

I am available for any parishioner who needs me. My mobile number is 07554427063

8th—15th January

Sat 8th 6pm *Bergin Family Intentions*

Sun 9th 9am *Mick O'Connor R.I.P.*

Sun 9th 11am *John Ffrench R.I.P.*

Mon 10th No Mass

Tues 11th 10am *Liam Dawson Thanksgiving*

Wed 12th 10am *John O'Sullivan R.I.P.*

Wed 12th Midday *D. Purcell R.I.P.*

Thurs 13th 10am *Noel Monahan R.I.P.*

Fri 14th 10am

Sat 15th 10am

Sat 15th 6pm *Beth Monahan R.I.P.*

Public Mass
Wantage: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday 10am
Saturday 6pm Wantage
Sunday 9am Wantage
Sunday 11am Lambourn
No Booking needed for weekday Masses
Booking for Sunday Masses essential. Please book by 5pm on Friday.

Find us at:

www.wantagecatholicparish.org

www.sacredheartlambourn.org

Those who come to Mass are asked to take a lateral flow test before they come, to wear masks as required by law, and to preserve social distancing as far as possible.



In your prayers, please remember all who have recently died . Also pray for all who are sick, in hospital or housebound especially Pete Gray, Sybil Murphy, Margaret Joyce, Peter Shaw, Wendy Purslow, Sue Maher, Dame Catherine Wyburne, Sr. Veronica O.P. , Tom Carney and all those suffering during this pandemic. 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 :

PRCDTR 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.

Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No. 246871



St John Vianney Wantage

Sacred Heart Lambourn

Parish Priest: Fr. David O'Sullivan

Telephone: 01235 762374

Mobile: 07554427063



Year C Baptism of the Lord 9th January 2022



New Beginnings

Now when all the people were baptised, and when Jesus also had been baptised and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

This is a great moment for Jesus, a moment when he receives affirmation from God his Father. For the rest of us it is also a momentous occasion. This is the beginning of Jesus' public ministry and a promise of great things to follow. What

a shame that our own baptisms aren't as momentous. At best we might have got a party, though of course we were far too young to share the sausage rolls and champagne. Perhaps there's a bit of video footage somewhere in the loft, but it's not likely that we got doves from heaven or God's voice from the clouds. This doesn't however make our baptism unimportant.

Jesus' baptism came at the start of his public ministry and marked a new beginning for us all. The story invites us to look at our own beginnings in light of Jesus' ministry. What have we made of our lives so far? Is there anything we can point to that we feel might have particularly pleased God? Perhaps we have done nothing to please God. Perhaps we have made rather a rocky start. Perhaps we haven't done much to be proud of at all. It doesn't matter; coming so close to the beginning of the year, this feast day is a perfect invitation to start again.

The second thing we learn from this gospel reading is that Jesus was not alone; he was enabled by the Holy Spirit who descended in the bodily form of a dove. The really exciting news is that according to John, we too receive the Holy Spirit in our baptism. We are not alone in our struggles. We too are enabled. That's a genuinely powerful belief.

As we begin yet another new year, we set about facing our challenges with a renewed courage and a renewed faith in the Holy Spirit. We begin again with an appreciation that our baptism is more than just a distant childhood memory.

Pope Francis's Prayer Intention for January 2022

“...for all those suffering from religious discrimination and persecution; may their own rights and dignity be recognized, which originate from being brothers and sisters in the human family.”

Pax Christi—PEACE SUNDAY 16th January. This year Pope Francis asks us to think about ‘Education, work and dialogue between generations: tools for building lasting peace’.

The need for peace in the world is obvious. People are struggling against violence and conflict, growing inequalities, the effects of climate change and the covid pandemic. How can we harness the gifts and energy of all generations in the work of peacemaking? Which ‘tools for building lasting peace’ do you think Pope Francis might be talking about?

In this country we have an active Catholic peace movement in Pax Christi, which does a great deal of good work to promote peace and nonviolence through parishes, schools and social media.

Their website suggests many ways we can all become better peacemakers. There are activities for families to do at home, including a peace liturgy for young children. <https://paxchristi.org.uk/peace-sunday-2022>

Pax Christi needs our support to keep going. If you’d like to make a donation, small or large, here is the link: <https://tinyurl.com/yxfcw67x>

If you’d like your personal donation to be counted towards your parish contribution please give your parish name and town in the ‘Additional Information – Order Notes’ box on the checkout page. Or send a cheque payable to ‘Pax Christi’ to: *Pax Christi, St Joseph’s, Watford Way, London NW4 4TY*

Synod Consultation—Please return consultation forms asap.

SVP—Please could you consider joining our small group of volunteers?

St. Vincent de Paul Society is committed to combatting poverty and providing support and friendship in our local community. If you would like to know more about what is involved please email the parish office wantage@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

WHITE FLOWER APPEAL 2022 - the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) will be holding its annual appeal at 6pm Mass on Saturday Jan 15th and 9am Mass on Sunday Jan 16th. SPUC is currently campaigning to protect Pro-Life speech. Pro-Life witness is being restricted now more than ever; SPUC believes that we must be able to speak freely to protect unborn babies. Please be as generous as you can to help the work of SPUC. If you wish to donate but are attending Mass via Zoom please consider placing your donation in an envelope and delivering to Fr David at the presbytery. Thank you.

Recommended Reading - Time for a Change: Pocket Seminar for Reflection and Growth by Anselm Grün *Redemptorist Publications.*

We are frequently faced with decisions about whether to make small or major changes to our lives. Sometimes it’s better to hang on and examine our circumstances from a fresh perspective. This book can help with those situations. It asks the right questions which each of us can answer for ourselves. There’s plenty of space for writing and jotting down notes, along with practical advice for everyday use on putting your answers to work. The result is an essential companion for reflection and growth.

Thirst for Life—Take on the ‘Thirst for Life Challenge’ this January and bring water to all. This January, challenge yourself. The challenge could be to give up your favourite drink for two weeks or for the whole of January. With the money you save, or with the money you raise through sponsorship, you can donate online at Christian Aid to support our global neighbours who are struggling for water due to the climate crisis. Visit www.christianaid.org.uk/ and follow the ‘Thirst for Life’ link to donate online.

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** **Baptisms**—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

St. Amand’s School [01235 833342](tel:01235833342) . website: www.st-amands.oxon.sch.uk or email office.3855@st-amands.oxon.sch.uk