

A warm welcome to all who gather today
around the Altar of the Lord in our parishes of

Saint John the Baptist, Saint Bernadette & Saint Thomas More

Working in Communion for Mission
Parish Priest: Canon Thomas Finnegan



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St Bernadette, 100 West End,
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Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time - 5th November 2023



Sunday Scripture Thoughts: Nobody likes a hypocrite. Those who do not practice what they preach. So many times in life to we see this. Wether it be in politics, or in matters of faith. Of course, we always try to live in our lives what we believe in our hearts. But we do know that sometimes we fail. It maybe in our daily actions or in the words we speak. This is the result of sin in our lives. But we also know that because of the grace of Baptism, we can rise up above our faults and live lives which are in accordance with what we believe. Let us receive the graces we receive through the Eucharist we receive this day and truly live lives in accordance with our faith.

ALL PUBLIC MASSES AVAILABLE ON LIVE-STREAM AND YOUTUBE AT ST. JOHN'S				Mass Intention:
Saturday 4 th November	St. Thomas More's	4pm	Vigil Mass	People of the Parishes
	St John's	6pm		Mary Madden (Ann)
Sunday 5 th November	St Bernadette's	9am	Thirty First Sunday in Ordinary Time	People of the Parishes
	St John's	10.30am		Richard Morgan (RD)
Monday 6 th November	St John's	9am	Weekday in Ordinary Time	No Mass Today
Tuesday 7 th November	St John's	6pm	Weekday in Ordinary Time	Thanksgiving
Wednesday 8 th November	St. Thomas More's	9am	Weekday in Ordinary Time	Holy Souls
Thursday 9 th November	St Bernadette's	10am	Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica	No Mass today
Friday 10 th November	St John's	9am	St Leo the Great	No Mass Today
Saturday 11 th November	St. Thomas More's	4pm	Vigil Mass	Carol Ann West (RD)
	St John's	6pm		Richard Morgan (RD)
Sunday 12 th November	St Bernadette's	9am	Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	People of the Parishes
	St John's	10.30am		Kevin Johnson (Ann)

KEY: RD=Recently Deceased ANN=Anniversary BD Birthday. D'ed=Deceased.

Confessions: Saturdays 3.30pm BOA, 5.15-5.45pm St. John's, on request before Mass St. Bernadette's.

In our Prayers this Week...

Sick: Please pray for those who are sick: John Streeter, Cecily Geldart, Maureen Watson, Noreen Leat, Anne Whitehead, Wally Gooding, Mary Berridge, Maurice Cockell, David Bath. Gloria Stenhouse, Jim Conway, Richard Barrow, Angela Parr, Tina Finnegan, Paul Cronin. Please let Canon Tom know if you wish a name to be added to the list.

Recently Deceased: David Marshall, Frank Moore, Richard Morgan, Katalin Wirth. May they rest in peace.

An Update Message from Canon Tom: Dear all, may I take this opportunity to thank you all for your very kind messages, emails, and Mass cards that I have received over the last few days. They have been very comforting to me and my family with whom I have shared them with. My mother is comfortable but very weak and fragile and mercifully, not in any pain. She receives care four times a day and when I am not able to be at home, a night carer sits with her during the night. My dad, although fragile himself keeps well enough and provides as my sister said 'the giggles'! As for the time being I am unable to be in Trowbridge, Westbury and Bradford on Avon for most weekday Masses, however there will be Mass on Tuesday evening at St. John's and Wednesday morning at St. Thomas More. Any planned Mass intentions will be moved and offered when I am able to do so. I will be back for the Saturday vigil Masses and Sunday Masses. Thank you again for all the kind thoughts and for the continued prayers.

First Holy Communion 2024: Application forms for First Holy Communion 2023 are now available to collect from Canon Tom after Mass. If your child is in Yr 3 or above then please collect, complete a form, and return to Canon Tom. The closing date for application is 7th January 2024. The first session of preparation will take place on the 18th January 2024 at 7pm in St. John's Church. Children and parents will be given full details of the course at this meeting.

November Holy Souls: November Holy Souls: November is a month of Remembrance. We remember those who have died in this last year or further back. We think of those who have died in war and conflict. We also remember loved ones and friends who have died. Holy Souls Envelopes are available for you to place the names of those who you wish to be remembered at Mass during November. Please return to Church and place them in the box provided. You may also place an offering in the envelope if you wish.

Mass for Loved ones and Friends who have died: Each year we have a Mass in November dedicated to loved ones and friends who have died recently and those who died in the past. This will take place on Tuesday 7th November 6pm at St. John's.

Tea & Chat: Tea and Chat Tuesday 21 November at 2.30 pm. All welcome. (there will be a Christmas raffle too!)

St. Bernadette's Drop-in: Come and join us for Tea, Coffee, Cake, and good company at St. Bernadette's Church Drop-in on Wednesday 1st November 2-4pm. All welcome

A Time of Prayer: A time of prayer at St. Bernadette's takes place 10:15-11:15am on the last Wednesday of each month (29/11): The Mysteries of the Holy Rosary are prayed together followed by a time for private prayer during Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. All welcome to attend any part or all of this time of prayer.

Lectio Divina: Lectio Divina at St. Bernadette's takes place 10:15-11:00am on the second Wednesday of each month. An opportunity to listen to the Gospel and then, in the silence that follows, to reflect personally on what we have heard and on how we can put this into action in our own lives. If you have a Sunday Missal, please bring this with you. All welcome.

A Time of Prayer: On Wednesday mornings at St. John's Church from 9am we will be praying the Healing Rosary for Families for all families, but especially those in our parishes and schools. You are invited to place the surnames of your families (or any families you would like us to pray for) in our intentions box to be prayed for each week and in return please take a Unity Prayer cards, the box, prayer cards and intention slips will be by Our Lady's altar in each of the churches.

Quiet time for Prayer: Exposition of Blessed Sacrament St. John's every Thursday 9.30-10.30am. A time for quiet prayer and reflection.

St. Thomas More: All welcome to celebrate the Evening Prayer of the Church (Vespers) which will be partly sung at St. Thomas More Church Bradford-on-Avon. Every Sunday at 5pm.

Safeguarding Sunday: Sunday 19th November is national Safeguarding Sunday. Safeguarding is an essential part in the life and ministry of the Church. It is the responsibility of all of us to ensure our parishes and institutions are safe places, especially for those who are vulnerable. Abuse and harm have no place in our diocese. There is zero tolerance to abuse, harm and any behaviour that falls short of appropriate safeguarding practices as expressed in National Policies. Jesus welcomed children and blessed them. We are told that Jesus was indignant when anyone tried to keep the children away "let the little children come to me and do not stop them. It is to such as these that the Kingdom of God belongs." (Mark 10: 14). Jesus makes clear his view about those who seek to harm the vulnerable, "anyone who welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me. Anyone who is an obstacle to bring down one of these little ones who have faith in me would be better drowned in the depths of the sea." (Matthew 18: 5-6) Jesus' stark words point to the horror and seriousness of abuse. Abuse is evil. It is destructive. Everyone in our diocese is called to ensure that all diocesan institutions, parishes, clergy, employees and volunteers take appropriate steps to maintain a safe environment and put into practice Christ's ministry towards children, young people, and vulnerable adults. Our diocese is committed to accompany and support all victims/survivors of abuse. We seek to learn from them and their representatives about best safeguarding practice.

Trowbridge Food Bank: As always, a massive thankyou to all who have contributed to the Trowbridge Foodbank Collection each month. Many people rely on your generosity. The next collection will take place on the weekend of 25th / 26th November 2023. Please leave you donated goods in the Church Porch at St. John's and St. Bernadette's.

300 Club: If you wish to join the 300 Club, please ask Canon Tom or Mike Heather for an application form. They are also available on the parish website. Thank you. £200 27 Kathryn Sinclair £70 205 Maria Dela Ysla £50 159 Mary McDonald £10 251 Caroline Gumbley.

This newsletter is also available on the parish website: www.stjohnthebaptisttrowbridge.co.uk

