

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.

April 17th– 25th

Sat: 17th

Sat: 17th Richard Dickinson RIP

Sun: 18th Miss Rabb RIP

Sun: 18th

Mon: 19th Peter Smith RIP

Tue: 20th Frank Mangan and deceased Family RIP

Wed: 21st Chona Fegalquin ints

Wed 22nd 12 Noon

Thur: 23rd John Hickey RIP

Fri: 24th Private Intention

Sat: 25th In Thanksgiving

**Public Mass**  
Wantage: Mon, Tue, Wed,  
Thurs and Fri 10am  
Lambourn Wed 12noon.  
Sunday 9am Wantage  
Sunday 11am Lambourn

**No Booking needed for  
weekday Masses**

**Booking for Weekend Masses  
essential.**



## St John Vianney Wantage Sacred Heart Lambourn



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### 2021 Third Sunday of Easter Year B

#### Enlightenment



When we are struggling with our faith, we might be tempted to think that as long as we are 'good people' that will suffice. But what sets those who are simply 'good people' and 'Christians' apart?

The other disciples were really not so very different from Doubting Thomas. When they saw Jesus in their midst, they took some convincing that it really was Jesus and not a ghost that had come to visit them. The gospel outlines three pieces of proof that Jesus uses to convince them that he really has risen

from the dead. He shows them the marks on his hands and feet, he invites them to touch and check that he is flesh and blood, and he shares a meal with them. But it is only when Jesus opens their minds to understanding the scriptures that they come to believe in him. By interpreting what has happened, the risen Christ draws the disciples out of their confusion. Amongst some of his famous last words to them, were words of encouragement to go and preach his message and a reminder of prophecies fulfilled and promises made. Being a Christian today isn't easy, and simply accepting the Jesus we have grown up with sometimes isn't enough to sustain us. Perhaps we have given up believing and think that being a good person will be good enough. Understanding the difference between living life simply as a good person, and living life as a Christian comes of believing in the risen Jesus. As Christians we are continually striving to follow Christ's example. Today, through prayer, scripture debate, and putting faith into action, we continually work for the same enlightenment and understanding that Jesus gave his early disciples. To find that enlightenment we need to look to scripture as the disciples did. We need to look at the authors of the books within the Bible and understand who they were, something of the times they lived in, and who their audience was. There are commentaries to read and videos to watch, and of course, the Bible itself. We don't need to be great scholars. The original disciples weren't. All we need is the desire for enlightenment.



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

#### Saint George Happy St George's Day! 23rd April

Okay, it's highly unlikely that St George ever killed a dragon, or for that matter that he ever arrived on the shores of England. Perhaps we could use the feast day as a 'prompt' to slay our own dragons whatever they might be ..... laziness, greed, the need to gossip or put people down. Happy St George's Day!



**Exposition and Benediction Wednesday 7pm. All Welcome**

#### 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: PRCDDR Wantage St. John Vianney.** Please remember that you can always drop your donation into the Presbytery letterbox. Same Account for Wantage and Lambourn.



**Parish History Project.** This year we celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of the completion of the new Church in Wantage in 1961. To mark this momentous occasion I am hoping to have a history of the parish written and published. Do you have any information about the parish, no matter how small or insignificant? Do you have any old photographs? Can you remember anything of note? If you can help in any way please drop your contributions into the parish or email the office. I'm sure that together we can produce something special.

### **Give Thanks for Your Vaccination.**

As more of our family, friends, and neighbours receive their COVID vaccinations, we rejoice and are glad that our loved ones are protected. We give thanks for all the NHS staff and key workers who continue to save lives across the UK.

For the poorest and most vulnerable communities across the world, there is little hope of a vaccine rollout. These people already face a lack of water, food, and healthcare. Our aid agencies are already on the ground, helping keep people safe from coronavirus with practical support – but with your gift of thanks they can do more.

**Donate online at CAFOD, Trocaire, SCIAF and Christian Aid.**

### ***Care for Our Common Home Earth Day 22nd April 2021***

Together, we can prevent the coming disasters of climate change and environmental destruction. Together, we can restore our Earth. On this year's Earth Day the hope is to see a billion 'Acts of Green' across the planet. From students in classrooms to organisers in their communities to officials in government there are ways for anyone of any background to make a difference. Start small and go big — or start big and stay big. Either way, create a green action on this day.

### **Brilliant! 24 Catholic Scientists, Mathematicians, and Supersmart People**

*David Michael Warren*

In an effort to help children learn about the relationship between faith and science, the Daughters of St. Paul, a premiere publisher of Catholic children's books for over seventy years through Pauline Books & Media, have partnered with the Word on Fire Institute to present an exciting new book for children: 'Brilliant! 24 Catholic Scientists, Mathematicians, and Supersmart People'. The book introduces children to many of the Catholics who have been behind ground-breaking discoveries in science and math for centuries. Children will embark on an adventure through history where they'll meet faith-filled pioneers in every field from anatomy to astrophysics. They'll walk in the footsteps of these supersmart Catholics who changed the world and learn how brilliant they can be when they unite faith and science!

**Order online at [www.paulineuk.org/browse/item/Brilliant-24-Catholic-Scientists-Mathematicians-and-Supersmart-People](http://www.paulineuk.org/browse/item/Brilliant-24-Catholic-Scientists-Mathematicians-and-Supersmart-People)**

**Back to school College or University.** Our prayers and best wishes go to all our young people who head back to school after the Easter break. We pray that they have a safe and exciting Summer Term



### **Travels with my bro....**

Sadly Br.M is still sore about losing the boat race to me. He didn't realise that I have been in serious training since the beginning of lockdown number 1. He also didn't take my advise on the Grand National. His horse fell at the first fence. I warned him that it was unlikely to get off the start line but he wouldn't listen. I told him that all Irish people are

born with an extra gene for understanding horses! The scientist in him looked agog but he couldn't counter. My Tipperary girl did me proud and the La Tache fund has grown considerably. I'm not advocating gambling but the National deserves a little flutter. Ever since Red Rum in 1974 when my first flutter paid dividends I never miss but sadly never got 11-1 again. Our journey has continued and from Aranjuez we have decided to avoid the metropolis of Madrid and skirt around the south following the Tagus and eventually to Barcelona. Since my first viewing of Fawlt towers I've wanted to visit Barcelona. Not for Gaudi but for Manuel. For centuries, the kings and queens of Spain spent their spring months at the Palace of Aranjuez. They came for the stunning gardens that surrounded the grounds.

Aranjuez was designated a Royal Site by the Catholic Kings who frequently stayed here to relax. Work on the palace and adjoining monuments and gardens was begun by Philip II and completed by Charles III of Spain. King Ferdinand VI assigned Spanish architects Gonzalez Velazquez and Santiago Bonavia to build what was intended as a royal church, and one dedicated to San Antonio de Padua. As a life long devotion to St Anthony has found many lost items for me it was a must visit. Perhaps a prayer or two might turn up Br. P who has now been missing for months. While I'm there I have suggested that Br.M visit the Alpajes Church, also called the Church of Our Lady of Sorrows, in the old Alpajes quarter. He needs cheering up. It wouldn't be fair not to mention the other hobby of this trip, food, so I have to mention the *gangos*, or restaurants on the banks of the Tagus where you can savour salads, spicy omelettes and rabbit with garlic. One of the restaurants even had asparagus, pheasant and frog legs on its menu. Perhaps this is preparation for our return to France in a few weeks. Sadly learning the famous concerto has not been easy. You can't row and play the Sax! Br.M putting his fingers in his ears didn't help either. Needless to say I told him that he couldn't row with his fingers in his ears either. We reached an impasse. What he didn't count on was an hours practice outside his tent at night. Hasta la proxima semana as they say here. Dios bendiga. Now what's the time? Saxophone practice time! Night night Br. M

Please don't forget if you have any spare seedlings, cuttings or plants I'm back in the garden. Flowers or Veg anything will do!