

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

First Sunday of Lent – 9th March 2025

Parish Priest:	Father Richard Elson	richard.elson@cliftondiocese.com	01225 752152
Parish Administrator:	Eve Hunneyball	trowbridge.stjohnthebaptist@cliftondiocese.com	01225 698791
		bradford-on-avon.stthomasmore@cliftondiocese.com	
	Working hours:	Tue 1-3pm Wed, Thurs, Fri 9am-3pm	
Parish Centre Administrator:	Rebecca Nesbitt	enquiries@sjpc.org.uk	01225 767215
Parish Safeguarding Representative:	Teresa Thomas	PSR.trowbridge.stjohnthebaptist@cliftondiocese.com PSR.bradford-on-avon.stthomasmore@cliftondiocese.com	
Parish websites:	www.stjohnthebaptisttrowbridge.co.uk www.together.ourchurchweb.org.uk/bradfordonavon/churches/stthomasmore/		

This Week's Mass Times

Sat 8 th Mar	4pm	St Thomas More's	First Sunday of Lent	
	6pm	St John's		<i>People of the Parish</i>
Sun 9 th Mar	9am	St Bernadette's		<i>Intentions of Donors</i>
	10.30am	St John's		<i>Special Intention</i>
Mon 10 th Mar	No Mass		Weekday of Lent	<i>Fred Gilroy (Birthday)</i>
Tues 11 th Mar	No Mass		Weekday of Lent	
Wed 12 th Mar	10.30am	St Thomas More's	Funeral Mass	<i>Bill Girdiefski (RIP)</i>
Thurs 13 th Mar	No Mass		Weekday of Lent	
Fri 14 th Mar	9am	St John's	Weekday of Lent	<i>Annie Haywood</i>
Sat 15 th Mar	4pm	St Thomas More's	Second Sunday of Lent	<i>Felicity Meyer (RIP)</i>
	6pm	St John's		<i>People of the Parish</i>

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

Stations of the Cross

Tues	5.15pm	St John's
Thurs	10.30am	St Bernadette's
Fri	5pm	St Thomas More's

THE WORD THIS WEEK

As with each First Sunday of Lent the Gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the wilderness; as we begin the journey of Lent, during which we will consider our lives as members of the Church, we look to the example of Jesus when it comes to dealing with temptation. Choosing to follow God's path is the first characteristic of the Christian: this is underlined in the two other readings, which outline the two "creeds" or statements of belief - one of Israel and one of the Christian. Both of them emphasise "believing in the heart and confessing with the lips": both creeds underline the Salvation that God has achieved - for Israel it was freedom from Egypt, for the Christian freedom from death in Jesus.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN LENT

During Lent 'Stations of the Cross' will happen at the following times:
St. Bernadette; 10.30am every Thursday (next one: 13th March)
St. Thomas More; 5pm every Friday (next one: 7th March)
St. John the Baptist; 5.15pm every Tuesday (next one: 11th March)

PARISH ACCOUNTS 2024

Copies of the accounts for 2024 for both parishes are available in each of the relevant churches. Many thanks to our parish treasurers and finance committee for helping to ensure the smooth administration of our parish finances. Thanks also to those who so generously contribute to our parishes and enable us to fulfil our mission.

BAPTISM

We welcome Tom McDonagh into the family of the church as he is being Baptised this weekend. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please remember in your prayers John Aland whose funeral will take place at St. John's Catholic Church on Friday 28th March at 12.30pm

LECTIO DIVINA AT ST. BERNADETTE'S

Lectio Divina at St. Bernadette's continues on the second Wednesday of each month, 10:15-11am. The next dates are 12th March and 9th April. 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.

NEW 'PRAYER AND PLAY' GROUP

The new Prayer and Play group is for parents and young children to come together on the first Monday of each month at St. John's Parish Centre from 10.30am- 11.30am. The next session will be Monday 7th April- This is the first week of the Easter Holidays so older siblings are very welcome too.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION- NEXT SESSION

The next session is this Thursday 13th March from 6-7pm in St. John's Parish Centre. Parents are also to attend this one please.

ST BERNADETTE'S DROP IN

The next drop in will be on Wednesday 12th March. Tea, chat and cakes provided. Everyone is very welcome.

ST. BERNADETTE'S PLANT SALE MAY 2025

When sowing your vegetable and flower seeds this Spring would you please sow a few extra in readiness for this year's plant sale. Thank you. St Bernadette's Social Committee.

CHILDREN'S CALENDARS FOR LENT

There are children's calendars of activities for Lent available at every Mass from this weekend. Please do take one.

A LENTEN OPPORTUNITY

The 'We Dare to Hope' booklet, which is available this weekend (£1 each), is a resource for small group faith-sharing and also individual meditation. It consists of five sessions each one of which focuses on a different aspect of Hope. This will take place at St. Bernadette's starting at 10:15am on Friday 14th March and continue on the four subsequent Fridays. We are also looking to run this at St. John the Baptist on the same Fridays at 4pm and if you are interested in this and have any thoughts on the timing please let Fr. Richard know. Also, if you would like to be part of a group at St. Thomas More, please let Fr. Richard know.

END OF LIFE BILL PETITION

Please consider signing the Care Not Killing petition which calls on MPs to vote against legalising assisted suicide in England and Wales. The Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill would make vulnerable people - including the elderly and disabled - feel a burden on family or carers resulting in pressure to end their lives. Please follow the hyperlink to sign the petition: <https://carenotkilling.org.uk/petition/>

ST. PATRICK'S PARISH CELEBRATION

A night of traditional Irish music and songs. Bring your dancing shoes! on Saturday 22nd March from 7.30pm - 10.45pm at St. John's Parish Centre. Tickets available from Mike Heather after Sunday Mass or via email: mike284305@btinternet.com

CLERK TO THE GOVERNORS VACANCY

The Governors at St John's are seeking to appoint a Clerk to Governors to support our Governing Body to start as soon as possible. The role is for 2.5 hours a week, 52 weeks of the year. Meetings are held in the evenings and other than these this is a home working role. Closing date for applications is 9am on Friday 28th March. The application form and job profile can be found on the school website: www.st-johns-trowbridge.wilts.sch.uk or for further information or to arrange a visit to the school please contact either Pam Poulter, the School Business Manager, on 01225 752006 or email the Chair of Governors: chair@st-johns-trowbridge.wilts.sch.uk

JUBILEE CELEBRATION OF HOPE

Bishop Bosco warmly invites you to join him on Saturday 19th July for our Diocesan Jubilee Celebration of Hope at Downside School & Abbey. In addition to three keynote speakers, prayer, and reflections we will be offering an exciting and joyful programme for our children & young people. Arrivals/refreshments from 10am. In addition, a free hot lunch will be provided (a lunch box is provided for children under 11). Our Jubilee Celebration of Mass will take place in the Abbey Church at 3pm. There will be a maximum of 300 tickets. If you would like to join us for the day, booking through Eventbrite is essential. Please register via this link: <https://jubileedayofhope.eventbrite.co.uk> for your ticket. For the catering, a printed/mobile ticket from Eventbrite is required. If you have difficulty accessing Eventbrite, please contact us at adult.education@cliftondiocese.com and we will help you with this. The closing date for tickets is 7 July.

CATHOLIC HOME EDUCATION INFORMATION MEETING

Have you heard about home education and wondered how it works? Come and hear from experienced Catholic mums who will share their insights and answer your questions. Catholic Home Education Information Meeting at St John the Evangelist Church, Bath on Saturday, 29th March 2025, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm. For further information please Contact: Helen Harrold (07425 154592) or Hannah Grimes (07801 566626)

CSAN SURVEY

Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN), the official agency of the Catholics Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, is conducting a survey to understand the impact of the two-child benefit cap and the current economic climate on Catholic families in England and Wales. Please share your experience by completing the survey, which can be accessed at https://www.csan.org.uk/news/familysurvey/?mc_cid=2cdc713595&mc_eid=f046f801c0 where you'll also find further information about the survey. The survey will close on 25th March

COME AND SEE WEEKENDS

The Cistercian Nuns at Holy Cross Abbey, Whitland, Pembrokeshire are inviting single Catholic Women ages 25 - 45 who are discerning a vocation, to experience our monastic life during one of the following weekends: Fri 30th May - Mon 2nd June or Fri 8th August - Mon 11th August. For further information email: comeandsee@ca.com

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.

