

I am available for any parishioner who needs me. My mobile number is 07554427063. Please feel free to contact me to have a chat or to have prayers or a mass said for someone.

Jan 30th-Feb 6th

Sat: 30th Josephine Hunders RIP

Sat: 30th Jack, Josie and Michael Kneafsey RIP

Sun: 31st

Sun: No Mass at 11am

Mon: 1st Gabriel Geadah RIP

Tue: 2nd Beth Monaghan RIP

Wed: 3rd

Thur: 4th

Fri: 5th Beth Monaghan RIP

Sat: 6th

Currently mass is only available on Zoom

Sat Eve 6pm

Sunday 9am

Weekdays 10am



In your prayers, please remember all who have recently died especially Beth Monaghan. Also pray for all who are sick, in hospital or housebound especially Pete Gray, Sybil Murphy, Margaret Joyce, Peter Shaw, Wendy Purslow, Sue Maher, Cedric Andrews, and all those suffering during this pandemic. Please contact the office if you would like someone to be added to our sick list.

Lenten Retreat: 'Finding Hope in Scripture' for everyone. Every Monday evening during Lent, for 6 weeks, we will discover aspects of the virtue of hope from 6 different Bible passages, so that we may grow in hope in these difficult times, and find ways to share our hope with others. Our reflection will be followed by a time of live-streamed adoration and Compline with the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph. Register here to participate: <https://us02web.zoom.us/joining/register/tZEtc-2grjkiGtU8vPFJea2ktvR5U0MZ1mrL>

Collections Thank You

If you would like to continue supporting the Church through the period of close-down your weekly/ monthly offering can be made online using this name and account number: **PRCDT Wantage St John Vianney Sort Code: 30-93-04 Account Number: 01720016 Account Name: 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



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2021 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time—Year B



True Authority

Today Mark tells us how Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. He tells us how amazed the people were at how he taught and at the authority in his teachings. His authority was powerful enough to expel demons even. You'll notice that Mark

doesn't tell us what Jesus taught but only how he taught and the impression he made. So why did people sense authority in Jesus' presence, and why was it so compelling?

When we think of authority we tend to think of bosses, leaders or the legal profession. We think of rules, laws and boundaries. We equate authority with enforcement and for the most part we don't like it very much. Perhaps Jesus' brand of authority was compelling because it wasn't any of these things. Jesus' brand of authority wasn't about the exclusion that the scribes and Pharisees were so fond of but of total inclusion. Jesus' authority was rooted in the value of every man woman and child over any out-dated rule or redundant tradition. We do not have the benefit of listening first hand to Jesus' teaching, but it is testament to his authority that we still read his words twenty centuries after he spoke them. There are still lessons to be learned for those who believe Jesus can add something to our world and change us forever. There are still demons in our lives, and Jesus' teaching still has the authority to drive them out.

**Please remember that there is no Public Mass this weekend.
Zoom only. Saturday Evening 6pm and Sunday Morning 9am**

Formation for Mission. Readers course

There are still spaces for our forthcoming Parish Readers workshops on the 6th-13th February and on the 17th-24th

April: <https://www.godwhospeaks.org/readers>



Presentation of the Lord February 2nd

Simeon had waited all his life to see Jesus. The Holy Spirit had promised him that he would live long enough. When Mary and Joseph presented the baby at the temple, Simeon said, "Now, Lord, you have kept your promise, and you may let your servant go in peace. With my own eyes I have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples."

Seeing Jesus satisfied Simon's life. We are prompted to ask what would satisfy us in our lives. Are the goals we set worth a lifetime of wanting, as Simeon's was?



Catholic Agency for
Overseas Development

This Lent, CAFOD invites you and the whole Catholic community of England and Wales to join the Big Walk for Water

[Join the Big Walk for Water! | CAFOD](#) virtual

event on Saturday 20th February. We are asking everyone to walk in solidarity with those who have to walk to collect water each day like Abdella from Ethiopia. You can walk 5 miles or just around your garden but please walk so that we can make this an event to create awareness of water poverty and to raise funds for those living in poverty around the world.

If you are a keen walker could you Walk for Water as a personal Lenten challenge by walking 10,000 steps a day, every day, for 40 days to raise funds for CAFOD's Lent appeal. Find out more at <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Walk-for-Water> Please contact Jo for more information portsmouth@cafod.org.uk

Ask your MP to sign a parliamentary motion calling on the Government to introduce new guidance on fetal pain

A new parliamentary motion (EDM 1340) is calling on the Government to introduce new guidance on fetal pain. The evidence that babies can feel pain in the womb, and during many abortions, highlights the humanity of the unborn child and provides another important reason to introduce legislation to protect the unborn child from abortion. Right To Life UK have set up an easy-to-use tool which makes it simple to contact your MP, and ask them to sign this motion calling on the Government to introduce new guidance on fetal pain. It only takes 30 seconds using this easy-to-use tool. This tool can be accessed by visiting the link below: www.righttolife.org.uk/FetalPainMotion



Travels with my bro....

Unfortunately, the promised diet didn't last. We tried but failed at the first hurdle. To be honest we didn't need to look for an excuse, but we decided that as we crossed into Spain again, we couldn't keep it up. Dry end of January gave way to foodie Feb two weeks

early. It's difficult to be good when rowing so much. Burning calories is hard work and especially for someone who carries so much stored energy around the middle. It didn't help that an unexpected hamper arrived from a secret admirer. This was no ordinary hamper either. The single estate, 56% cocoa solid, hand picked by the famers grandchildren in the moonlight chocolate, was of course in the M&S hamper. I could almost hear the advert in my ears. This is no ordinary hamper this is.....you get the image!! To make matters worse we could almost smell the tapas as we got to the border and we had to celebrate our arrival. Not that we didn't enjoy Portugal, but Spain has so much to offer. We have arrived in Huelva. Its not the most beautiful city as much was destroyed in the Lisbon earthquake. The province is famous for being the location from which Christopher Columbus sailed off on his first voyage of exploration to the New World in 1492. Its folkloric soul is present in its fandangos said Br.M in that air he adopts when spouting trivia. The beautiful La Rabida Monastery is where Christopher Columbus resided in 1490 while he was waiting for financial backing for his plans to discover the new world. There is a museum which gives information on the voyage to the new world as well as the life of Christopher Columbus. Br.M wondered if we should follow in his wave tracks and set off for the USA. As I didn't fancy the vast expanse of water I suggested we give it a miss this time. Luckily, Huelva is also known for its food and was the Gastronomic capital of Spain a few years ago. Sitting on the coast of course seafood such as clams, white prawns, seabass and cuttlefish feature heavily on menus. Br.M is keen on the local specialities, guisos marineros de rape (monkfish stews), corvina (sea bass), adobos de pescado (marinated fish), pez espada (swordfish), chocos fritos (fried cuttlefish), fideos con caballa (noodles and mackerel), raya en pimentón (skate in paprika), salmorejo (Andalucian tomato and bread soup). As we keep saying this is research for the book we will write on our return. Rick Stein watch out! The next portion of the trip is becoming difficult as we have an important choice to make. Do we continue to go around Spain from Gibraltar to Malaga or go inland to Seville and Cordoba. Both have their appeal. We have decided against crossing to Tangier. Africa is just too big!! We will keep you posted but in the meantime keep safe. God Bless.