

## Mass Times 8th - 15th March 2025

Sat 8th 10am

Sat 8th 6pm *Tania Tompkins R.I.P.*

Sun 9th 9am *Pro Populo*

Sun 9th 11am (*Lambourn*)

Mon 10th 10am *Michael Eyre R.I.P.*

Tues 11th 10am *In Thanksgiving*

Tues 11th 10:30am Stations of the Cross

Weds 12th 10am

Weds 12th 12 Noon (*Lambourn*)

Weds 12th 7pm Station of the Cross and Benediction

Thurs 13th 10am

Fri 14th 10am

Sat 15th 10am

Sat 15th 6pm *Pro Populo*

**Confessions on Saturdays 10:30—11am at St. John Vianney. Or by appointment**



In your prayers, please remember all who have died recently especially Isabel Smith, Paul Ghersi, and those whose anniversaries occur around this time - Patricia Halifax, Douglas Frewer, Teresa Hicklin, Nora O'Malley, Michael Eyre, Mary Robinson, Patricia Senior, James Lynch, Becky Holt, Edward Moss, Bridget Madden, Richard Wells, Sybill Murphy, Patrick Bergin, Romero Urcelay, Kathleen Roberts, Isolina Durrant, Patricia Baigrie, Judy House, Diana Wasborough, Patricia Wellington, Tania Tompkins, Alphonsus Hill, Mary Johnson, James McCarthy, Stella Gardiner, Maria Coates. Also pray for all who are sick, in hospital or housebound especially Kevin Maher, Monique Regan, Cathy, Longworth, Nancy Walsh,, Mary and Desmond McNichol, Richard Heron, Jessica Buist, Ann Cole, 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

Parish Priest: Fr. David O'Sullivan

Telephone: 01235 762374

Mobile: 07554427063

Office e-mail: [wantage@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:wantage@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Fr David's e-mail: [dosullivan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:dosullivan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Find us at [www.wantagecatholicparish.org](http://www.wantagecatholicparish.org)



## Year C 1st Sunday in Lent 9th March 2025



### Tempted to Distraction?

If we are not criminals, and we don't particularly consider ourselves to be sinners, do we really need to worry about the devil, or the dangers of temptation? If the temptations in our lives are simply to sit at the computer too long, or indulge in the odd tittle, how much does that really matter?

On the first Sunday of Lent we are always treated to the same lesson. We are asked to consider what we are about, how the devil might put spanners in the works, and what we can do about it. Today the devil finds Jesus in the wilderness. He finds him when he is hungry and weak and tempts him with attractive options, food, fame and protection. We don't see Jesus dithering, not even for a minute. Jesus is able to put the temptation behind him because he knows what he is about. Jesus understands his mission and it isn't about materialistic benefit or power. Jesus is able to put aside the temptation because he is confident that the same Holy Spirit that has taken him into the wilderness will lead him back out.

The wilderness comes in all shapes and sizes. For us it could be moments when we're feeling lost, broken, unloved, tired or overburdened. In these moments of weakness this is when we are most at danger. These are moments when the devil can come to us offering comfortable and attractive options. Comfortable and attractive options can tempt us to make poor decisions; decisions that provide distractions. The devil can be subtle. Temptations rarely lead the majority of us into crime or even into sin. Being tempted to finish off a bottle of wine or spend longer than we ought on Facebook doesn't seem so bad, but are the tens of little distractions we succumb to each and every day taking us away from who we really are and from what is genuinely important?

Every day the Holy Spirit is guiding us towards our specific missions in life. Do we say 'yes' to the work God has lined up for us, or do we fall for all those comfortable little distractions?

**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention For March** - For the elderly, that they may be supported and cared for in their needs.

**Pray for the recovery of Pope Francis** - We pray for the recovery of Pope Francis. We ask God, "Have mercy on Pope Francis in his illness now, we pray, and guide the medical staff who are caring for him. Grant him peace and healing. Through Christ our Lord."

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

**Fr. David's Lent Book Club** - If you would like to take part, Fr. has put a selection of books into envelopes, just take an envelope from the bookcase in the porch, with the intention to read the book during Lent, then after Easter we will get together to discuss what we have read.

**Deepening Spirituality** - This Lent, take the time to deepen your understanding and spirituality. Take time to read or follow a course. You can find events, retreats and courses at [www.jesuit.org.uk/events](http://www.jesuit.org.uk/events)

**Choir News** - The choir will be practicing every Friday evening at 7:30pm in the hall, to prepare for the Masses and services of Holy Week and Easter. If you like singing and would be interested to join the choir, just speak to Neville after Mass.

**Catechists Lent Days of Prayer and Formation** - Hosted by the Vicariate for Evangelisation, three online events during Lent for Catechists across the diocese. Beginning at 7:30pm for one hour. Catechists can choose from the three events based on their area of catechesis: **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March (Children's Liturgy and First Holy Communion)** **Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March (Marriage Preparation and Baptism)** **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April (Confirmation and RCIA)**

To sign up for these events, please go to <https://forms.office.com/e/VkCdj1SWzA>.

**Safeguarding Notice** - Children should be accompanied by a parent when using the toilets at Church. This is for their own safety. Thank you for your cooperation.

**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 support.



**Lent Soup Lunches** - Every Friday during Lent, starting at 12:30pm. If you can help by making soup, please sign up on the form in the porch. All are welcome to come along. Donations—recipients to be decided.

**Stations of the Cross**  
**St. John Vianney**  
**Tuesdays at 10:30am**  
**Wednesday Evenings 7pm ,followed by Benediction**

**Scripture Study**  
Tuesdays 7-7:30pm  
on Zoom

**Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN)** is conducting a survey to understand the impact of the two-child benefit cap and the current economic climate on Catholic families in England and Wales. Please share your experience by completing the survey, which can be accessed at [csan.org.uk/news/familysurvey](http://csan.org.uk/news/familysurvey), where you'll also find further information about the survey. The survey will close on 25th March"

**CAFOD Family Fast Day (England and Wales) Friday, 14th March 2025**

The decision by the government to reduce overseas development assistance from 0.5% to 0.3% means that, in some of the most vulnerable places on earth, more people will die and many more will lose their livelihoods. With the support of our parishes for this Lent Fast Day Appeal we can share hope with these communities and stand with them in solidarity against the impact of this cut. CAFOD has partners making a difference right now across the world, committed to working wherever the need is greatest. Please take a CAFOD envelope from the back of church and return it with your donation next weekend. If you are a UK tax payer, you are invited to fill in the gift aid slip which will increase your donation.

**Office Hours** -Tuesday 11am to 1:30pm. Thursday and 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 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)