

Mass Times 30th March - 6th April 2024

Sat 30th 8pm *Colette McCormick R.I.P.*

Sun 31st 9am *Pro Populo*

Sun 31st 11am *Monic Eyre R.I.P. (Lambourn)*

Mon 1st April 10am

Tues 2nd No Mass

Weds 3rd No Masses at St. John Vianney or Lambourn

Thurs 4th 10am Requiem Mass - Michael Eyre R.I.P.

Fri 5th 10am *Private Intention*

Sat 6th 10am *Phillip & Nid Timmins' Ints.*

Sat 6th 6pm *Tudor Morgan B.E.M. R.I.P.*

All Masses at St. John Vianney are on Zoom. Masses at Sacred Heart Lambourn are not available on Zoom.

Confessions St. John Vianney Saturdays 10:30 - 11am or by appointment.



In your prayers, please remember all who have died recently especially **Nora O'Malley, Doug Frewer, Michael Eyre, Mary Robinson, Pete Gray, Charlie Webb** and those whose anniversaries occur around this time - **Richard Wells, Cathy Child, Julie Garvey, Reginald Butterfield, Hilda (Cis) Corkery, Stella Gardiner, Alfred Down, Winifred Barrett, Arthur Williams, Rosemary Comyn, Margaret Gooley, Frank Cooke, Hilda Warren, Dennis Gooley.** Also pray for all who are sick, in hospital or housebound especially **Jessica Buist, Ann Cole, Isabel Smith, Dot Armstrong, Maureen Hendricks, Margaret Joyce, Peter Shaw, Sue Maher, Gloria Allen, Pam Morgan** and all those suffering at this time. Please contact the office if you would like someone to be added to our sick list .

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.

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth registered charity number 1199568



St John Vianney Wantage Sacred Heart Lambourn



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Year B Easter Sunday 31st March 2024



Approaching the Empty Tomb

Traditionally at this time of year thousands of new Christians are baptised all over the world. A young man baptised recently was asked, "Do you feel different now that you are baptised and a Christian?" "Yes," he replied, "I went from believing nothing to believing everything sort of vaguely. I hope God will make things clearer to me as I continue on this journey."

Easter is a good time to reaffirm our faith. The Resurrection is the culmination of Christ's journey on this earth, and the beginning of our journey in faith. Our journey begins with belief in the Resurrection, but approaching the 'Empty Tomb' isn't easy. Who moved the stone we wonder.

Why were the linen wrappings removed, and why was the cloth that wrapped Jesus' head rolled neatly and placed separately? In our modern day times of detective stories and forensic science there is an inclination to turn the empty tomb into a crime scene, but the problem with looking at the empty tomb from an investigative point of view is that we're in danger of missing a greater truth, and the amazing implications of a Resurrection that was after all predicted.

If we were to fully embrace the reality of the Easter story we would pour out of church bouncing with a newfound enthusiasm for life. So how do we embrace the reality of a story for which there is no proof? Jesus promised all along that death couldn't contain us, and the empty tomb points to this not necessarily as proof, but as something that was promised. Why therefore, in the context of everything else that Jesus did and said, should this surprise us?

The empty tomb gives our life purpose. Belief in the resurrection means we can live life boldly and well, looking forward to eternal life. The empty tomb gives us a means to deal with pain and suffering, it means that death is not a meaningless end of life, but the door to the fullness of life with the risen Christ.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for April - For the Role of Women

We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.

Urbi et Orbi - Sunday 31st March 2024 BBC 1 11.00am

Live from St Peter's Square in Rome, on the eleventh Easter of his pontificate, Pope Francis gives his Easter message and blessing, Urbi et Orbi, to the city and to the world. Petroc Trelawny sets the scene.

Michael Eyre R.I.P. Michael's body will be brought into the Church at 5pm on Wednesday in preparation for the Requiem Mass on Thursday 4th April at 10am.

Season of Easter - Easter isn't just one day; it's a 'season'. The fifty days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost are celebrated in joyful exultation as one feast day, or better as one "great Sunday". The gospel readings for the first three Sundays recount the appearances of the risen Christ. The readings about the Good Shepherd are assigned to the Fourth Sunday. On the Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Sundays, there are excerpts from the Lord's discourse and prayer at the last supper.



Two Slightly Leaner Rowers and The Lent Million Metre Challenge - Matt Dickson and Fr David have completed their Lent Challenge. Thank you to all were so generous in sponsoring us. Amount raised will be confirmed next week.

Movie Music Clips/Dancing Nights fundraiser at Walwyn Hall Lambourn.

Saturday 6th April 6.30 until 10pm. Tickets are £10 or £15 with food. There is a licenced bar. For tickets please contact Jane on 07766403045 or Marion. There will be a raffle so if you are able to donate a raffle prize please see Marion.

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SVP) - If you know of anyone who needs support, if you have friends or relatives who would like a visit, you can make contact through the parish office . Donations to SVP can be made to this account: Sort Code 60-60-04 ac no. 48001074 Thank you for your support.



Office Hours -Tuesday 11-1:30 Thursday & Friday 11am to 2:30pm. The Office will be closed on Good Friday. Please email any items for the newsletter to the office by 1:30 pm on Thursday.

Special Collection on Good Friday - For the Holy Places of Palestine - donate in the basket, contactless or online at— <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/good-friday-collection-for-christians-in-the-holy-land>

Holy Saturday

This is the night when Jesus passes from death to life. This is the night when we celebrate light, salvation, and renewal of baptismal promises. On this night we are challenged to bring light to a world still darkened by disbelief.



Holy Saturday, or the 'Easter Vigil', is the close of the season of Lent and penance and the beginning of Paschal Time, which is one of rejoicing. Our new Pascal Candle is blessed and for the rest of the year it will light up Baptisms and Funerals. We are given a light at our Baptism and asked to keep it burning. The same Candle is burning at the head of our coffin at the funeral. It reminds us that even in death the light of Christ burns for us to light the way home.

Rising with Christ - not a far-off event that, in all of life's practical demands, we ignore until Death comes calling. It is a reality that requires a total renovation of our current life and demands action in the present. In the words of St. John Henry Newman " If you are at present really deficient in praying, and other divine exercises, make a new beginning henceforth. Give freely of your time to your Lord and Saviour.... Set aside every day, times for seeking Him."

Congratulations to those who will be received into the Church at the Easter Vigil. Our thoughts and prayers are with them at this very special time.

The Easter collection is a contribution to the upkeep of the Parish Priest. Fr. David's annual stipend relies significantly on Christmas and Easter collections. Please give as generously as you can and if you can Gift Aid, all the better. Many Thanks

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 Rep Barbara Jarrett is our contact for all adult and child safeguarding issues. Please contact Barbara through the parish office.

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 Zbigniew Budyn at Wash Common Tel: 01635 40332