

Mass Times 19th - 27th August

Sat 19th 10am Chris Baker RIP
Sat 19th 6pm Patrick Bergin, Brian Green, Julie Simmons RIP
Sun 20th 9am
Sun 20th 11am Pro Pop
Mon 21st 10am Petre Valceanu RIP
Tues 22nd 10am Eileen Vann RIP
Weds 23rd 10am Miss Caspers RIP (F)
Weds 23rd 12noon Lambourn
Weds 23rd 7pm Holy Hour
Thurs 24th 10am Les Walker RIP
Fri 25th 10am Shirley Marlow RIP
Sat 26th 10am
Sat 26th 6pm Jimmy Green RIP
Sun 27th 9am
Sun 27th 11am Pro Pop

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 Valerie Moulton, Ian Smith, Elizabeth Wright, Les Walker, Michael Petterson, Kathy Child, Patricia Senior, and those whose anniversaries occur around this time - Neil Murphy, Maria Costello, Kathleen Perry, Jim Bryan, Edward Bateman, Jennifer Randall, Robert Carter, Fr. Leo Targett, May Williams, Helen Plaistow, Ellen Newton. Also pray for all who are sick, in hospital or housebound especially Dot Armstrong, Maureen Hendricks, 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 :
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.

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth registered charity number 1199568



St John Vianney Wantage Sacred Heart Lambourn



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Year A 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time 20th August 2023



God's Salvation For Us All

Just when we thought that Jesus' love was all embracing and all compassionate, he shocks us by behaving in a way that can only be described as harsh and unfeeling. In today's gospel Jesus is approached by a Canaanite woman, who pesters him to cure her daughter. 'Canaanite' was the name given to the older inhabitants of Israel who were dispossessed as unclean by Jesus' own people. Jesus would not have been expected to fraternise with such a woman. True to expectation, Jesus does not respond to the woman, explaining that he has been sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel ... this woman is therefore not his problem! Could Jesus really have held this harsh opinion, or was he testing his disciples? The Canaanite woman continues to pester. She has great faith that Jesus will eventually give in and cure her daughter. Again, Jesus responds harshly. "It is not right to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs..." In other words, only Jews had a right to be treated as 'children of God'. The Gentiles on the other hand are likened to 'dogs'. This opinion seems even less like the Jesus we know! Much more likely is the notion that Jesus is stretching his disciples' understanding of God's boundaries, or rather, lack of.

When we first read the Bible, we get the feeling that God is simply there for the 'Children of Israel' or the Hebrew Nation, but the truth is that God does not limit his promises to just certain categories of people. The story finishes with Jesus rewarding the woman's faith with a cure. At first it might appear that Jesus is giving in to 'pester power', though it is much more likely that Jesus had decided from the very outset that he would help this woman. In awarding a cure, Jesus is showing his disciples and us, that faith has the power to melt boundaries and prejudice. Even today we probably imagine God's salvation is for a select few, but today's story teaches us that salvation is there for anyone and everyone who places their trust in God.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for August - For World Youth Day

We pray that World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.



Heading off on your holidays? Visit: www.masstimes.org

A really useful website providing Mass times, Church locations, contact information, website links and maps.

Just type in the name of the town/area that you are visiting.

Bitesize

You can find inspiration from others, but determination is solely your responsibility. *Dodinsky*

Important Safeguarding Notice - we are committed to ensuring that all are safeguarded while attending Mass and other activities in our Church. Our main toilet is just inside the Church door and not visible to us during Mass, so please could parents accompany their child if they need to use the facilities.

Closer to Christ Campaign

Thanks to the support of our whole parish, I am delighted to inform you that the parish has surpassed its goal of £45,000, raising just over £60,000 to date. My heartfelt thanks to everyone that has ensured the success of this campaign in St John Vianney and Sacred Heart! For those yet to pledge there is still time.

Exam Results

When you look at the people who make the world go round, you may be surprised at the exams that they did or didn't manage to pass. As you get older you realise that it isn't the exams in themselves that were important but how you moved forward from that point. This of course is difficult for teenagers to believe when the importance of exams has been drummed into them from the earliest youth. We offer our prayers this week for our younger parishioners who have just received or just about to receive exam results. We praise their efforts, and we support them in whatever they want to do next.



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

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SVP) - helping people struggling with the cost of living or with loneliness and isolation. Contact us through the parish office or on this number 07842271596. Donations to SVP can be made to this account: Sort Code 60-60-04 ac no. 48001074 Thank you for your support.

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DIOCESAN YEAR OF THE HOLY SPIRIT 2023

**May the Holy Spirit guide the clergy and people
of our Diocese in our mission
to bring people closer to Jesus Christ through His Church.**



Slavery Remembrance Day 23rd August

This day is all about commemorating the transatlantic slave trade, but it's also a day to combat modern day slavery.

You might not think you are well placed to combat the slave trade, but in fact your daily shop is a perfect place to start. The problem of trafficking and overcoming it can be so overwhelming, but if we start small, we can slowly empower ourselves to be educated. Choose one or two things you consume the most, and simply do your research on the companies that provide those products or services. It's easier than you think. Start your research at www.ethicalconsumer.org

Care For Our Common Home Unplug Before Travelling

Even if electronic devices are shut off or in sleep mode, they are still using energy. Being away for too long wastes a lot of energy that could otherwise have been plugged off. So, before going on vacation, make sure to unplug your devices from the wall sockets, in order to save electricity. Each UK household spends around £50 – £86 a year to power appliances left in standby mode or not in use.



August 22nd The Queenship of Mary
Pope Pius XII established this feast in 1954. But Mary's queenship has roots in Scripture. At the Annunciation, Gabriel announced that Mary's Son would receive the throne of David and rule forever. At the Visitation, Elizabeth calls Mary "Mother of my Lord." As in all the mysteries of Mary's life, she is closely associated with Jesus: Her queenship is a share in Jesus' kingship. Hymns of the 11th to 13th centuries address Mary as queen: "Hail, Holy Queen," "Hail, Queen of Heaven," and "Queen of Heaven."

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