

## Mass Times 28th January - 4th February

Sat 28th 10am *Judith Kershaw R.I.P.*

Sat 28th 6pm *Josephine Vennell R.I.P.*

Sun 29th 9am *Gary Green R.I.P.*

Sun 29th 11am (at Lambourn)

Mon 30th No Mass

Tues 31st No 10am Mass

Tuesday 31st 12 Noon *Requiem Mass for Judith Kershaw*

Weds 1st 10am *Josephine Hunders R.I.P. (F)*

Weds 1st 12 Noon (at Lambourn)

Thurs 2nd 10am *Liz Jarman's Ints.*

Fri 3rd 9am *Norman Green R.I.P.*

Sat 4th 10am

Sat 4th 6pm *Ros Eltham R.I.P.*

**Cold and flu** - If you feel unwell or are displaying symptoms please test for covid before coming to Mass so that we can protect the vulnerable. Thank you.

### CONFESSIONS:

**SATURDAYS**

**10:30 to 11am**

**or by appointment**

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



**In your prayers, please remember all who have died recently especially Ros Eltham, Judith Kershaw, Fr. Robin Sanders, and those whose anniversaries occur around this time - Peter Boxall, Denis Buckley, Mary Derbyshire, Beth Monaghan, Michael O'Connor, Jeanne Taylor, Edward Purcell, Colin Kirkham, Marie Pert, Vera Picken, Philip Kent, John McCaffrey, Audrey McCaffrey. Also pray for all who are sick, in hospital or housebound especially Florence McManus, Kathy Child, Dot Armstrong, Pete Gray, Margaret Joyce, Peter Shaw, Wendy Purslow, Sue Maher, Tom Carney, 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.**



## St John Vianney Wantage Sacred Heart Lambourn



Parish Priest: Fr. David O'Sullivan

Telephone: 01235 762374

Mobile: 07554427063

### Year A 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time 29th January 2023



### Think Again!

Today we listen to Jesus' most famous sermon; a list of promises to the poor, the meek and the merciful that we now call 'The Beatitudes'. "Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven," promises Jesus, "Blessed are the meek, blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness." Is Jesus telling us we can only be blessed if we make ourselves poor? Is he telling us to sit back meekly and let others walk all over us? Is Jesus encouraging us to go out and actively invite persecution and insult? It's difficult to embrace Jesus' values because we have been brought up to value everything that Jesus does not. From an early age we have been taught to work hard at school so that we will get a good job and earn lots of money. We are scolded for not speaking up for ourselves and applauded for pushing ourselves forward. Our culture is all about winning, prestige and material success.

The challenge we find in the Beatitudes is to work contrary to our human instincts in order to find true happiness and fulfilment. Our instincts are to amass wealth, earn fame, and bask in our perceived self-importance. It is often our cowardly instinct to turn a blind eye to injustice or to fail to stand up for what we believe because we are afraid of ridicule. It is the instinct of governments to engage in conflict in the pursuit of material gain and power. In his sermon, Jesus was not suggesting we live in dire poverty or become human doormats for the sake of it. Rather Jesus is asking us to look again at our values. We are asked to look at the things that we think will bring happiness. Jesus challenges us to think again.

### Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for February - For parishes

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

**Refreshments after 9am Sunday Mass -**  
Please join us in the hall, all are welcome.

**Scripture Study** - Tuesday evenings 7pm on Zoom.

**The Art of Accompaniment** - Ananias Training helps develop an understanding of the spiritual journey and how generous listening, with greater awareness of another person's unique journey, can open people to growth.

A new series (Zoom) on Ananias Training will begin on Monday 13th March 7-9pm. For more information or to reserve a place contact [lnahajski@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lnahajski@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

**Upcoming Meetings:** Parish Council Wednesday 15th February

Finance Committee Thursday 23rd February.

If you have any concerns that you would like raised at either of the meetings, contact the parish office by 14th February.

**Thank you** for your kind donations towards the high cost of heating the Church. Your help with this is very much appreciated.

**Online Courses** - The Dominican Sisters at Sway have some great online courses coming up. For more information, visit <https://www.lightoftruth.uk/join>

### Holy Hour of Prayer and Eucharistic Adoration at St. John Vianney

Wednesday Evenings 7– 8pm



**Home Visits** - If you are housebound, or you know any parishioners who are unable to get to Mass and would like Fr. David to visit, please call Fr. and leave a message on the office phone 01235 762374 or email [wantage@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:wantage@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**St. John Vianney Food Bank** - Donations of non-perishable items can be left in the box marked "Food Bank" in the Church porch.

**Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SVP)** - If you know of anyone in need or anyone who would like a visit from members of the society, please email the parish office or phone 07842271596 Donations to SVP can be made to this account: Sort Code 60-60-04 ac no. 48001074

### Presentation of the Lord *Feast Day* —2nd February



This feast marks the occasion, 40 days after the birth of Jesus, when he was presented in the Temple in accordance with Jewish law. Simeon, greeted the Holy Family in the Temple and his prayer of thanksgiving is proclaimed daily by the Church in evening prayer. This day is also known as **Candlemass**. At the beginning of the eighth century, Pope Sergius inaugurated a candlelight procession; at the end of the same century the blessing and distribution of candles which continues to this day became part of the celebration.

Simeon had waited all his life to see Jesus. The Holy Spirit had promised him that he would live long enough. Seeing Jesus, satisfied Simeon's life. We are prompted to ask what would satisfy us in our lives. Are the goals we set worth a lifetime of wanting, as Simeon's was?

### World Day for Consecrated Life - February 2<sup>nd</sup>

We pray for vocations and for all men and women in Consecrated life.

### The Blessing of St Blaise— 3rd February

For many decades Catholics sought this annual 'St. Blaise blessing' for their throats. "Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from ailments of the throat and from every other evil. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."



**Prayer Group** - our next meeting will be on Monday 6th February at 2:30pm in St. John Vianney Church Hall. All are welcome.

**Office Hours** -Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 11am to 1:30pm. please email any items for the newsletter to the office by 1:30 pm on Thursday.

### 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](mailto:wantage@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Other Priests in the area :

Mgr Andrew Burnham East Hendred Tel: 01235 835038

Fr Zbigniew at Wash Common Tel: 01635 40332