

Mass Times 8th - 15th February 2025

Sat 8th 10am *Mary Hewlett's Ints.*

Sat 8th 6pm *Liz Jarman's Ints.*

Sun 9th 9am *Dinah Booker R.I.P.*

Sun 9th 11am *Pro Populo (Lambourn)*

Mon 10th 10am *Karl and Eileen Cooke's Ints.*

Tues 11th 10am *Rachel Kemsley R.I.P.*

Weds 12th 10am

Weds 12th 12 Noon *(Lambourn)*

Thurs 13th 10am

Fri 14th 10am

Sat 15th 10am

Sat 15th 6pm *Valerie Burholt R.I.P.*

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 Gheresi, and those whose anniversaries occur around this time - Terence Murrell, Bob Dore, Michael Carroll, Christopher Nevin, Edward O'Neil, Violet Aitken, Fiorenza Innes, Sylvia Ody, Cynthia McDonald, Philip Ciampoli, Anna Heffernan, Daniel Cumberbirch, Grace O'Connor, Stephen King, Daniel Rafferty, Mary McNamee, John Hogan, Gillian Dawes, Mary Homer, Alice Hales, Also pray for all who are sick, in hospital or housebound especially Nancy Walsh, Dagmar Couchman, 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

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Find us at www.wantagecatholicparish.org



Year C 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time 9th February 2025



Those Same Old Banana Skins!

We work to live ... or at least, that's the idea. But as we get up, go to work go to bed, get up, go to work, go to bed, get up, go to work, go to bed ... it begins to feel that instead of working to live we are living to work. Our lives can become a pattern of chores formed by the pressures of life rather than by our own design. After years and years of doing the same things, these patterns can become a comfort zone that imprisons, confines and limits us. Before we know it, there are a whole raft of opportunities outside our comfort zone that we decide we are not capable of, or simply aren't 'us'.

Today we are reminded that we don't need to go through life slipping on the same old banana skins or beating our head against the same old brick walls. We can live life differently. We just need to be a bit braver and try that bit harder. The writer J.K. Rowling reminds us all to have the courage of our convictions. She submitted Harry Potter nine times before finally getting it accepted by Bloomsbury. "Success is failure that tried one more time!" All we need to step out of our self-made prisons is vision, belief and courage. Today we find Peter and his fellow disciples at a low ebb. They have been fishing all night, but have caught nothing. Jesus advises them to do things a little differently. He asks them to cast their nets a little further from shore. It is heartening to see Peter knowing a moment of doubt. Jesus might be an expert when it comes to matters of faith, but what does he know about fishing? What Peter doesn't realise is that he is on the brink of a life changing

experience. Fortunately for him, he trusts in Jesus despite his fleeting doubt, and follows the advice. The result is more fish than his nets can hold. Faith, courage, and a willingness to do things a little differently has brought its own rewards.

Peter James and John left their fishing nets behind them and completely changed their lives not because they were superhuman, but because Jesus had taught them to see themselves in a new light. Today's invitation is to see ourselves in a new light, get excited about the possibilities ahead, and ask God for the courage to leave behind those old banana skins!

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention For February - For vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Let us pray that the ecclesial community might welcome the desires and doubts of those young people who feel a call to serve Christ's mission in the priesthood and religious life.

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

Thank you for your donations - we have raised £340 from recent donations from tea and coffee held in the hall after 9am Mass. This money has been used to pay for two new benches for the patio behind the church. Thank you again for all your support and the time you give so generously for the Church.

Flame - the UK's largest Catholic Youth Conference. This year Flame will be held on Saturday 15th March at the OVO Arena Wembley. Guest speakers include Bear Grylls, and Adenike Adewale of Voice 2021 fame. For more information and booking, visit <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/flame-2025/>

Children's Liturgy - Our catechists prepare a simplified Liturgy of The Word for children aged 5 to 8. Older children and those preparing for First Holy Communion should remain in Church to take part in the Mass. For safeguarding purposes, parents of children attending Children's Liturgy are asked to complete and return a registration form.

Vocations - As we celebrate World Marriage Day today, we honour the beauty and commitment of married couples who follow Christ together. Just as the apostles left their former lives to follow Jesus, couples are called to embrace their vocation of marriage with faith and trust, journeying together toward holiness. Take this opportunity to renew your marriage vows in your heart.

**Holy Hour of Prayer
and Eucharistic Adoration
St. John Vianney
Wednesday Evening 7– 8pm**

Scripture Study
Tuesdays 7-7:30pm
on Zoom

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.



Day of Prayer and Fasting for Life - On Monday 10th February please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this country. Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed. Pray especially that Assisted Suicide won't be introduced. For information on the days of Prayer and Fasting contact; The Good Counsel Network on 020 7723 1740. Please Invite others to join us on the day, by Inviting them via Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/events/618329970650531/>

First Holy Communion - our programme started last Saturday and will run during term time until the end of June. We pray for the children and their families as they prepare to receive the Sacraments of Confession and Holy Communion.

Our Lady of Lourdes Feast Day 11th February. On this day, designated as World Day for the Sick, the Church ask us all to pray and give attention to the sick and those who care for them. You might never visit Lourdes in person, but you can post a petition online. When you post online, your petition/prayer request will be placed at the Grotto in Lourdes. Millions of pilgrims visit Lourdes each year and many of them place their prayers at the Grotto. Visit www.lourdes-france.org/en/intention-priere/

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.

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 01488 71580

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. Dominic Adeiza. Didcot. Tel: 01235 812338

St. Amand's School [01235 833342](tel:01235833342) . website: www.st-amands.oxon.sch.uk or email office.3855@st-amands.oxon.sch.uk