

Mass Times 24th - 28th December 2025

Weds 24th Christmas Eve 10am *Anne Cole's Ints.*

6pm *Living & Dec'd Members & Friends of Green & Bergin Family*

9pm *Thomas McDonagh R.I.P.*

Thurs 25th Nativity of The Lord 9am *Pro Populo*

11am *(Lambourn)*

Fri 26th St. Stephen's Day 10am *Kamtochukwu Samuel Ugwu's Ints.*

Sat 27th 10am

Sat 27th 6pm *In Thanksgiving for Prayers Answered*

Sun 28th 9am *Pro Populo*

Sun 28th 11am *John Ffrench R.I.P. (Lambourn)*



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



In your prayers, please remember all who have died recently especially Aileen Dunne, Margaret McKenna, Roger Morgan, Meriel Afia, Jinnie Brown, and those whose anniversaries occur around this time - Paul Gheri, Judith Kershaw, Joyce Clarke, Tim Fitzgerald, Maria McNiven, Noel Monahan, Basil England, Brynley Morris, Mark Barrett, Igor Chadzyski, Rose Hill, Maurice Rawlings, Therese Neale, Peter Badger, Emmie Cooke, Maisie Lovell, Patrick Kavanagh Also pray for all who are sick, in hospital or housebound especially June Toley, Richard and Pat Taylor, Monique Regan, Cathy Longworth, Nancy Walsh, Mary and Desmond McNichol, Richard Heron, Jessica Buist, Ann Cole, 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

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 The Nativity of The Lord 2025



Christmas Spirit



You've done it! The hysteria is over and you have arrived at Christmas Day without too much physical or psychological harm. It's all too easy at this point to collapse in a heap with the Radio Times and an overly large sherry, feeling that Christmas is safely over for another year. But Christmas is more than just the culmination of Advent; it's the beginning of the Christmas Season, in which we are invited to contemplate on salvation "made flesh". As children we visited Church on Christmas day to sing Christmas carols and peep in at the cosy crib scene. As adults we are invited to contemplate the deeper and long lasting meaning of Christmas. How many times have we been guilty of thinking of God as a distant figure? How often have we wondered how to develop a relationship with a God who is supposed to love us, yet remains stubbornly silent and invisible. But on this day over twenty centuries ago, there was something of a miracle. God was no longer somebody we couldn't see or hear, God became "flesh" in the form a small child in a stable. God came into the world that he had created, to save us. Jesus is the face and voice of God. Jesus became the blueprint of how we should live our lives. His life and work is there for us all to read and remember. He has left the Holy Spirit as his legacy to help and guide us. Our acceptance of Jesus is key to our relationship with God.

For children, the excitement of Christmas comes once a year. As adults we learn to live the true meaning of Christmas not on this one day but every day. As Ebenezer Scrooge promises in the final pages of Dickens' 'Christmas Carol' as he leaps out of bed on Christmas morning, the time before him, his own to make amends in, "I will live in the past, the present and the future. The spirits of all three shall strive within me."



Wishing you all a Blessed and very happy Christmas

Pope Leo's Prayer intention for December - For Christians in areas of conflict. Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.



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.

Christmas Offering - Our Christmas Collection celebrates and gives thanks to our Parish Priest and all the dedication, guidance and care he gives us throughout the year. This collection is a considerable part of the priest's income. If you would like to give a gift to support Fr. David this Christmas, please use the collection bags or Dona machine at the back of the Church.



For our younger parishioners

See how many Angels you can spot in the newsletter.
Tell Fr. David how many you have found and you may win a prize!



Christmas Crib offerings this year will go to the Friends of the Holy Land (FHL), a non-political charity, whose mission is to secure a resilient and enduring Christian community in the West Bank, Gaza, Israel and Jordan.



Homelessness at Christmas. Any one could fall prey to an unscrupulous landlord, job loss or the breakdown of a relationship. Charities like Shelter, Crisis, or Salvation Army are equipped not just to support the homeless at Christmas, but support people back into a safe place to live. Think about making a donation this Christmas to one of the homeless charities to help put someone's life back on track.



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.



Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth registered charity number 1199568

A Very Big Thank You



to all who have worked so hard in the run up to Christmas, and throughout the year:

To Judy, Neville and all the members of the choir and music group who gave us a truly beautiful Carol service on 14th December. Thank you to all who attended and came into the hall afterwards making it a lovely social event. And to those who prepared food and helped in the kitchen.

To Ellen and Matt for organising the children's party last Friday. Thank you to all the children and their parents who came along to make it such a fun evening. Thank you to Sylwia who took lovely photographs, and to all who helped in the kitchen.

To Anne and the flower arrangers working behind the scenes to prepare for Christmas decorations in the Church.

To James who works, come rain or shine to keep the Church grounds looking so neat and tidy.

Thank you to the organisers of the Phoenix Brass Band Concert in Lambourn and to Marion and team who keep things running smoothly.



Thank you to Fr David, without whom, none of this would happen !

Office Hours over Christmas and New Year

**The office will be closed from Tuesday 23rd at 1:30pm,
until Friday 2nd January.**

In an emergency please contact Fr. David on 07554 427063

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
amands.oxon.sch.uk or email office.3855@st-amands.oxon.sch.uk