

Mass Times 11th - 19th January 2025

Sat 11th 10am NO MASS

Sat 11th 6pm *Chief Matthew AGV Ugwu R.I.P.*

Sun 12th 9am *Ros Eltham R.I.P.*

Sun 12th 11am *Pro Populo (Lambourn)*

Mon 13th to Friday 17th NO MASS

Sat 18th 10am *Pete Gray R.I.P.*

Sat 18th 6pm *Patrick Bergin R.I.P.*

Sun 19th 9am *Edward Moran R.I.P.*

Sun 19th 11am *Pro Populo (Lambourn)*

No Confessions on 11th January.

Nearest Confessions: St Mary's East Hendred Saturday 10-11am.



In your prayers, please remember all who have died recently especially Paul Ghersi, and those whose anniversaries occur around this time - Pete Gray, Robin Pope, Terence Murrell, Helen (Ros) Eltham, Patrick Callaghan, Denis Buckley, Beth Monaghan, Michael O'Connor, Mary Derbyshire, Jeanne Taylor, Edward Purcell, Colin Kirkham, Marie Pert, Vera Picken, Philip Kent, Mary Smith, Gabrysia Anderson, Wojciech Dubenski, Mary O'Sullivan, John Prove, Marjorie Whitaker, Anthony Windsor, Geoffrey Whitehead, Audrey McCaffrey, Mary Black, Edward Moran, Richard Corkery, Jack Kneafsey, John McCaffrey. Also pray for all who are sick, in hospital or housebound especially Nancy Walsh, Dagmar Couchman, Mary and Desmond McNichol, Richard Heron, Jessica Buist, Ann Cole, Isabel Smith, Dot Armstrong, 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



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Find us at www.wantagecatholicparish.org

Year C Baptism of the Lord 12th January 2025

New Beginnings



What does Jesus' baptism say to us? Jesus' thirty years of preparation before his public baptism remind us that it takes time to get ready for God's mission. How many countless hours did Jesus spend in prayer? What study, what thought, what vision must he have undergone before appearing in front of John asking for baptism? What do we learn from Jesus' baptism? January is a time for new beginnings and fresh resolution. John the Baptist was an expert on this. John's ministry was all about repentance and reform ... that's what his baptism was all about. But anyone who has ever seriously tried to change themselves will know how difficult change really is. We all fondly imagine that change is just beyond our reach, and all we have to do is reach that little bit further. Perhaps we would be more giving if we had more money. Perhaps we would be more helpful to others if we could manage our time better. Perhaps we would manage to be tidier if we had a home extension. Perhaps we could be happier if we found a perfect partner. Perhaps we could feel better fulfilled if we changed our job, passed a few more exams, moved to the country, lost weight, got a promotion, had a baby... the list goes on and on. Yet every January we find ourselves in much the same situation as the previous year. Those who were baptised by John were baptised as a sign of their intent to change from their old ways, but knowing how difficult change can be, we can't help wondering how successful they must have been. Perhaps John appreciated this too when he said "I have baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit."

When we look for change in our lives, perhaps we are looking in all the wrong places. Perhaps all we need to do is to ask the Holy Spirit for help. We are told that the same Holy Spirit that empowered Jesus at the outset of his ministry, is the same Holy Spirit that is given to us in our baptism. Validating our baptism anew every day, knowing that we are filled with the Holy Spirit perhaps change isn't just beyond our reach after all.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention For January - For the right to an education.

Let us pray for migrants, refugees, and those affected by war, that their right to an education, which is necessary to build a better world, might always be respected.

Join us in the hall for refreshments after 9am Mass.

Right to Life - We pray for the families and friends of pregnant women, that they would recognise their responsibility to care for the mother and child, and shower them with love and support through the journey of pregnancy and beyond. Lord hear us...

A big thankyou to everyone who donated food, gifts, vouchers and clothes to Little People during December - we were able to help over 30 families to have a better Christmas, and they were very appreciative. Thankyou too, for all the donations of clothes during 2024. 203 children received clothes from our clothes bank which was a great help to their parents!
We obviously couldn't do any of this without you, so we would like to wish you a blessed 2025. Tessa Heron and Helen Margetts

Homeless Concern - As the temperatures plummet, put faith into action and donate to a local charity that is supporting the homeless on our streets. Donations could afford food parcels or sleeping bags. Starting points for donations include, SVP, Crisis, Shelter, and The Salvation Army ... or simply stop to give someone on the street a cup of coffee and a sandwich (ask first).

A Year of Hope: An Introduction to the Jubilee Year with CAFOD

2025 is a Jubilee year, but what does that mean? Catholic talk show host and author Nana Churcher, and CAFOD's Simon Giarchi will be hosting Fr Jan Nowotnik (Director of Mission for the Bishop's Conference), Christine Allen (CAFOD's Director) and Kayode Akintola (CAFOD's Head of Africa) and more for a lively start to the Jubilee. With a special appearance by Catholic band Ooberfuse. Saturday 18 Jan, 10:30am-midday, online.

All welcome. Register here for free: cafod.org.uk/jubilee

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 Thank you for your support.



Thank You to Mgr Andrew Burnham who will be celebrating Masses for us this weekend.

Nearest Weekday Masses this week - Tuesday to Thursday 9am St Mary's East Hendred and Friday 8:30am at Hendred House Chapel. Friday 9:30am English Martyrs Didcot.

Date for your Diary - Saturday 1st February 7:30pm the return of the very popular Laurel and Hardy show "Hats off to Laurel and Hardy " at the Walwyn Hall Lambourn.
Tickets £15 available from Anne Strickland at Lambourn Mass, or call 01488 71580

A Temporary VOLUNTEER is Needed to clean the hall once a week during March 2025 (4 sessions) Maria Walker does this each week but will be on leave for the month of March. For further details please contact Maria asap on 07952837027 .

Prayer Group - next meeting is on Monday 27th January at 2:30pm in St. John Vianney Church Hall. All are welcome.



Safeguarding Notice - Children should be accompanied by a parent when using the toilets at Church. This is for their own safety. Thank you for your cooperation.

Office Hours -Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 11am to 1:30pm. please email any items for the newsletter to the office by 1:30 pm on Thursday.

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 Rep: Barbara Jarrett 07427181090

Ann Strickland is the contact for Lambourn 01488 71580

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