



PARISH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Fr Benjamin writes ...

The world is an interesting and complex place. Like the vast oceans that it contains, it can swallow us up with all its challenges and intrigue. When we are in rough seas, do we battle the waves and risk being sunk, or do we try to ride them and get through for when times are calmer? That is something of the issue at the heart of today's Gospel.

Many people are often scandalised by the images Our Blessed Lord evokes: of Israel being an unscrupulous steward, and worse, of God being One Who admires and praises trickery. We should not be too scandalised. First of all, these images grab our attention. When the good God is compared to a conniving master our ears are certainly pricked. Then, of course, there is the fact that in other parables Our Blessed Lord frequently compares God and His Kingdom to harsh task masters, hard-hearted judges, and sons who leave their fathers with their inheritance. It's all money and politics. Furthermore, why should He not use such themes? These images depict so many things we can understand and know to be only too real. If we understand them, then rather than fight them, we can learn from them.

The unscrupulous steward is expertly shrewd in all his dealings. Despite being dismissed by his master, he makes sure he wins allies and does it all through dodgy finance, as adeptly as any modern-day trader using the stock market to their advantage. Christians too should be equally adept and expert, not in finance but in the transactions of God. If all the baptised, everywhere and through all ages, put as much energy in following Christ and building His Kingdom on earth as the world puts into trade, making money and often swindling one another, then it would be hugely advanced. Yes, use the zeal of the money-makers to save souls and the dealings of the politicians to mark your presence in the world says the Lord. Learn from the world, not to become like the world, but so that the world can become Godlier. In this way, we do not so much fight the world, but ride it, and ride it to a place of greater safety: Our Lord Jesus Christ and His heavenly kingdom.

God bless you this weekend and always

Adoration from 8pm Thursday until 6pm Saturday every week.

Our Parish benefits from many graces flowing from time spent 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.

September is the Month of the Seven Sorrows of Mary

Please 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 most urgently that the House of Lords rejects the Anti-Life legislation which is before them. Please pray each day for our priests and seminarians and for vocations.

Adoration (Thursday evening until Saturday evening);

Rosary, Vespers and Benediction (Sunday 4pm)

St Joseph Devotions Tuesday after 9.15am Mass

The Church is open for private prayer from 9am-6pm each day

First reading**Amos 8:4-7****Against those who 'buy the poor for silver.'**

Hear this, you who trample on the needy and bring the poor of the land to an end, saying, 'When will the new moon be over, that we may sell grain? And the Sabbath, that we may offer wheat for sale, that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great and deal deceitfully with false balances, that we may buy the poor for silver, and the needy for a pair of sandals, and sell the chaff of the wheat?' The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: 'Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.'

Responsorial Psalm**Ps 113(112):1-2. 4-6. 7-8. R cf. 1a, 7b****Praise the Lord, who raises the poor.****Second reading****1 Timothy 2:1-8****'Prayers should be made for all people to God, who desires all people to be saved.'**

Beloved: First of all, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Saviour, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

For this I was appointed a preacher and an Apostle — I am telling the truth, I am not lying — a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth. I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarrelling.

Gospel**Luke 16:1-13****'You cannot serve God and money.'**

At that time: Jesus said to the disciples, 'There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. And he called him and said to him, "What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager." And the manager said to himself, "What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses." So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, "How much do you owe my master?" He said, "A hundred measures of oil." He said to him, "Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty." Then he said to another, "And how much do you owe?" He said, "A hundred measures of wheat." He said to him, "Take your bill and write eighty." The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light.' And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

'One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful with the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.'

SECOND COLLECTIONS—SEPTEMBER**21st Home Missions (HM)****28th 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)

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



HOLY FAMILY, SOUTHAMPTON

Parish Notices

Baptism

Please pray for Lachlan and Selene who will be baptised this Sunday.
May our Blessed Lord continue to guide and protect them and their families.

RCIA

If you or any adult you know is interested in becoming a Catholic and/or learning more about the Faith Holy Family's preparation recommenced on **Monday 15th September** at **7pm** (in the Louis Suite which is the room adjacent to the Church at the top of the Church steps, straight ahead).

If you are already baptised but have not yet received further Sacraments this is also the group for you!

Please contact Angela ministry@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk or the office office@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk if you would like to join this group.

CAR PARKING

If you are a visitor please remember to register your car on the tablet at the back of the Church. We have recently had a spate of people being fined.

If you frequently attend Mass and other devotions at Holy Family please email your car registration details, along with a note of the liturgies you attend, to the Parish office office@holyfamilycatholicchurch.co.uk and you will be added to the registered users list.

Fines are dealt with **only** by **Parking Eye** whose details are on any fine notice. The Parish office only deals with registrations. Parking fines enquiries are taking a disproportionate amount of time which we do not have the capacity to deal with.

FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION REGISTRATIONS

Applications have now closed for this year. Unfortunately, we are not able to accept late applications. We will be in touch with all applicants during the week commencing 22nd September.

Mass attendance cards will be available for those who will wish to apply for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion preparation classes commencing in September 2026 for 2027.

Regular Mass attendance is a requirement for participation in the classes and completion of the card

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

THIS WEEK AT HOLY FAMILY



Holy Mass OF = Ordinary Form, EF = Extraordinary Form

21 Sept (Sun)	TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.00 am (EF)* 10.30am (OF)	Szymon Kotyla (RIP) Nyika Family (Thanksgiving for all blessings)
22 Sept (Mon)	feria	7.30 pm (OF)	Nina Reczko (RIP)
23 Sept (Tues)	St Pio of Pietrelcina	9.15 am (OF)	Rosie Dowling (RIP)
25 Sept (Thur)	feria	7.30 pm (EF)	Dr Andrew Czaykowski (RIP)
26 Sept (Fri)	Sts Cosmas & Damian	09.15am(OF)	Marie & Christine Crton (RIP)(Anniv)
27 Sept (Sat)	Our Lady on Saturday In anticipation of	9.15 am (OF) 6.30 pm (OF)	Peter Le Van Hoi & Maria Le Thi Buong (RIP) People of the Parish
28 Sept (Sun)	TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	9.00am (EF) 10.30 am (OF)	Aurora & parents (conversion) Thanksgiving for the Holy Family Catholic Church

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: 4.00 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 : **26th September**

Youth Group 1st Saturdays 3.00-6.00 pm

Catholic Men's Group 1st Saturdays at 7:30 pm

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SEPTEMBER

19th Pilgrims' Progress

20th Sr Cooley Profession

27th Readers' Training (4pm)

27th 11am High Mass Feast of Our Lady of

Walsingham, St Agatha's, Portsmouth

Newly ordained Fr Ryan Browne will preach.

OCTOBER

5th—6th Fatima Relics—Portsmouth Cathedral

7th Feast of the Holy Rosary

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