

Mass Times 21st - 28th March

Sat 21st 10am Roy Kemp RIP (This is a memorial requiem Mass)

Sat 21st 6pm Tony Kershaw's ints

Sun 22nd 9am Colin Gray RIP

Sun 22nd 11am *Pro Pop*

Mon 23rd 10am (followed by Stations of the Cross)

Tues 24th 10am

Weds 25th 10am *Roy Kemp RIP*

Weds 25th 12 Noon No Mass

Weds 25th No Stations

Thurs 26th 10am *No Mass*

Fri 27th 10am *Raphael (Ray) Kenward RIP*

Sat 28th 10am

Sat 28th 6pm *Pro Pop*



QR Code to
Register



St John Vianney Wantage Sacred Heart Lambourn



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Find us at www.wantagecatholicparish.org

Year A 5th Sunday in Lent 22nd March 2026



Life Changing

The most unsettling parts of the Bible are the bits where Jesus doesn't do exactly what we expect. Today Jesus' good friends Mary and Martha send him a message to come quickly because their brother Lazarus is dying. We would expect Jesus to drop everything and go quickly to their house. Instead, he hangs around for a couple of days and does nothing. What can he be

thinking of? In truth, the delay is an essential part of the story. If Jesus had simply raised Lazarus from feeling unwell the story would have lacked poignancy, and no one would have had their faith significantly deepened that day. That Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead has a dramatic and profound impact on all not least Lazarus himself.

We might have expected Lazarus to have more to say on the matter. We might wish that he had shared a couple of life after death experiences with us, but it seems that Lazarus and his experiences are not really the point of the story. The main point of the story is Jesus' ability to transform the meaning of life and death for those who trust in him. Jesus says, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die." In bringing Lazarus back to life, Jesus shows the crowds that death need hold no fear for those who place their trust in him. It is truly life changing to know that we are invited to place this much faith in God. It is life changing to know that God can handle any situation in which we find ourselves, and that he knows how to lead us through it. All we have to do is focus our faith on God rather than our own imagined solutions. Expect surprises. Expect delays. Expect a God who can guide us through life with all its challenges.

Confessions: Saturdays 10:30—11am or by appointment.



In your prayers, please remember all who have died recently especially Ellen Bailey, and those whose anniversaries occur around this . Also pray for all who are sick, in hospital or housebound especially Canon Peter, Terry O'Hara, Rebecca O'Hara ,June Toley, Richard and Pat Taylor, Monique Regan, Cathy Longworth, Nancy Walsh, Mary and Desmond McNichol,

Parish Office - Please note that the parish office is now temporarily closed. All correspondence/phone calls and emails should be directed to Fr. David's numbers. Available on the front of the newsletter. Please be patient with us.

Collections Thank You

If you would like to continue supporting the Church your weekly/ monthly offering can be made online using this name and account number :

CDP Wantage St John Vianney

Sort Code: 30-93-04 Account Number: 01720016

Please remember that you can always drop your donation into the Presbytery letterbox. Same Account for Wantage and Lambourn.

Easter Ceremonies Timetable.

Penitential Service Thursday 26th March English Martyrs Didcot 7pm

Holy Thursday 7pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday 10am The Passion and Veneration of the Cross (Lambourn)

Friday 3pm The Passion and Veneration of The Cross (Wantage)

Saturday 7.00pm Easter Vigil Mass

Sunday 9am Easter Sunday Mass

Sunday 11am Easter Sunday Mass (Lambourn)

Care for Our Common Home More Carbon Fast

This week's challenge is to cut down on screen time. Spend the next week reading, reflecting, writing and gardening rather than watching the TV or Youtube. Apart from saving energy, having a board games evening with the family or just spending time in quiet contemplation has got to be good for our wellbeing.

Fair Trade - The shops are filled with chocolate Easter eggs and most of us will be buying chocolate treats for the children in the family. Remember where possible to buy Fair Trade. Fair Trade aims to protect the exploitation of third world farmers and the trafficking of children for the purposes of exploitive labour.

Bishop Philip's 6 Holy Habits

1. To keep Sunday special, a family day, by attending Mass
2. To spend 5 minutes a day in prayer using the Scriptures
3. To do penance on Fridays, and to serve the poor and needy
4. Every fortnight to come and visit the Blessed Sacrament
5. To go to Confession once a month
6. To join a small group for formation, prayer and fellowship.

Exciting Job Opportunity

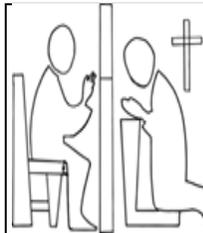
We are now recruiting for a Parish Administrator

Salary: £8,642.40 (FTE £27,007.50)

Contract: Permanent, Part-time working 12 hours per week

Location: Parish Office. More info from Fr David or Diocesan

Website



morning Mass

The Sacrament of Confession

How long since you've been? - The precepts of the Church say at least once a year for all Catholics. Lent is the ideal time to participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation - a wonderful gift and opportunity for spiritual renewal. There will be a Penitential Service at English Martyrs Didcot on Thursday at 7pm Confessions as usual on Saturday after



Holy Thursday - Washing of the Feet is a significant part of the liturgy of The Mass of The Lord's Supper, where "God gets down on His knees for us and asks us to do the same for one another".

Fr. David needs 12 volunteers so please sign up on the sheet in the porch.

Little People and Lenten Alms

We've heard it on the news. There are families having to choose between energy and food. Lots of families are struggling with the costs of both. It goes without saying that foodbanks are under pressure to keep up with demand, and this will be harder still over the school holidays. We are all struggling with increasing food costs, but where you can, aim to add items to the supermarket foodbanks or to our Little People box at the back of Church

Join us for refreshments in the hall after 9am Mass on Sundays.



Important Contacts.

Hospital / Home visits. Sick Communion,

If you are sick or going into hospital and would like a visit or Holy Communion, call the office on **01235 762374**

Parish Safeguarding ministry: Barbara Jarrett 07427181090
Ann Strickland is the contact for Lambourn anne.strickland@mail.com
Baptisms and other Sacraments—Firstly, speak to Fr. David after Mass on any Sunday email wantage@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Other Priests in the area :

Fr. Matthew Topham. East Hendred. Tel: 01235 835038

Fr. Dominic Adeiza. Didcot. Tel: 01235 812338

St. Amand's School [01235 833342](tel:01235833342) . website: www.st-amands.oxon.sch.uk or email office.3855@st-amands.oxon.sch.uk