

Mass Times 31st January - 7th February 2026

Sat 31st 10am NO MASS

Sat 31st 6pm *Barbara Vaughan R.I.P.*

Sun 1st 9am *Josephine Hunders R.I.P. (f)*

Sun 1st 11am *Pro Populo (Lambourn)*

Mon 2nd to Friday 6th inclusive NO MASS

Sat 7th 10am *Sr. Monica's Ints.*

Sat 7th 6pm *Liz Jarman's Ints.*

Weekday Masses and Confessions available at East Hendred.

Prayers please for Canon Peter who is ill in Hospital



In your prayers, please remember all who have died recently especially Margery Flanagan, Aileen Dunne, Margaret McKenna, Roger Morgan, and those whose anniversaries occur around this time - Paul Gheresi, Judith Kershaw, Joyce Clarke, Tim Fitzgerald, Maria McNiven, Noel Monahan, Basil England, Brynley Morris, Mark Barrett, Igor Chadzyski, Rose Hill, Maurice Rawlings, Therese Neale, Peter Badger, Emmie Cooke, Maisie Lovell, Patrick Kavanagh Also pray for all who are sick, in hospital or housebound especially Canon Peter, 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.

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth registered charity number 1199568



St John Vianney Wantage Sacred Heart Lambourn



Parish Priest: Fr. David O'Sullivan

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Fr David's e-mail: dosullivan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time 1st February 2026



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 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 in the hall for refreshments after 9am Mass



There is a lovely old adage that says - Before Mass, talk to God and after Mass talk to your neighbour. While we all like to chat and catch up, before Mass is a time for God, a time to recollect ourselves and to prepare to celebrate devoutly. Quietness also helps others to prepare. So please be considerate and keep our conversations for after Mass.

Look after your neighbour - during the cold winter days and long evenings, give a second thought to an elderly neighbour. An offer to do some shopping may be greatly appreciated, or just a friendly visit and a chat over a cuppa might just brighten up someone's day.

Pope Leo XIV Quote - "Love for our neighbour is tangible proof of the authenticity of our love for God, and to serve one's neighbour is to love God through deeds."

Little People - Tessa would like to thank you for all your kind donations received at Christmas time. Your support for Little People is greatly appreciated.

Re register - the diocese has appointed a new company to manage our parish databases from the end of January. There will be a QR code available for parishioners to re register, or paper copies for those who are unable to access QR codes. Further information will follow so that you can register and continue to receive the newsletter and other parish information .

**Holy Hour of Prayer
and Eucharistic Adoration
St. John Vianney
Postponed until February**

**Scripture Study
An in-depth look
at the weekend's Readings.
Postponed till February.**

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.



Canon Peter would like to thank everyone for your prayers, Masses offered, numerous cards and gifts, and he apologises that he is not able to thank you all individually at the moment, nor is he able to see visitors yet, but is continuing to make slow and steady progress.

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.

Crown Singers present - Miserere: A Concert of Sacred Music by Female Composers. Sunday 8th February, 3pm at St. John Vianney Church. Tickets £12 including refreshments, available on the door. Under 16s free. See poster in the porch.

St. Amand's Catholic Primary School - annual Celebration Fundraiser at the historic Hendred House on 6th February. Tickets are £35pp and include food, welcome drink, raffle, auction, cash bar and a Heads or Tails game. To get your Celebration Fundraiser tickets or be come a Benefactor complete this form. We are also now registered for Easy Fundraising. Do your normal online shopping, and every time you shop, a donation is made to the Friends of St. Amand's. Get fundraising for FREE and visit this link to register.

Reduced Office Hours: Due to unforeseen circumstances the office will only be open between 8:30-9:30am each day. Emails will be monitored but please be patient when needing a reply. Telephones will not be monitored. In an emergency, please contact one of the Priests below.

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. Domini Adeiza. Didcot. Tel: 01235 812338