

**The Catholic Churches of
Saint John the Baptist, Trowbridge
Saint Bernadette, Westbury
& Saint Thomas More, Bradford-on-Avon**



St John the Baptist
2 Wingfield Rd
Trowbridge
BA14 9EA



St Bernadette
100 West End
Westbury
BA13 3JQ



St Thomas More
Market Street
Bradford-on-Avon
BA15 1LH

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 21st July 2024

Parish Priest: Father Richard Elson richard.elson@cliftondiocese.com 01225 752152

Parish websites: www.stjohnthebaptisttrowbridge.co.uk
www.together.ourchurchweb.org.uk/bradfordonavon/churches/stthomasmore/

This Week's Mass Times

Sat 20 th Jul	4pm	St Thomas More's	Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
	6pm	St John's		<i>Mary Lease (RIP) (Ann)</i>
Sun 21 st Jul	9am	St Bernadette's		<i>People of the Parish</i>
	10.30am	St John's		<i>Benjamin McGee (RIP)</i>
Mon 22 nd Jul	No Mass		Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene	
Tues 23 rd Jul	9.15am	St John's	School Mass	
Wed 24 th Jul	No Mass		Weekday in Ordinary Time	
Thurs 25 th Jul	No Mass		Feast of Saint James	
Fri 26 th Jul	No Mass		Memorial of Saints Joachim and Anne	
Sat 27 th Jul	4pm	St Thomas More's	Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	<i>People of the Parish</i>
	6pm	St John's		

Confessions

Sat 3.30-3.50pm St Thomas More's
Sat 5.30-5.50pm St John's

Today's Readings



Adoration

Thurs 9.30-10.30am St John's

THE WORD THIS WEEK

Shepherds, good and bad, provide the obvious link between the First Reading, Psalm and Gospel today. The penalty for being a bad shepherd, Doom, is hinted at but not specified in the First Reading, which issues heavy threats that the Lord will 'take care of you for your misdeeds.' In a pastoral society being a bad shepherd is the ultimate crime, and though in Jeremiah's time the people were settled rather than nomadic, as in Abraham's time, sheep and shepherds were still familiar (though humbler in status, like the shepherds at Jesus's birth). King David, alluded to by Jeremiah, had been a shepherd and is reputed to have been the author of psalms. Few are more appropriately attributed to him than today's, although authorship is impossible to establish. These days the images of Pastor and Shepherd are still applied to the leaders of the Church, and the same harsh judgement applies to bad 'shepherds' as before; clergy who have led people astray have caused enormous havoc. Jesus in the Gospel today took pity on the crowds as they were like sheep without a shepherd. Note how the flock is formed - the people had come 'from every town' and hurried to see Jesus, seeing him as a potential shepherd. He cannot escape from his responsibility, although he had hoped to be by himself with his disciples 'in a lonely place.' Sheep must be shepherded, if they are not to be the prey of wolves.

CONFIRMATION

Bishop Bosco will be coming to Saint John's to celebrate this year's Confirmation Mass on Tuesday 19th November. Application forms are now available, and a programme of preparation will begin in September. Copies of the form are available in all of the churches and have been sent out with the newsletter. Anyone who will be in Year 9 (current Year 8) or above can apply for the programme. Please return completed application forms to the presbytery, or email to richard.elson@cliftondiocese.com

APPEAL FOR CATECHISTS

I will need some help from catechists with running this year's Confirmation programme, and with next year's First Holy Communion programme. Many thanks for those who have already replied; if anyone else feels that they may be able to help out, please let me know.
Fr Richard.

BAPTISM

Congratulations to Timothy Hannabuss who will be baptised at Saint John's on Saturday 20th July. Please keep him and his family in your prayers as we welcome him into the family of the Church.

KWAME ADOKU

Congratulations to Kwame who received the ministry of Lector at Saint John's, Bath on Friday 19th July. Please keep Kwame in your prayers as he continues his journey in the Diaconal Formation programme.

MALCOLM JACKSON RIP

The Funeral Mass of Malcolm Jackson, who died on 29th June, will take place at St Thomas More's Church on Wednesday 31st July at 12 noon. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

HOLIDAYS

Best wishes to everyone in our schools as they begin their summer holidays this week. I hope that this summer break will be a time of true re-creation for all. I am away this week for the Annual Diocesan Priests' Retreat. I will be away on holiday 19th Aug – 3rd Sep.
Fr Richard.

300 CLUB WINNERS FOR JULY

Prize	Number	Name
£200	50	Charlotte Johnson
£70	22	Sarah Hull
£50	64	Fraser Howorth
£10	63	Gareth Johnson

SEA SUNDAY

Thank you for giving to Sea Sunday. Your generous gifts will ensure that Stella Maris chaplains can continue to be a friend for seafarers and fishers in times of need. To find out more about how your support helps those who live and work at sea please visit www.stellamaris.org.uk

PARISH MEETINGS

I would like to hold a series of parish meetings, after the summer holidays, in order to help discern the pastoral needs of our parishes. The first of these meetings will be held at St Thomas More's in September. Further details to follow. Fr Richard.

LORD TEACH US TO PRAY

This series at St John the Evangelist, Bath, draws us into the school of prayer so that we might draw near to the Lord who calls us to draw near to him. Tuesday 23 July at 7pm: Windows on the Divine – praying with icons (Tamara Penwell).

CATHOLIC MOTHERS BATH & WEST WILTSHIRE

A new group for mothers to meet once a month for Mass at St John's the Evangelist, Bath and then afterwards in the hall to share tea, cake, faith and fellowship. Children are most welcome. It was wonderful to meet so many mothers at our first meeting, and we look forward to coming together again on Monday 12th August after the 9.30 Mass. Contact Amy on 07872382979 to find out more.

ADOREMUS

It is some time away yet, but there is a National Eucharistic Congress taking place at Saint Mary's College, Oscott, on Saturday 14th September. Whilst there are representatives from each diocese taking part, each parish is nevertheless invited to host a time of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. Watch this space.

NEW LECTIONARY

The New Lectionary will come into use on the First Sunday of Advent this year. The Catholic Truth Society and Redemptorist Publications will be publishing new people's Missals. Further information is available on their websites.

The Catholic Truth Society has also provided some more information about the Lectionaries that will be used in church – including images of some sample pages: <https://www.ctsbooks.org/lectionary-site/inside-lectionary/>

Readers might find it helpful to start looking at this information.

CAR PARKING 10.30 MASS

Please note, overflow car-park at St. Augustine's is available every Sunday morning.

PARISH GIVING

There are many ways you can give a donation to Parish Funds: with a monthly standing order (Ask Father Richard for a form), by using the Dona Card Reader in the Church Porch at St. John's, by a cash donation during the collections, or by using this QR Code. Thank you for your generosity.

