

Mass Times 3rd - 10th January 2026

Sat 3rd 10am *Peter Boxall R.I.P.*

Sat 3rd 6pm *Philip Hickey R.I.P.*

Sun 4th 9am *In Thanksgiving*

Sun 4th 11am *Pro Populo (Lambourn)*

Mon 5th 10am *In Thanksgiving*

Mon 5th 7pm **Vigil Mass for The Epiphany of the Lord**

Tues 6th **The Epiphany of the Lord**

10am *John and Audrey McCaffrey R.I.P.*

Weds 7th 10am *Lucy Marlow R.I.P.*

Weds 7th 12 Noon *(Lambourn)*

Weds 7th 7pm **Holy Hour and Benediction**

Thurs 8th 10am *Frieda Caspers R.I.P. (f)*

Fri 9th 10am

Sat 10th 10am *Mary Hewlett and Family Ints.*

Sat 10th 6pm *Ros Eltham R.I.P.*

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



In your prayers, please remember all who have died recently especially John Lynch, Aileen Dunne, Margaret McKenna, Roger Morgan, and those whose anniversaries occur around this time - Robin Pope, Pete Gray, Terence Murrell, Ros Eltham, John Hunter, Louisa O'Neil, Denis Buckley, Beth Monaghan, Michael O'Connor, Mary Derbyshire, Jeanne Taylor, Edward Purcell, Colin Kirkham, Marie-Therese Pert, Vera Picken, Philip Kent, Gabrysia Anderson, Wojciech Dubenski, Mary O'Sullivan, John Prove, Marjorie Whitaker, Anthony Windsor, Geoffrey Whitehead, John and Audrey McCaffrey, Mary Black, Edward Morgan, Richard Corkery, Jack Kneafsey, Barbara Healy.

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 :

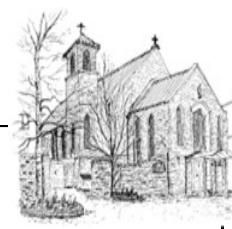
CDP Wantage St John Vianney

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

Fr David's e-mail: dosullivan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Find us at www.wantagecatholicparish.org

Year A 2nd Sunday of Christmas 4th January 2026



Called to Witness

People often declare that their faith is a private and a very personal thing. Of course our faith is very personal, but does that mean it should be private? In keeping our faith private we are missing a very important opportunity. How often has our own faith taken a little leap forward because of something we have heard or something we have read?

Similarly, there may be something you have heard or learnt that would help someone else. You might not consider yourself a theologian, but there might be something seemingly small that you could contribute that would make a big difference to someone else.

Someone else's testimony is the way we learn. Without the internet, books, Catholic papers, TV documentaries, homilies and the testimonies of friends and family, how would we develop our faith? Without the work of missionaries, teachers and parents, how would our faith have been handed from generation to generation? Without the gospel writers, how would Jesus' work and God's word be remembered? Without John the Baptist and the first disciples, how else would Jesus' identity have been known?

Bearing witness is essential. Without witnesses we would know nothing of Jesus. Staying quiet and making religion a private matter is simply not an option. There are still those that would benefit from Christ's teaching either directly or indirectly. If Christianity is something very important to us, why be reticent about sharing it? If bearing witness to Christ can change lives, shouldn't we make our voices ever more persistently heard by friends, neighbours, family, politicians, community leaders, TV producers and anyone else with the willingness and the know-how to bring about change?

Like John, we are called in our baptismal promises to be witnesses to the work of Christ. We are called to be witnesses in every circumstance of our lives.

Pope Leo's Prayer intention for January - For prayer with the Word of God. Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

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



There is a lovely old adage that says - Before Mass, talk to God and after Mass talk to your neighbour. While we all like to chat and catch up, before Mass is a time for God, a time to recollect ourselves and to prepare to celebrate devoutly. Quietness also helps others to prepare. So please be considerate and keep our conversations for after Mass.

Look After Your Neighbour - As the temperatures plummet give a second thought to an elderly neighbour. Offer to do some shopping. Offer to salt a neighbour's front step. Make sure elderly family members have got an up to date hot water bottle. (Hot water bottles have a shelf life of two to three years.)

Thank you to everyone who donated Poinsettias at Christmas and thank you Anne, Freddie and flower arrangers for the lovely decorations in both Churches.

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

Scripture Study
An in-depth look at the weekend's Readings .
Tuesdays 7-7:30pm.
On Zoom using same link as for Mass.

Bitesize - The world is a dangerous place to live; not because of the people who are evil, but because of the people who don't do anything about it. *Albert Einstein*

Office Hours -Tuesday 11am to 1:30pm, Thursday & Friday from 11am to 2:30pm. please email any items for the newsletter to the office by 1:30 pm on Thursday.

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.



First Saturday Devotions 3rd January - will begin with The Holy Rosary at 9:30am in St. John Vianney.

Most Holy Name of Jesus - 3rd January

This feast observes when the newborn baby received the Name Jesus as had been foretold by the angel. We read in the Bible how the Angel Gabriel revealed the name to Mary. "You shall call His name Jesus." And to Joseph, the angel not only revealed the name but explained it's meaning "You shall call His name Jesus, for He shall save His people from their sins."

The Solemnity of The Epiphany - Tuesday 6th January Holy Day of Obligation

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*



Epiphany Blessing - Have you seen numbers and letters written in chalk above a front door? Traditionally on the feast of Epiphany, Catholics bless their homes by writing the letters C, M and B and the numbers of the year, for example 2026, at the top of their doors. The letters stand for the names of the three Magi: Caspar,



Melchior and Balthasar. They also represent the Latin blessing *Christus mansionem benedicat*, which means "May Christ bless this house." What a wonderful way to ask God's blessing on your home as we begin the new year.

So above your door should read: 20 C+M+B 26

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
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