

Mass Times 31st August - 1st September 2024

Sat 31st 10am

Sat 31st 6pm *Pro Populo*

Sun 1st Sept. 9am

Sun 1st 11am (*Lambourn*)

Mon 2nd 10am *Margaret Monahan R.I.P.*

Tues 3rd 10am

Tues 3rd 1:30pm Requiem Mass Margaret Monahan R.I.P.

Weds 4th 10am *Peter Young R.I.P.*

Weds 4th 12 Noon *Novena Anore's Ints. (Lambourn)*

Thurs 5th 10am *Steve Murphy's Ints.*

Fri 6th 10am NO MASS

Sat 7th 10am

Sat 7th 6pm *Pro Populo*

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



In your prayers, please remember all who have died recently especially Peter Young, Margaret Monahan, Savannah O'Brien, Peter Shaw, and those whose anniversaries occur around this time - Mary Rowlands, Mark Barrett, Mary Moss, Daniel Reilly, Aldo Piras, Tina Turner, Bridget Boyce, Olafur Smith-Jonsson, Bernard Hale, Henry Little. Also pray for all who are sick, in hospital or housebound especially Eugene McEvoy, Marie Moss, Jessica Buist, Ann Cole, Isabel Smith, 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.

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth registered charity number 1199568



St John Vianney Wantage Sacred Heart Lambourn



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Year B 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 1st September 2024



How Not to Impress God!

it's easy to be fooled. Mr and Mrs Devout are always in Church, always to be seen praying, always lighting votives, always to be found kneeling in their favourite pew. Are Mr and Mrs Devout good people? Well very possibly, but outward appearances can be deceptive. Perhaps Mr and Mrs Devout are the salt of the earth, but not necessarily. Despite their Sunday best, perhaps Mr and Mrs Devout spend the rest of the week, complaining about the refugees next door, gossiping about other parishioners and ignoring the plight of the beggar sitting on the Church doorstep. Outward appearances are no indication of what lies beneath.

Today the Pharisees complain to Jesus, that his disciples do not wash their hands before eating. Their complaint does not stem from food hygiene. The Pharisees had very many rituals intended to keep themselves pure and undefiled, and one of these rituals was washing before eating. The ritual in itself is not so very wrong. We ourselves have a ritual of saying 'grace before meals', but where Jesus finds fault is in their flawed grasp of what is important. Jesus uses their complaint to teach a lesson, and the lesson isn't really anything to do with washing.

What do we think pleases God? The Pharisees were not bad people, but they had strayed a long way from pleasing God. To the Pharisees, religion was all about abiding by hundreds of rules and regulations. Many of these rules were about keeping themselves segregated from anything in the world that would make them unclean. They had become so obsessed by this that they no longer engaged well with the world and all its suffering. They lived by lofty and judgmental ideals that Jesus totally rejected. Jesus didn't deliberately set out to disregard tradition, but at the same time, he had come to engage with the world and its needs. Jesus' main concern was for the poor the sick and the marginalised, and he went out of his way to associate himself with them. He saw the Pharisees placing barriers between man and God, and he wasn't having it!

We do not become unacceptable to God by failing to follow a set of outward rules. We become unacceptable to God when our hearts become cold. God is not impressed when we turn up for Mass in our Sunday best. God is best pleased when we show the world a loving and sincere heart.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for September - For the cry of the Earth

We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth and of victims of natural disasters and climactic change, and that all will undertake to personally care for the world in which we live.



Season of Creation 1st September - 4th October

The Season of Creation begins on September 1st, the Day of Prayer for Creation, and ends on October 4th, the feast day of St. Francis, the patron saint of ecology in many traditions.

There is an urgent need to find solutions to the crisis facing our common home. Together, we are fulfilling our role as stewards of God's creation.

Children's Liturgy - will begin again on 8th September for children between the ages of 4 and 8. Older children and those preparing for First Holy Communion should remain in Mass.

Welcome to all who have recently joined our parish and to all who are visiting during the holidays. If you are new to the parish you can register as a parishioner using this link <https://p3.pamis.co.uk/wanlam/online80147>

First Holy Communion and Confirmation - If you would like to enrol your child/young person in our preparation groups which will begin in the autumn, please email the parish office or speak to Fr. David after Mass.

Chosen your University? Most universities have a Catholic chaplaincy, providing a real home from home. A good chaplaincy will also organise social events, and will of course offer daily Mass. Check to see if your university has a Catholic Chaplaincy Facebook page.

Ask your MP to protect the most vulnerable in society. Take action: email your MP today: righttolife.org.uk/newparliament

Prayer Group - Our next meeting will be on Monday 16th September at 2:30pm in St. John Vianney Church Hall. All are welcome.



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.

Congratulations to the family of Joseph Rogers who will be celebrating his Baptism at 12 Noon on Saturday 7th September. Our best wishes and prayers go to their family on this very special occasion.



PRAY FOR VOCATIONS God our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons and religious. Send your Holy Spirit to help others respond generously and courageously to your call. May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth and young adults.

"The entire People of God is responsible for promoting vocations and does so chiefly by persistent and humble prayer for vocations". (Pope John Paul II Ecclesia in America, No. 40).

Back to School - For all teachers, assistants, parents and pupils, our prayers are with you this week, especially for those feeling a little bit uncertain or anxious.

March for Life Saturday 7th September - the theme for this year's march is "Abortion isn't Healthcare". The march is a peaceful, family event that attracts thousands of pro-life supporters each year so please come along and be a voice for the voice-less. The March starts at The Emmanuel Centre SW1P 3DW at 1:30pm and finishes at Parliament Square at around 4:30pm. Oxford Pro Life are running a coach. More information at <https://prolifecommunityoxford.org.uk/m4/> or you can contact the parish office if you would like someone to travel with from Wantage.

Office Hours -Tuesday 11-1:30 Thursday & Friday 11am to 2:30pm. 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

Other Priests in the area :

Fr. Matthew Topham. East Hendred. Tel: 01235 835038

Fr. Domini Adeiza. Didcot. Tel: 01235 812338