

Mass Times 21st - 28th February 2026

Sat 21st 10am *Private Intention*

Sat 21st 6pm *Kathleen Green R.I.P.*

Sun 22nd 9am *Krystyna Burczynska & Michael Vickers R.I.P.*

Sun 22nd 11am *Pro Populo (Lambourn)*

Mon 23rd 10am

Tues 24th 10am *Sr. Catherine Wybourne R.I.P.*

Weds 25th 10am *Private Intention*

Weds 25th 12 Noon *(Lambourn)*

Weds 25th 7pm **Stations of the Cross and Benediction**

Thurs 26th 10am *Zachary Dawson's Ints*

Fri 27th 10am *Canon Peter's Ints.*

Sat 28th 10am

Sat 28th 6pm *Tania Tompkins R.I.P.*

Prayers please for Canon Peter who is ill in Hospital

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



In your prayers, please remember all who have died recently especially Roy Kemp, Margery Flanagan, and those whose anniversaries occur around this time - Isabel Smith, Bob Dore, Michael Carroll, Winifred O'Neil, Violet Aitken, Fiorenza Innes, Joe Emery, Sylvia Ody, Cynthia MacDonald, Philip Ciampoli, Anna Heffernan, Daniel Cumberbirch, Edith Williams, Grace O'Connor, Stephen King, Daniel Rafferty, Mary McNamee, John Hogan, Gillian Dawes, Mary Gibbons, Mary Homer, Alice Hales. Also pray for all who are sick, in hospital or housebound especially Canon Peter, Terry O'Hara, June Toley, Richard and Pat Taylor, Monique Regan, Cathy Longworth, Nancy Walsh, Mary and Desmond McNichol, Richard Heron, Jessica Buist, Ann Cole, 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



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Find us at www.wantagecatholicparish.org

Year A 1st Sunday in Lent 22nd February 2026

The Devil's Attention

If we imagine that temptation never seems to come our way, could it be that we're not worth the devil's attention? We tend to think of temptation as something that will lead us into a life of crime or immorality, but temptation is simply anything that threatens to take us away from God. If temptation never seems to come our way, perhaps it's because we are not trying to be close to God in the first place. Many of us fail to recognise temptation, and the reason we fail is because we don't really know who we are or what we're about. It's surprising that we can get so far on in years without being about to answer simple questions like "What are you doing for God?" "How would you like to be remembered?" The reason we struggle with questions like these is because as human beings we are governed hugely by self-interest. Self-interest is essential for survival and it's in all of us, but as Christians we have to put self-interest on a back burner and put in the time and effort into defining who we really would like to be. Once we have achieved this, then the devil's temptations are suddenly crystal clear. After all, we can't be tempted away from our path in life if we've no idea what our path in life is. If we have no plan, we are hardly worth the devil's attention.

When we choose to give up something this Lent, perhaps it should be something that reflects the path we have chosen and the temptation we are trying to transcend. If we decide to give up red wine for instance, with the intention of dropping a couple of dress sizes, God won't be hugely impressed and the devil won't be remotely interested. If we give up wine because we have identified that it is stopping us from doing some important work of God's making, our Lenten journey will take on a life changing significance. Jesus gives us an important clue; "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" When we make our daily choices ask, "Is this about me.... or is it about God?"

Pope Leo's Prayer intention for February - For children with incurable diseases. Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

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



Volunteers Please - If you have an hour to spare on Saturday morning at 11am, please would you consider coming along to help with Church cleaning. We have very few regular volunteers . The more who come, the quicker it gets done.

Re register - the diocese has appointed a new company to manage our parish databases from the end of January. Please use the QR code to re register as a parishioner and continue to receive the newsletter and other parish information. There is a separate QR code to register child parishioners. Both codes are available on the notice board. If you don't have a smart phone, please ask Sharon or another parishioner to help you access the online form.



Beginning Lent

"Insanity is defined as doing the same thing over, and over again, yet expecting different results." This definition can be a good beginning reflection as we examine the choices we will make in the days ahead. This is the time of year to ask some uncomfortable questions. How often do we fail to hear the cry of the poor? How often do we fail to forgive and how often do we fail to see our own failings? Today we pray for all those who genuinely desire a change of heart.

Care for Our Common Home Carbon Fast Lent 2026

This Lent commit to eating low on the food chain. This means eating mostly fruits, veggies, grains, and beans. Livestock, meat and dairy, is responsible for 14.5 percent of man-made global greenhouse gas emissions. Start by committing to Meatless Mondays and Fish and Chip Fridays.

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 sup-



Lent devotions

Stations of the Cross Wednesday evenings at 7pm followed by Benediction.
Stations of the Cross Friday after 10am Mass.
Scripture study Tuesday evenings during Lent 7pm.
Why not join us?

The Second Collection next weekend is for CAFOD Family Fast Day.

Family Fast day is on Friday 27th February . "This Lent, live out the Gospel call to love your neighbour. By fasting and giving what you save, you join in Christ's compassion and help another family put food on the table. Your donation can help families around the world grow food in difficult conditions – such as on flood-resistant floating gardens or using solar-powered water pumps in times of drought." Donations in the basket or directly to CAFOD.

Invitation To Volunteer Catechists – as our parish continues to grow, our Pastoral Area Formation Team are seeking to recruit more volunteers to serve as catechists. In particular, we need more volunteers to work with our Children's Liturgy group. Catechists support learners in exploring scripture, the sacraments, prayer and Christian living. If you would like to know more, please just add your name to the list on the notice board and Gabriella will contact you.

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.

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