

## Mass Times 31st December - 7th January

Sat 31st 10am

Sat 31st 6pm *Lilian Darby R.I.P.*

Sun 1st 9am *Marie O'Sullivan R.I.P.*

Sun 1st 11am *John Ffrench R.I.P.*

Mon 2nd No Mass

Tues 3rd 10am *Mary Derbyshire R.I.P.*

Weds 4th 10am *Barbara Vaughan R.I.P.*

Weds 4th 12 Noon No Mass

Thurs 5th 10am

Fri 6th 10am Epiphany *John McCaffrey R.I.P.*

Fri 6th 12 Noon

Fri 6th 7pm

Sat 7th 10am

Sat 7th 6pm Christopher and Debbie Cole & Family Ints.

**Cold and flu** - If you feel unwell or are displaying symptoms please test for covid before coming to Mass so that we can protect the vulnerable. Thank you.

**CONFESSIONS:**

**SATURDAYS**

**10:30 to 11am**

**or by appointment**

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



In your prayers, please remember all who have died recently especially **Theresa Mary Morgan, Maria McLoughlin, Fr. Robin Sanders, and those whose anniversaries occur around this time - Peter Boxall, Noel Monahan, Denis Buckley, Mary Derbyshire, Beth Monaghan, Michael O'Connor, Jeanne Taylor, Edward Purcell, Colin Kirkham, Marie Pert,**

**Vera Picken, Philip Kent, John McCaffrey. Also pray for all who are sick, in hospital or housebound especially Kathy Child, Dot Armstrong, Margaret Wilson, Pete Gray, Margaret Joyce, Peter Shaw, Wendy Purslow, Sue Maher, Tom Carney, 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 :

**PRCDTR 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

### Year A Mary Mother of God 1st January 2023



#### A Fresh Start

Mary's destiny had been revealed to her by the Angel Gabriel. Joseph too had been foretold in a dream of the virgin birth. But just in case there were any malingering doubts, to have a gang of excited shepherds gate-crash the stable re-telling the news that the angels had brought to them out on the hills must have been wonderfully reassuring for the new parents. Mary certainly had plenty to ponder. For Mary there was a fast unravelling realisation that she was part of God's plan. The birth of the new baby represented a new and exciting beginning, not only for Mary, but for us all.

The first day of the year is the day the Church sets aside for honouring Mary. Mary represents true discipleship. Mary exhibits a life of hearing, seeing, and telling of God's marvellous deeds. Mary inspires us to consider deeply the significance of events in our own lives. How much in our lives is valuable and how much is not? Do we journey through life oblivious to the world around us, or do we resolve to make some kind of impact? If to date we have moved blinkered through life, wasting the opportunities that God has scattered in our path, now is the time to make a fresh start. Now is the time to make a fresh start based not on the values of our celebrity driven society, but on the model of Mary's selfless love.

If Mary had made a new year's resolution in that stable all those years ago, it probably would have been to make herself an instrument for God's will. As for our own resolutions, we could live another year of frustration and disappointment, or we could resolve to make Mary our model, and look harder for God's direction in our lives.

**Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for January** - For educators. We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

**Refreshments after 9am Mass on Sundays** - in the hall, all welcome.

**Flame 2023 - the UK's largest Catholic youth conference** will be held on Saturday 4th March at the OVO Arena in Wembley. Use the link below to find more information on the guest speakers and performers which include: Adenike (contestant on The Voice 2020); Robert Bilott, inspiration behind the 2019 film *Dark Waters*; Guvna B, winner of Urban Music and MOBO awards, as well as Cardinal Tagle, Prefect of the Congregation for the Evangelization of Peoples.  
<https://cymfed.org.uk/flame/>

**Office Hours** -Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 11am to 1:30pm. please email any items for the newsletter to the office by 1:30 pm on Thursday.

**Home Visits** - If you are housebound, or you know any parishioners who are unable to get to Mass and would like Fr. David to visit, please call Fr. and leave a message on the office phone 01235 762374 or email [wantage@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:wantage@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**Holy Hour of Prayer  
and  
Eucharistic Adoration  
at St. John Vianney**

Wednesday Evenings 7– 8pm



**Prayer Group** - our next meeting will be on Monday 9th January at 2:30pm in St. John Vianney Church Hall. All are welcome.



**St. John Vianney Food Bank** - Donations of non-perishable items can be left in the box marked "Food Bank" in the Church porch.

**Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SVP)** - If you know of anyone in need or anyone who would like a visit from members of the society, please email the parish office or phone 07842271596 Donations to SVP can be made to this account: Sort Code 60-60-04 ac no. 48001074

**The Solemnity of The Epiphany - Friday 6th January.**

Celebrating "...the manifestation of Jesus as Messiah of Israel, Son of God and Saviour of the world. The great feast of Epiphany celebrates the adoration of Jesus by the wise men (magi) from the East..." CCC528

Once revealed to us "We returned to our places, these Kingdoms,  
but no longer at ease here, in the old dispensation,  
with an alien people clutching their gods"



*Journey of The Magi by T.S. Eliot*

**When does Christmas end?**

On Boxing Day...when you see people dragging their still green Christmas trees to the garden centre recycle point?

1<sup>st</sup> January...the Octave of Christmas and Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God?

6<sup>th</sup> January...Solemnity of The Epiphany when the Wise Men visited the Child Jesus?

7<sup>th</sup> January...for the Orthodox Churches using the Julian calendar?

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord after which we return to Ordinary Time?

2<sup>nd</sup> February...Candlemas, the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple, 40 days after Christmas?

The Alma Redemptoris Mater is used in the Divine Office from the beginning of Advent through to February 2nd, and so Candlemas had come to be associated with the close of the Christmas season and you can happily leave your lights and decs up until then.

*Facts taken from NCR*

**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](mailto:wantage@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Other Priests in the area :

Mgr Andrew Burnham East Hendred Tel: 01235 835038

Fr Zbigniew at Wash Common Tel: 01635 40332