

## Mass Times 29th March - 5th April 2025

Sat 29th 10am *Phil and Nid Timmins' Ints.*

Sat 29th 6pm *Paddy Kealy R.I.P.*

Sun 30th 9am *Richard and Pat Taylor's Ints.*

Sun 30th 11am *Pro Populo (Lambourn)*

Mon 31st 10am

Tues 1st April 10am

Weds 2nd 10am

Weds 2nd 12 Noon *(Lambourn)*

Weds 2nd 7pm Station of the Cross and Benediction

Thurs 3rd 10am *Dick Richards' Ints.*

Thurs 3rd 12:30pm Requiem Mass, *Theresa Appleyard R.I.P.*

Fri 4th 10am *Julie and Richard's Ints.*

Sat 5th 10am *Lilian and Elmer Talbot R.I.P.*

Sat 5th 6pm *Tudor Morgan BEM R.I.P.*

Stations of the Cross  
St. John Vianney  
Tuesdays  
10:30am  
and  
Wednesdays  
7pm,  
followed by  
Benediction

Confessions:  
Saturdays  
10:30—11am  
St. John Vianney.  
Or  
by appointment



In your prayers, please remember all who have died recently especially Michael Vaughan, Theresa Appleyard, Florence Heath, Eugene Lambe, Isabel Smith, and those whose anniversaries occur around this time - Patricia Halifax, Douglas Frewer, Teresa Hicklin, Nora O'Malley, Michael Eyre, Mary Robinson, Patricia Senior, James Lynch, Becky Holt, Edward Moss, Bridget Madden, Richard Wells, Sybill Murphy, Patrick Bergin, Romero Urcelay, Kathleen Roberts, Isolina Durrant, Patricia Baigrie, Judy House, Diana Wasborough, Patricia Wellington, Tania Tompkins, Alphonsus Hill, Mary Johnson, James McCarthy, Stella Gardiner, Maria Coates. Also pray for all who are sick, in hospital or housebound especially Richard and Pat Taylor, Kevin Maher, Monique Regan, Cathy Longworth, Nancy Walsh,, Mary and Desmond McNichol, Richard Heron, Jessica Buist, Ann Cole, Dot Armstrong, Maureen Hendricks, Margaret Joyce, 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.**



## St John Vianney Wantage Sacred Heart Lambourn

Parish Priest: Fr. David O'Sullivan

Telephone: 01235 762374

Mobile: 07554427063

Office e-mail: [wantage@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:wantage@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Fr David's e-mail: [dosullivan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:dosullivan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Find us at [www.wantagecatholicparish.org](http://www.wantagecatholicparish.org)



## Year C 4th Sunday in Lent 30th March 2025



### True Love Never Gives Up.

It doesn't matter how far we've travelled from God, there is always a way back. The parable of the Prodigal Son is great comfort for those of us whose lives are in such a mess that we can see no glimmer of hope. But does that mean that the parable is not relevant for the rest of us?

The wonderful thing about the seemingly simple parable that Jesus tells us today, is that it is really two parables rolled into one. Whichever part of the story speaks loudest to us is dependent upon the son with whom we most identify. The story of the wayward son, who squandered his father's money and then returns home for forgiveness, speaks to anyone who has turned away from God but wants to put his or her life on track again. This parable is for anyone who has made bad decisions without much thought of the consequences. Bad decisions take us in the wrong direction and we might only realise it when we finally hit rock bottom. Only then might we admit the truth to ourselves; only then might we confess "I can't carry on like this... something has to give... something must change!"

If our sympathies lie with the prodigal son's older brother, then this parable speaks to us from a different point of view. The parable is for all who judge others as unworthy of our respect or companionship. This parable is for all those who lack empathy. Like the older son who resents his brother's welcome home party, we disappoint God when we resent others being given a second chance, or when we are unable to forgive.

The one character in the story that is beyond reproach is the father. Like God, the father is loving and compassionate. The father's love enables him to look beyond the transgressions of his younger son. Similarly, the father is patient and understanding towards his self righteous son. The father is ready to forgive even before he is asked to forgive. The father doesn't give up on either son. His love is exemplary.

Today we can further our Lenten journey by not putting ourselves above others, by not being judgmental and by allowing others their second chance in life just as we may one day need our second chance.

**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention For April:** For the use of the new technologies Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

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

**Happy Mothering Sunday!** The Fourth Sunday of Lent is traditionally called Laetare Sunday, a celebration very much like Gaudete Sunday in Advent. Rose-coloured vestments can be worn. The Latin words Laetare and Gaudete can be translated as "rejoice," announcing to us that we are drawing ever closer to the feast for which we are preparing. This day has also come to be known as 'Mothering Sunday'. Hundreds of years ago, people made a point of visiting their nearest big church (the Mother Church) on the fourth Sunday of Lent and it also became traditional for those working away to return home to visit their mother with gifts of cake and flowers.



**Too Late for Lent?** It's never too late to do anything for God. Even if there is only one day left to do something, it's worth the effort because, after all, an effort made even if it is small and late, is still an effort God will see. One of the places we might start is to say we are sorry, whether to God or to another person.

**Lent Talks BBC Radio 4** - Every year on BBC Radio 4 during Lent, six people well known in their fields reflect on the story of Jesus' ministry and Passion from the perspective of their own personal and professional experience. Broadcast on Sunday 19.45 or Saturday at 5.45am.

**The Sacrament of Confession** - During Lent, we are encouraged to participate in the Sacrament of Confession - a wonderful gift and opportunity for spiritual renewal and reconciliation with God.

**Safeguarding Notice** - Children should be accompanied by a parent when using the toilets at Church. This is for their own safety. Thank you for your cooperation.

**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 or on the card machine. Thank you for your support.



**Office Hours** -Tuesday 11am to 1:30pm. Thursday and Friday 11am to 2:30pm. Please email any items for the newsletter to the office by 1:30 pm on Thursday.

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth registered charity number 1199568

**The Second Collection this weekend is for Clergy Assistance Fund** providing for the welfare, ongoing formation and personal support of our clergy, from ordination all the way into retirement. It organises retreats, ministerial formation days, courses, and sabbaticals. It is the principal fund through which the Bishop looks after the wellbeing of the clergy. Donations can be made in the basket at the back of Church, the card machine in the porch, or by bank transfer using "Clergy Assistance" as the reference. Thank you for your support.

**Lent Soup Lunches** - Every Friday during Lent, starting at 12:30pm. All are welcome to come along. Donations—recipients to be decided.

**Holy Thursday 17th April - 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. Dan Schlegel <https://www.dioceseofcleveland.org/>) Fr. David needs 12 volunteers so please sign up on the sheet in the porch.

**Good Friday Walk of Witness** - Will begin at Community Church Kingsgrove Primary School, visit Holy Trinity, St. John Vianney, the Methodist Church and finish at St. Peter and St. Paul. Please consider supporting this event as a way to witness to our faith. Start time to be arranged.

### Easter Mass Times

**Holy Thursday 7pm** Mass of the Lord's Supper

**Good Friday 12 Noon** The Passion (Lambourn)

**Friday 3pm** The Passion and Veneration of The Cross

**Saturday 8pm** Easter Vigil Mass

**Sunday 9am** Easter Sunday

**Sunday 11am** (Lambourn)

### 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 07427181090

Ann Strickland is the contact for Lambourn  
[anne.strickland@mail.com](mailto:anne.strickland@mail.com)

**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 :**

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](http://www.st-amands.oxon.sch.uk) or email [office.3855@st-amands.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3855@st-amands.oxon.sch.uk)