## Mass Times 26th November - 3rd December

Sat 26th 10am Catherine Hickey R.I.P.

Sat 26th 6pm Anne O'Connor R.I.P.

**Sun 27th 9am** Wendy Carney R.I.P.

Sun 27th 11am Michael Tynan R.I.P.

**Monday 28th No Mass** 

**Tuesday 29th 10am** *Dec'd members of Williams & Hill Families R.I.P.* 

Weds 30th 10am Clive & Nancy Williams R.I.P.

Weds 30th Noon Susan Tracey R.I.P. (F)

Thurs 1st Dec 10am Fr. Robin Sanders R.I.P.

Fri 2nd 10am Private Intention

Sat 3rd 10am Fr. Robin Sanders R.I.P.

## **CONFESSIONS:**

Saturdays 10:30 to 11am at St. John Vianney or by appointment

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



11am Mass on Sundays and 12 noon Mass on Wednesdays are at Sacred Heart Lambourn and are not available on Zoom.



In your prayers, please remember all who have died recently especially Fr. Robin Sanders, Georgina Cave, Neil Murphy and Bridget May Knight, and those whose anniversaries occur around this time - Walter Flanagan, Gary Oglesby, Susanna McFeely, Richard Cole, Nora Tarry, Desmond Murtagh, Ela Ozbayraktar,

Michael Dunning, Jessie Harrison, Joan Longworth, Michael Dorrian, Keith Harrison, Robina Ryder, Robina Johnstone, Margaret McGivern, Teresa Bowler, Mabel Capell, Gillian Parrott, Joan Kent, Tom Murphy, Joe Picken. Also pray for all who are sick, in hospital or housebound especially Dot Armstrong, Margaret Wilson, Pete Gray, Margaret Joyce, Peter Shaw, Wendy Purslow, Sue Maher, Tom Carney, Gloria Allen 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** 

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 1st Sunday of Advent 27th November 2022

## The Sands of Time

Does Christmas seem to come round faster every year? Do you ever feel that the sand of time is running fast through your fingers and that life is passing you by? As you make your way around the supermarket and hear the same old tunes as last Christmas, see the same products on the shelves as last Christmas, and follow the same adverts as

last Christmas, do you ever long for something to change?

The hardest thing about living our lives is finding time to live our lives! Our days are ruled by the clock. Few of us can wake up and choose what to do. Our time is dictated by routine and before we know it life has passed us by before we've had time to live it. The biggest theme of Advent is 'change' but in the busy run up to Christmas, changing the way we live our lives is probably the last thing on our minds. We are much more likely to be making savings on the latest iphone than saving our souls!

Today we are given the biggest life changing piece of advice that we could ever have. Preparation! Preparation is essential whether we are setting out to buy a new washing machine or setting out to change the world. Without preparation we will end up wasting years of our time and missing all those heaven sent opportunities. We might not think that we have the time to live our lives any differently from the way we do now, but with the right kind of planning we can transform who we are and what we do and still manage to fit in the day job. If Noah could find time to knock out an ark before the floods came, surely we could all find time to pencil some life changing plans into our calendar! We hear a lot in the news of natural disasters and war around the world. Men women and children across the globe have lost their lives unexpectedly and prematurely. Death comes like a thief in the night, and so we must keep focussed and live in perpetual readiness. Jesus doesn't tell us this to frighten us but to encourage us to take responsibility for the here and now.

## Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for November -For children who suffer

We pray for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.

**Lambourn Parish Meeting** - to discuss the Bishop's 10 year plan, will be on 27th November in the hall after Mass.

**Do we have a person with a large car** who would be willing to help transport large and heavy items for SVP and Little People?

**SVP** - We are supporting a young man who has been re-housed in an empty flat. If you feel able to help towards the cost of white goods etc. we would be very grateful for donations which can be made either using the account below or forwarded in an envelope clearly marked SVP. With many thanks for your kindness.

**Refreshments after Mass** - Thank you to all parishioners who have supported the refreshments after Mass. Due to your generous donations for tea/coffee/cake etc. we have been able to buy a new fridge for the hall kitchen. On December 18th we will provide homemade Christmas cake and mince pies so if you haven't yet stayed after Mass, you are most welcome to join us. Thank you for your support.

Christmas Fund-raiser/Concert /Social with entertainment by Pandemonium and Pete Orton - Friday December 9th, 7.30pm. Church Hall.

Doors open 7pm. Extra parking in Charlton Garden Centre.

Tickets £10. Raffle and refreshments.

Hurry and buy your tickets after Mass this weekend - only 8 tickets left. All proceeds donated to Parish funds.

We would be really grateful for donations of a plate of festive finger food on the evening. To aid our planning please sign up on the Parish noticeboard, where there is a list of ideas, or phone Carol on 07905 043017.

**Little People** - we need: baby clothes size 0-6 months; a cot, cot/bed and cot size bedding. With continued thanks for your support.

**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

Congratulations to Dot Armstrong who celebrated her 95th Birthday last week. Many happy returns and best wishes from Fr. David and all at St. John Vianney and Sacred Heart.

& <del>&</del> & <del>&</del>



Today we light the first of our Advent candles. Traditionally we light three purple candles and one pink candle. The purple candles represent the royalty of the coming King. The pink candle is the third candle to be lit on Gaudete Sunday and represents 'joy'. The gradual lighting of the four candles symbolises the coming light into the world. The wreath

itself is also symbolic. The circle of evergreen in which the candles are placed represent everlasting life.

**Red Box**—please could you bring your red boxes to Church for counting during November. If you can't get to Church, we can arrange collection.



**Scripture Study** - Tuesdays at 7pm on Zoom. Email Fr. David for Zoom link. dosullian@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

## **Other Dates For Your Diary:**

**Parish Retreat Day** - **Saturday 10th December** - Will begin with Mass and will include talks, Adoration and Benediction. Everyone welcome to attend either all or part of the day. Bring your own lunch.

Christmas Carol Service Sunday 18th December, 5pm at St. John Vianney.

**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.

# **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:

Mgr Andrew Burnham East Hendred Tel: 01235 835038

Fr Zbigniew at Wash Common Tel: 01635 40332

St. Amand's School <u>01235 833342</u>. website: <u>www.st-</u> amands.oxon.sch.uk or email office.3855@st-amands.oxon.sch.uk