are invited to apply to start preparation to receive these Sacraments at Corpus Christi 2027.

[The Holy Family First Holy Communion & First Reconciliation Registration 2026-2027 – Fill in form](#)

CATECHISTS—APPEAL

Please give prayerful consideration to becoming a catechist or offering assistance to the catechists so that we can continue to prepare our children here at Holy Family to receive the Sacraments. We shall also be looking for more catechists for Confirmation preparation. Thank you.

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

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY



Holy Mass OF = Ordinary Form, EF = Extraordinary Form

SANCTUARY LAMP INTENTION: — Janek, Milly, Ola & Mila				
18 Apr	Sat	of the second week of Easter	9.15am (OF)	William Gove (health)
		In anticipation of	6.30pm (OF)	James & Mary James (RIP)
19 Apr	Sun	SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EASTER	9.00 am (EF)	George Harrold
	Sun	THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER	10.30 am (OF)	People of the Parish
20 Apr	Mon	of the third week of Easter	7.30 pm (OF)	Nina Reczko (RIP)
21 Apr	Tues	St Anselm	9.15 am (OF)	Ese Okitikpi (birthday)
23 Apr	Thur	St George, Patron of England	7.30 pm (EF)	George Ukah (birthday)
24 Apr	Fri	of the third week of Easter	9.15am (OF)	Peter The Van Le, Peter Vinh Van Le
25 Apr	Sat	St Mark, Evangelist	9.15am (OF)	Maria Vong Thi Siu, Peter Vong Van Le
		in anticipation of	6.30pm (OF)	Peter & Jackie Good (Diamond Wedding)
26 Apr	Sun	THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EASTER	09.00 am (EF)	Jerry Kirk (RIP)
		FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	10.30 am (OF)	People of the Parish

Please hand Mass intentions to Fr Benjamin, Dcn Tom, or Catherine, or place in the collection basket. If you would like a Mass to be offered on a particular date please give several week's notice and we will try to accommodate you. Thank you

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: **4.30 pm**

St Joseph Devotions—Tuesdays after Mass
Rosary for Vocations—Weds after Mass

Groups/Activities in the Louis Suite

RCIA - Mondays at 7.00pm
Parish Prayers **Last Tuesdays 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 :
Catholic Men's Group 1st Saturdays at 7:30 pm

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

APRIL	Campus, Uni Southampton 7pm—see poster
23rd St George—cake etc after evening Mass	MAY
26th Rosary-Making Workshop—Southampton	30 May-13 Jun Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition
Uni Chaplaincy 2pm	JUNE
30th Does God Exist? Free lecture at Highfield	7th Corpus Christi Procession

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Grateful thanks for your generosity in March

Loose plate: £1674.97. Gift Aid £835.00 Standing orders: £1735.32

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SCAN TO DONATE