

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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2 Wingfield Rd,
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9EA



St Bernadette, 100 West End,
Westbury BA13 3JQ



St Thomas More,
Market Street,
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Fifth Sunday of Lent ~ 17th March 2024



Sunday Scripture Thoughts: Happy St. Patrick's Day! As this feast day falls on a Sunday we will not be marking it in our Sunday Masses as Sunday Mass takes president. However, this does not mean that we should forget this great Saint. Celebrations of 'Paddy's' day are often very secular in nature. Good natured festivity often hides and religious overtones and again this is understandable. What we must never forget as this Saint was an instrument of God in bringing the Good News to the people of Ireland and inspire other missionaries to go far and wide in our world to take the same good news to others, "Lá fhéile Pádraig sona dhuit!" (Happy St. Patrick's Day in Gaelic)

ALL PUBLIC MASSES ARE LIVESTREAMED AT ST. JOHN’S				Mass Intention:
Saturday 16 th March	St. Thomas More’s	4pm	Vigil Mass	People of the Parishes
	St John’s	6pm		People of the Parishes
Sunday 17 th March	St Bernadette’s	9am	Fifth Sunday of Lent	People of the Parishes
	St John’s	10.30am		People of the Parishes
Monday 18 th March	NO MASS TODAY			
Tuesday 19 th March	St John’s	6pm	Saint Joseph	James Finnegan
Wednesday 20 th March	St. Thomas More’s	9am	Weekday of Lent Mass	Holy Souls
Thursday 21 st March	St Bernadette’s	10am	Weekday of Lent Mass	Peter Howitt and Roger Bawden
Friday 22 nd March	St John’s	9am	Weekday of Lent Mass	Special Intention
Saturday 23 rd March	St. Thomas More’s	4pm	Vigil Mass	People of the Parishes
	St John’s	6pm		People of the Parishes
Sunday 24 th March	St Bernadette’s	9am	Palm Sunday	People of the Parishes
	St John’s	10.30am		People of the Parishes

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, Richard Barrow, Angela Parr, Paul Cronin. Cynthia Booth. Richard Morris. Please let Canon Tom know if you wish a name to be added to the list.

Recently Deceased: Rosemary Coelho. Danuta Bazan, Martyin Kennon, James Finnegan. May they rest in peace.

Important Diocesan News: On Thursday 14th March it was announced that Bishop Declan Lang has resigned as the Bishop of Clifton due to health reasons. We keep Bishop Declan in our thoughts and prayers and thank him for his 23 years as our faithful and dedicated 9th Bishop of Clifton. Following on from this announcement, it has also been announced that Canon Bosco McDonald has been invited by Pope Francis to become the 10th Bishop of Clifton. Which Canon Bosco has excepted. Canon Bosco is at present the Dean of Clifton Cathedral and a priest of our Diocese. We keep Bishop Elect Bosco also in our prayers at this time.

Where are you staying?: The Cistercian Sisters of Holy Cross Abbey, Whitland Pembrokeshire, are holding two 'Come and See' weekends. Inviting single catholic women to experience the life of a Cistercian Sister. Friday 27th-Monday 27th May and Friday 16th – Monday 19th August. Email comeandsee@ca@gmail.com

First Holy Communion 2024: We hope to get the First Holy Communion preparation course back in track soon. The next session will be on 21st March (The session on the 7th March is unfortunately cancelled)

2024 A Year of Prayer: Pope Francis has invited the Universal Church to enter into a special Year of Prayer in 2024, this is to prepare us for the Jubilee Year of 2025. There are of course many opportunities to gather in Prayer in Trowbridge, Bradford on Avon and Westbury. Also, a series of reflection in St. Johns Bath. Please see noticeboards

'Stations of the Cross in Lent: This will take place as follows: St. Bernadettes, 10:30am, every Thursday in Lent preceded by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament which will start at 10am, St. Thomas More, 5pm every Friday in Lent, St. John the Baptist, 5:30pm, every Tuesday in Lent.

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.

Lectio Divina at St. Thomas More: We began Lectio Divina on Monday 22nd January and subsequently every fourth Monday of each month at 10.15 - 11am. The session will follow the same format as at St. Bernadette's. All are 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.

A time of prayer at St. Bernadette's takes place 10:15-11:15am on the last Wednesday of each month: 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.

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.

Westbury Town Prayers: Town Prayers is in St. Bernadette's every Tuesday at 2.30. during March. All welcome.

St. Bernadette's Drop In: St Bernadette's Drop In will be on Wednesday 3rd April 2pm to 4pm. Everyone welcome for tea, cake and chat.

St. Bernadette's Plant Sale: St Bernadette's Social Committee are planning another plant sale in May for charity. If, when you are sowing your flower & veg seeds, you would sow extra for the sale, it would be great. Thank you.

St Patrick's Night Dance: Friday March 22nd. Parish Centre 8.00 - 10.45pm Tickets £8.00 each (including a filled roll) Bring your own drinks Local Irish Group - Crossing The Rockies. Email to reserve tickets mike284305@btinternet.com or phone 01225 762966

Hillary and Chris Clifton: are doing the 'The Big Lent Walk' raising funds for CAFOD over the Lenten six weeks. I you wish to support them by donating, please visit www.walk.cafod.org.uk/fundraising/chris-and-hilary-big-lent-walkrun

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 30th/31st March 2024. 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. January results as follows £200 291 Family Moore £70 7 Howard Lindsay £50 294 Maureen Routledge £10 251 Caroline Gumbley.



Parish Giving: There are many ways you can give a donation to Parish Funds. A monthly standing order (Ask Canon Tom for a form) Or use the Dona Donation Card Reader in the Church Porch at St. John's. Or by a cash donation during the collections. Or by using the QR Code next to this notice. Thank you for your generosity.

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