

# 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

## Fifth Sunday of Lent – 6<sup>th</sup> April 2025

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	Working hours:	Tue 1-3pm Wed, Thurs, Fri 9am-3pm	
<b>Parish Centre Administrator:</b>	Rebecca Nesbitt	<a href="mailto:enquiries@sjpc.org.uk">enquiries@sjpc.org.uk</a>	01225 767215
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<b>Parish websites:</b>	<a href="http://www.stjohnthebaptisttrowbridge.co.uk">www.stjohnthebaptisttrowbridge.co.uk</a> <a href="http://www.together.ourchurchweb.org.uk/bradfordonavon/churches/stthomasmore/">www.together.ourchurchweb.org.uk/bradfordonavon/churches/stthomasmore/</a>		

### This Week's Mass Times

Sat 5 <sup>th</sup> Apr	4pm	St Thomas More's	Fifth Sunday of Lent	<i>People of the Parish</i>
	6pm	St John's		<i>Mary Barlow (RIP)</i>
Sun 6 <sup>th</sup> Apr	9am	St Bernadette's		<i>McDonagh, Maughan &amp; Taunton Families,</i>
	10.30am	St John's		<i>Martin, Maureen, John Boy &amp; Lily</i>
Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> Apr	<b>No Mass</b>		Weekday of Lent	
Tues 8 <sup>th</sup> Apr	6pm	St John's	Weekday of Lent	<i>Frances Fanning (RIP)</i>
Wed 9 <sup>th</sup> Apr	9am	St Thomas More's	Weekday of Lent	<i>Jeffrey Parkes (RIP) (Ann)</i>
Thurs 10 <sup>th</sup> Apr	10am	St Bernadette's	Weekday of Lent	<i>Holy Souls</i>
Fri 11 <sup>th</sup> Apr	9am	St John's	Weekday of Lent	<i>Chi Oblodu (Birthday)</i>
Sat 12 <sup>th</sup> Apr	4pm	St Thomas More's	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord	
	6pm	St John's		<i>Evelyne &amp; Romina Testa (RIP)</i>

### Confessions

Sat	3.30-3.50pm	St Thomas More's
Sat	5.30-5.50pm	St John's
Thurs	9.30-9.50am	St Bernadette's
Sat	10.00-10.30am	St John's

### Today's Readings



### Adoration

Sun	1-4pm	St John's
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

There is a logical development in the readings this Sunday: in the Old Testament, God asks us to look forward to the “new deed he will do”, when he will put “water in the wilderness”; we then see the new deed, which Paul talks about, to be the “supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus”, and sharing the “power of his resurrection”; so who is this Jesus, and how is he “water in the wilderness”? It is because he brings hope for the future and forgiveness of our sins, as the Gospel story relates. This Sunday's readings are there for our encouragement, to help us look forward to Easter, and the meaning of Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection: that meaning is Reconciliation and a new creation (as we heard last week). We are driven on through Lent by a vision of the marvels that God has worked, and that God will work for us.

## **BAPTISM**

We welcome Sebastian Johnston-Carames into the family of the church as he is being Baptised at St Thomas More this weekend. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

## **REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Please remember in your prayers Catherine Fox who sadly passed away on 31<sup>st</sup> March. Please pray for her and her family.

## **NEW PRAY AND PLAY GROUP- CANCELLED 7<sup>th</sup> APRIL**

I have a family funeral on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April and therefore apologise for having to cancel the pray and play group. We will resume on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May

## **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 date is the 9<sup>th</sup> April. If you have a Sunday Missal, please bring this with you. All welcome.

## **PALM SUNDAY WEEKEND- NEXT WEEKEND**

Please note Mass at St Bernadette's will begin 10 minutes earlier than usual at 8.50am.

At St John the Baptist, the 10.30am Mass will start with the blessing of the Palms in the Parish Centre followed by the procession to the Church. Please gather in the hall of the Parish Centre. The car park will be closed at 10.15am in order to keep the processional route clear. Please remember that additional parking is available at St Augustine's College.

## **HOLY WEEK SERVICE TIMES**

The Chrism Mass will be at 11am at the Cathedral on Wed 16<sup>th</sup> Apr. The Triduum will be celebrated at St John's, with Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.30pm on Maundy Thursday, the Celebration of the Passion at 3pm on Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil at 8.30pm on Holy Saturday. In addition to these services, The Office of Readings and Morning Prayer will be said at 9am at St John's on each of these three days. On Good Friday there will also be Stations of the Cross at St Bernadette's at 11am and the Via Desolata at 7pm at St Thomas More's. On Easter Sunday, Masses will be at 9am at St Bernadette's, 10am at St Thomas More's, and 10.30am at St John's.

## **CHOIR PRACTICE IN PREPARATION FOR EASTER**

On Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April, choir practice will run in St John's from 5.45pm until 7/ 7.30pm max. We will be running through music for Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil.

## **BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD**

The blessing of Easter food on Holy Saturday and the sharing of blessed eggs after Easter morning Mass rank among the most popular Paschal traditions both in Poland and Polonia. Families bring baskets to Mass for blessing and they contain a sampling of traditional Easter fare and usually include some or all of the following: hard-cooked eggs (coloured or plain), sausage and other meats, bread, cheese, Easter cakes, an Easter lamb (made of butter, sugar or non-edible material), salt & pepper, horseradish and possibly also a small cruet of vinegar. Blessing of Easter Baskets will take place on Holy Saturday at St John the Baptist at 11am. For further information on this there are handouts at the back of church if you would like to join in.

## **EASTERTIDE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS**

The special collection on Good Friday is for Holy Places and Christians in the Holy Land- This annual collection contributes towards the maintenance and upkeep of the Christian Shrines of the Holy Land. It also offers financial support to the Christian communities living in the Holy Land at times when they are experiencing opposition and suffering.

The collection at Easter Sunday Masses is for the Easter Offerings for the Parish Priest. Christmas and Easter offerings (along with offerings for Mass intentions, Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals) are a Parish Priest's main source of personal income.

## **DIOCESAN CATECHIST FORMATION COURSE**

The diocese are running a 6 week course designed for new catechists or anyone wishing to learn more about their faith and passing it on to others. It will be at St John the Evangelist in Bath on Thursday evenings, starting 1<sup>st</sup> May from 7-9pm (Refreshments available from 6.30pm). To book on to the course please register here: [catechistsbath.event-brite.co.uk](http://catechistsbath.event-brite.co.uk) Spaces are limited to 20 so please book quickly if you would like to go.

## **CHRISM MASS-COACH**

Unfortunately, we did not have enough people come forward who wanted to use a coach for the Chrism Mass so instead we will have sign up sheets at all churches this weekend to facilitate car sharing. If you want to go please sign up and indicate if you will need a lift or if you are willing to give a lift to someone and we will try and link everyone up who would like to go.

## **MASS AND PASTORAL GATHERING: ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, ST. BERNADETTE, ST. THOMAS MORE**

On Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> May, we shall have the opportunity to meet together to reflect on and discuss the pastoral needs of our parishes, considering what we already have in place to support those needs and sharing our thoughts and ideas about what we might like to consider introducing going forward. As the 6pm Mass that day will be a Mass for a Pastoral Gathering, asking for the help of the Holy Spirit as we discern the pastoral needs of our parishes, you are encouraged to attend this if possible. The Pastoral Gathering will start at 6:45pm in the Parish Centre.

## **PASTORAL LETTER ON THE TERMINALLY ILL (END OF LIFE) BILL**

This Pastoral Letter from Cardinal Vincent Nichols and Bishop Bosco MacDonald will be read out at all Masses this weekend. Copies will be available after Masses too.

Postcards for the 'Dead Not Yet UK' campaign are also available if you would like to contact your MP again.

## **CAFOD MYANMAR EARTHQUAKE APPEAL**

Following the devastating earthquake in Myanmar, CAFOD is responding through the Catholic Church there to support families affected by the disaster. Your donations will provide essentials like water, food, solar lights, and mosquito nets. Please give to CAFOD's Myanmar Earthquake Appeal online at [cafod.org.uk/myanmar](http://cafod.org.uk/myanmar) or by calling 0303 303 3030. You can also text EARTHQUAKE to 70450 to donate £10

## **JUBILEE ICON ON TOUR**

The Jubilee Icon is touring the country during this Jubilee Year. In our diocese, it will be at the following Churches: 28<sup>th</sup>- 30<sup>th</sup> April: St John the Evangelist, Bath. 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> May: St Nicholas of Tolentino, Bristol. 4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> May: Holy Rood, Swindon. 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> May: Our Lady St Mary of Glastonbury.

## **DIOCESAN DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL SCHOOLS SINGING PROGRAMME & JUNIOR CHOIR DIRECTOR JOB VACANCY**

Clifton Diocese is seeking to recruit a Diocesan Director of the National Schools Singing Programme (NSSP) for our diocese, which will also combine the role of Junior Choir Director at Clifton Cathedral. It is a part time role of 21 hours per week, term time only. For more information email: [music@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:music@cliftondiocese.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.

