

Mass Times 24th - 31st August 2024

Sat 24th 10am *Colette Towey R.I.P.*
Sat 24th 6pm *Rose Hayter R.I.P.*
Sun 25th 9am *Marian Burczynski R.I.P.*
Sun 25th 11am *Pro Populo (Lambourn)*
Mon 26th 10am *Margaret Monahan R.I.P.*
Tues 27th 10am
Weds 28th 10am *Anne Shaw R.I.P.*
Weds 28th 12 Noon *(Lambourn)*
Thurs 29th 10am *John Charles Reece R.I.P.*
Fri 30th 10am *Kathy Perry R.I.P.*
Sat 31st 10am
Sat 31st 6pm *Pro Populo*

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

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 - Valerie Moulton, Tom Carney, Neil Murphy, Margaret Tynan, Maria Costello, Kathleen Perry, Jim Bryan, Edward Bateman, Bob Carter, Fr. Leo Targett, May Williams, Helen Plaistow, Ellen Newton, Maureen Bailey, Bernard Rivers, William Sole, Josephine Kneafsey, John Gibson, Donald Whitehall. 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.



St John Vianney Wantage Sacred Heart Lambourn



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Year B 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time 25th August 2024



The Jury's Out!

The barristers have presented their case. All the facts are on the table and every bit of evidence has been examined and re-examined. The jury is sent out to make a decision, and if the decision is a difficult one, the jury can be out for some considerable time. Difficult decisions have something in common; there will always be a sticking point that will keep us dithering. Even if we know deep down what our answer

should be, there is something stopping us from reaching it. Counsellors have a well-worn phrase that helps clients make decisions. "What," they ask, would make our decision easier to make?"

In today's gospel Jesus' followers find themselves with decisions to make and sticking points to overcome. Jesus has presented all the evidence. He has healed the sick and worked many miracles. He has taught many lessons and promised everlasting life for those who choose the bread that endures. Now it's decision time, but there's a sticking point. The crowd find it difficult to believe that Jesus has come down from heaven. How will they deal with the sticking point? For some the sticking point is too great and they turn their backs on Jesus' teaching and walk away. Others doubtless would have liked more convincing, but Jesus doesn't seem to offer any. We too might have our sticking points. We too might look for extra evidence, but all the evidence is on the table. Peter employs his own inimitable way of surmounting the difficulty. "Master," he says, "to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life..." In Peter's mind the decision as whether to follow Jesus or not is a bit of a 'no-brainer' because for him there is no alternative to the promise of eternal life. What would it take to make your decision easier to make?

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for August - For political leaders

We pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and for the common good, especially caring for the poor and those who have lost their jobs.

Margaret Monahan R.I.P. Our thoughts and prayers are with Jim, Theresa, Julie and family following Margaret's death on 15th August. Her funeral will be at St. John Vianney, 1:30pm on 3rd September.

Peter Young R.I.P. Our prayers and condolences also to Margaret who mourns the death of her husband Peter. Funeral on Monday 23rd September at 11:45am.

Still time for summer reading. Recommended by a parishioner recently, *He Leadeth Me* - an amazing true story of resilience, great faith and abandonment to God's will in time of extreme deprivation. Written by Fr. Walter Ciszek SJ whose cause for canonisation is currently being promoted.

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.

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. Contact the parish office if you would like someone to travel with.

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.

The Month of August is Dedicated to The Immaculate Heart of Mary.

Our devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary is rooted in Scripture where St Luke tells us that Mary "...treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart". Luke 2:19

O Queen conceived without sin, please pray for us who have recourse to thee.



St. Monica Feast Day 27th August. St. Monica, born in the 4th century, was the mother of St. Augustine. Following her husband's death, Monica devoted her life to raising her three children in the practice of the faith. Augustine was immersed in the world and slow to accept the truths of the faith but Monica persevered in prayer for many years and with many tears until finally Augustine gave himself to Christ. Pope Benedict XVI is quoted as saying "*Augustine himself was to say, his mother gave birth to him twice; the second time required a lengthy spiritual travail of prayers and tears, but it was crowned at last with the joy of seeing him not only embrace the faith and receive Baptism, but also dedicate himself without reserve to the service of Christ.*"

[Angelus, 27 August 2006 - Castel Gandolfo | BENEDICT XVI \(vatican.va\)](#)

St. Monica died in AD 387 shortly after Augustine was baptised. She is the patron saint of mothers and a great reminder to us of the power of prayer. Her feast day is followed by St. Augustine's feast day on 28th August .

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.

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