

## Mass Times 28th - 5th April



Sat 28th 10am

Sat 28th 6pm Johnny McGrath RIP

Sun 29th 9am

Sun 29th 11am *Patrick Kealy RIP*

Mon 30th 10am (followed by Stations of the Cross)

Tues 31st 10am No Mass (Chrism Mass Portsmouth)

Weds 1st 10am

Weds 1st 12 Noon (Lambourn)

Weds 1st Stations and Benediction

Thurs 2nd Maundy Thursday

Fri 3rd 3pm Good Friday

Sat 4th 11.30 am Blessing of Food (Wantage)

Sat 4th 7pm Easter Vigil *Members of Green & Bergin Families*

Sun 5th 9am Easter Day *Pro Pop*

Sun 5th 11am (Lambourn) Easter Day



QR Code to Register



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



**In your prayers**, please remember all who have died recently especially Ellen Bailey, and those whose anniversaries occur around this. Also pray for all who are sick, in hospital or housebound especially Canon Peter, Terry O'Hara, Rebecca O'Hara, June Toley, Richard and Pat Taylor, Monique Regan, Cathy Longworth, Nancy Walsh, Mary and Desmond McNichol,

**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.**



### 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](http://www.wantagecatholicparish.org)



## Year Palm Sunday in Lent 29th March 2026



### What's the Point?

Today we recall the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem and we hear again the story of the Passion. But as we stand in church waving our palms and reading our Mass books, we have to be aware that we are doing more than just re-reading a two thousand year old story. What point is there in simply remembering a sequence of events?

There is only a point in remembering Jesus' Passion if it truly impacts on our twenty first century lives. We don't need to have been around at the time to imagine how it must have felt to be a part of the crowd that greeted Jesus as he rode into Jerusalem. We know what it's like to be swept along with a crowd. We know how we can be brave as part of a crowd... infallible even. We remember the crowd that supported Jesus so enthusiastically at the beginning of the week and how it mysteriously melted away by the end, to be replaced by a different crowd shouting for his crucifixion. Are we any better than those original supporters? Can we stand up for Jesus as individuals when the going gets tough? We remember Jesus' journey from Palm Sunday to Good Friday. We remember that it's a journey he made with no hint of compromise. How easy it would have been for Jesus to have bypassed Jerusalem altogether, but what would have been the point of that for us two thousand years on. There is no room in Christianity for compromise. We remember the death of Jesus as a supreme act of love. Jesus taught that we were worth all that pain and suffering. Do we leave the church today simply to catch up with our Facebook accounts and enjoy our Sunday lunch, or do we consider how we should live our lives from this day on knowing that Jesus considered us worth his ultimate sacrifice?



## Easter Ceremonies Timetable.



**Holy Thursday 7pm** Mass of the Lord's Supper  
**Good Friday 10am** The Passion and Veneration of the Cross (Lambourn)  
**Friday 3pm** The Passion and Veneration of The Cross (Wantage)  
**Saturday 11.30am** Święconka Blessing of Food  
**Saturday 7.00pm** Easter Vigil Mass  
**Sunday 9am** Easter Sunday Mass



## Easter Triduum



The summit of the Liturgical Year is the Easter Triduum—from the evening of Holy Thursday to the evening of Easter Sunday. Though chronologically three days, they are liturgically one day, unfolding for us the unity of Christ's Paschal Mystery... so do your best if possible, to make it to all of the services.

## Święconka—The Blessing of Easter Baskets.

The blessing of the Easter baskets is one of the most enduring and beloved Polish traditions on Holy Saturday. It is called Święconk. This special event takes place in many of our parishes across the diocese because of our Polish families who enrich our parish and liturgy. **Easter Saturday 11.30am**

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



## Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for April

This April, we're invited to hold in prayer all priests who find themselves in moments of struggle or uncertainty.

Even the most dedicated church and parish leaders can face times when their vocation feels heavy or unclear. In those times, what they need most is gentle accompaniment — people who listen without judgement and communities that offer patience, warmth, and support. Let's remember that priests have the same pressures and emotions as everyone else. May our kindness help them rediscover strength, hope, and the joy of their calling. We are invited to join Pope Leo's prayer intention, **"That priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer."**



## The Sacrament of Confession

**How long since you've been?** - The precepts of the Church say at least once a year for all Catholics. Lent is the ideal time to participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation - a wonderful gift and opportunity for spiritual renewal, and reconciliation with God.



**Holy Thursday - 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. David needs 12 volunteers so please sign up on the sheet in the porch.



**Easter Offering** - Our Easter Collection celebrates and gives thanks to our Parish Priest and all the dedication, guidance and care he gives us throughout the year. This collection is a considerable part of the priest's income. If you would like to give a gift to support Fr. David this Easter, please use the collection bags or Dona machine at the back of the Church.

With thanks Matt Dickson, Chair of Finance.



## Holy Places Collection

In most Catholic parishes around the world, a Good Friday Collection will be taken up to aid Christian parishes and their outreaches in the Holy Land. This initiative has been an annual tradition in the Church since its institution by Blessed Pope Paul VI.

According to Paul VI, the collection was created "not only for the Holy Places but above all for those pastoral, charitable, educational, and social works which the Church supports in the Holy Land for the welfare of their Christian brethren and of the local communities."

## 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](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)