

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.

Feb 27th– March 6th

Sat:27th Michael Murray RIP

Sat:27th Kathleen Green RIP

Sun: 28th Willem Van Tamelen's ints

Sun: 28th

Mon: 1st Maeve Shipsey RIP

Tue:2nd the Unborn Child

Wed: 3rd

Thur:4th Sarah Dunning's ints

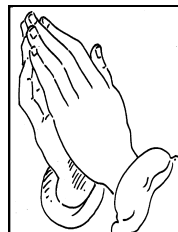
Fri:5th Women of Vanuatu

Sat:6th Maeve Shipsey RIP

Public Mass
Sat Eve 6pm Wantage
Sunday 9am Wantage
Sunday 11am Lambourn

Tue 10am
Fri 10am
Booking essential

Weekdays 10am on Zoom



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.

Happy Saint David's Day

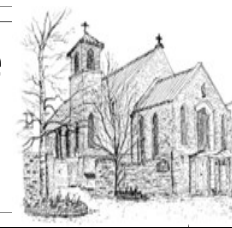
Lent doesn't have to be a time of major change... doing the little things, but doing them well counts too. Adopt St David's philosophy ... "Be joyful, brothers and sisters. Keep your faith, and do the little things that you have seen and heard with me." Why not join us for Zoom mass on Monday? A chance to sing.

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 Second Sunday in Lent Year B



If you are always eager and motivated and pro-active then this isn't for you. If you on the other hand suffer from bouts of lethargy, are often paralysed by feelings of fear, anxiety or self-doubt, then today's gospel carries a powerful message of hope.

Most of us probably fall into the second category. We start a project in a flush of excitement and commitment, but when the hard work sets in and success eludes us, we become discouraged. We take on a big financial commitment thoroughly convinced that we can deal with it, but begin to have sleepless nights, dreading the bills and fearing the bank manager. We enter into new relationships and quickly get disappointed when elements of that relationship demand more of us than we thought. We embark on a challenging career but become fearful and filled with self-doubt. Eventually we lose the hope that had originally driven us. Take Heart! We are no different from the early disciples. Jesus had been telling his disciples what being the 'Messiah' really meant, and it didn't entail hurling the Romans out on their ear, it entailed dying on a cross. Is it any wonder the disciples were feeling discouraged! Jesus knew that his disciples needed to see beyond the fear. He knew that he needed to re-ignite a vision of the rewards of their work, and he knew that vision needed to stay with them always to motivate them in times when their ministry weighed heavy. In short, Jesus needed to remind them how important their job was, and so he gave them the spiritual experience we now call the 'transfiguration'. This was a vision of himself in a dazzling light flanked by Moses and Elijah and God's voice from the clouds.... "This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him." Like the early disciples, we have to look beyond our fears if we are to work through them. God gave each of us a talent, and with that a talent comes a vision of what we can do and what we can achieve. This is the vision we can call upon when we lose hope. This is the vision that will carry us beyond our fear.



Lent: a Time for Renewing Faith, Hope and Love

In these times of trouble, when everything seems fragile and uncertain, it may appear challenging to speak of hope. Yet Lent is precisely the season of hope, when we turn back to God who patiently continues to care for his creation which we have often mistreated. To experience Lent in hope entails growing in the realization that, in Jesus Christ, we are witnesses of new times, in which God is “making all things new” (cf. Rev 21:1-6). It means receiving the hope of Christ, who gave his life on the cross and was raised by God on the third day, and always being “prepared to make a defence to anyone who calls us to account for the hope that is in us” (1 Pet 3:15).

“In order to give hope to others, it is sometimes enough simply to be kind. Taken from Pope Francis’s Lenten Message 2021

Women’s World Day of Prayer 2021 March 5th

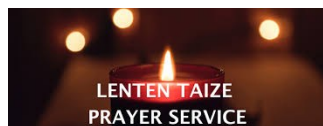
This year’s World Day of Prayer in 2021 prepared by the women of the Vanuatu islands. The theme is “Building on a Strong Foundation,” You can find the pre-recorded service at www.wwdp.org.uk/2021/02/18/celebrate-wdp-2021-with-women-in-vanuatu/ You can also check our parish website.

A Festival of Climate, Fairtrade and You.

22 February to 7 March 2021

Farmers behind our food are on the front line of the climate crisis. But there’s hope. Join Fairtrade’s global community during Fairtrade Fortnight 2021 for a free festival of online events and activities to entertain, educate and inspire us all to choose the world we want to see...

Take a look at www.fairtrade.org.uk/choose-the-world-you-want/



Dates for you Diary:
Taize Prayer Evening Sunday 28th March
5pm on Zoom

The Readings of Lent. A look at the readings of the Sundays in Lent Tuesday 7– 7.30pm Zoom.



Travels with my bro....

We have left Seville and are nearing Cordoba a journey of 145k. As we have moved inland for some of our journey our wonderful Heath-Robinsonesque rowcycle is again in use. The River is not that navigable now and it meanders for miles. For those who don’t know what the rowcycle is you need to look back to the border crossing. Suffice it to say that the calorie output is much greater. This poses a problem as it is Lent. I have put Br.M to read the prerequisite canon law to see if we can lighten our Lenten penance. I don’t hold out much hope but as they say, it springs eternal. And Spring is sprung. I have also set Br.M the task of reading Seneca as he was born in Cordoba. *“There are more things, Lucilius, that frighten us than injure us, and we suffer more in imagination than in reality.”* Br.M was not impressed with my quoting but I had to show that I picked up something along the route. Cryptically he said that the only reason I liked Seneca is because he constantly quotes Epicurus!! Even I was surprised at his knowledge of the Stoics. He is almost right though and Lent should curb our epicurean tendencies Well done Cambridge. Cordoba was founded by the Romans and due to its strategic importance as the highest navigable point of the Guadalquivir River at the time it became a port city of great importance, used for shipping Spanish olive oil, wine and wheat back to Ancient Rome. Cordoba’s hour of greatest glory was when it became the capital of the Moorish kingdom of El-Andalus, and this was when work began on the Great Mosque, or “Mezquita”, which – after several centuries of additions and enlargements became one of the largest in all of Islam. When the city was reconquered by the Christians in 1236, the new rulers of the city were so awed by its beauty that they left it standing, building their cathedral in the midst of its rows of arches and columns, and creating the extraordinary church-mosque we see today. I am looking forward to visiting the Alcazar, a fortress built in 1327 by King Alfonso XI. The famous tower, known as the Tower of the Inquisition, is a must I’m told. Br.M suggested that I’d be at home there. I worry about how much he is beginning to behave like Br.P. I may also get some ideas for my garden on my return as it also has one of the most beautiful ancient gardens in the world. Br.M has suggested that it we slow down a little we could spend March 11th in Cordoba as it is the feast of the martyred priest, St. Eulogius of Cordoba. “You can celebrate on Feast Days” he said with joy! I didn’t want to ruin his moment. Hasta la proxima semana as they say here. Dios bendiga.
Every new beginning comes from some other beginning's end”. Seneca