

# 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

## Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross – 14<sup>th</sup> September 2025 Education Sunday

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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
<b>Parish Safeguarding Representative:</b>	Martin Micenec	<a href="mailto:PSR1.trowbridge.stjohnthebaptist@cliftondiocese.com">PSR1.trowbridge.stjohnthebaptist@cliftondiocese.com</a>	
<b>Parish website:</b>	<a href="http://www.stjohnthebaptisttrowbridge.co.uk">www.stjohnthebaptisttrowbridge.co.uk</a>		

### This Week's Mass Times

Sat 13 <sup>th</sup> Sep	4pm	St Thomas More's	Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross	<i>People of the Parish</i>
	6pm	St John's		<i>Joseph Paulose (RIP)</i>
Sun 14 <sup>th</sup> Sep	9am	St Bernadette's		<i>Special Intention</i>
	10.30am	St John's		<i>Charles McNally</i>
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> Sep	<b>No Mass</b>		Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows	
Tues 16 <sup>th</sup> Sep	6pm	St John's	Memorial of Saints Cornelius & Cyprian	<i>Barney Rowen (RIP)</i>
Wed 17 <sup>th</sup> Sep	9am	St Thomas More's	Memorial of Saint Edith of Wilton	<i>Intentions of Caroline Moran</i>
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> Sep	10am	St Bernadette's	Weekday in Ordinary Time	<i>Michael George Ball (RIP)</i>
Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> Sep	9am	St John's	Weekday in Ordinary Time	<i>Barbara Chico (RIP)</i>
Sat 20 <sup>th</sup> Sep	4pm	St Thomas More's	Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	<i>People of the Parish</i>
	6pm	St John's		<i>Michael &amp; Jim Magee (RIP)</i>

Confessions			Today's Readings	Adoration		
Sat 13 <sup>th</sup> Sep	10.00-10.30am	St John's		Thurs	9.30-10.30am	St John's
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				
<b>No Saturday morning confessions 20<sup>th</sup> Sep</b>						

### THE WORD THIS WEEK

We will sometimes interrupt our usual cycle of Sundays for this Feast, which therefore also interrupts the usual pattern of readings. Today all the readings harmonise with the central theme, which is, of course, the cross. There are many ways of looking at the cross: as an instrument of torture and shame, as an emblem of death and defeat. But in the Church there has always been a way of looking at the cross which the world cannot understand: it is to see it as a sign of victory, of triumph, as a banner or standard of the forces of good and light as Jesus defeats the prince of this world by his death. The early Church depicted the cross as a richly jewelled emblem of victory; when the faithful looked at this jewelled cross, they knew that it was the sign of God's love and the Victory over sin and death that had been won for them.

## RECEPTION INTO THE CHURCH

We congratulate and welcome Sneha Shaji who was received into the Church last weekend.

## PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Mary Gaisford died on 10<sup>th</sup> September. Please pray for her and her family.

## APPEAL FOR ALTAR SERVERS

If anyone is interested in serving the Church by becoming an Altar Server please contact Fr Richard directly. This is open to anyone who has undertaken their First Holy Communion.

## CATECHIST RECRUITMENT

Ahead of our next Confirmation and First Holy Communion programmes we are looking to recruit for more catechists. Those who have expressed an interest in catechesis or youth work on their registration form will be contacted in due course, but we are appealing to all who may feel they could contribute some time to one of these programmes. If you think you could help or would like more information please contact Eve in the office.

## APPEAL FOR CLEANERS FOR ST. JOHN'S

We are wondering if there is anyone who would like to/ feel called to help with the cleaning at St. John's. Our wonderful cleaning team are looking for some extra help and would greatly appreciate some extra volunteers. If you are interested, please speak to Eve.

## PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

At our Pastoral Gathering in May, and in the summary handout issued subsequent to that, I mentioned my intention of forming a Parish Pastoral Council with the initial objective of looking at all the responses in some detail to establish what can be taken forward and the steps needed for the implementation of these initiatives. If you feel that you may be called to serve on the PPC, or simply would like to learn more about my vision for how this will operate in service to our three Churches, you are invited to a meeting that will be held in St. John's Parish Centre on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> October, starting at 6:45pm. There will also be an opportunity for you to raise any questions that you may have.

## PARISH CATHOLICISM COURSE

We are delighted to invite you to a powerful and inspiring journey through the beauty, history, and depth of our faith with Word on Fire's acclaimed Catholicism series presented by Bishop Robert Barron. Beginning Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September from 5 - 6.30pm in St John's Parish Centre, sessions will run weekly, for ten weeks, on the following dates: 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> September; 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> October; 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> November; 7<sup>th</sup> December. This series is open to adults as well as older children, year nine and above, accompanied by parents. The sessions are open to all: practising Catholics, those who have drifted from the Church, and anyone curious to learn more about the faith. This is an opportunity to grow in understanding, build community, and share the Good News with others. To register your interest, please email: [wof@damianrhodes.com](mailto:wof@damianrhodes.com)

## MISSIO RED BOX APPEAL – 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> SEP

This weekend we welcome Brother Eddie Slawinski MHM to give a Red Box Appeal. Thank you to parishioners who already give to Missio, the Pope's charity for World Mission. Your generous donations either through the Red Box or Direct Debit support the Church around the world where it is young or in need. There will not be a second collection as the appeal is for membership to the Red Box scheme. Please keep the work of Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries in your prayers. To find out more: [www.missio.org.uk](http://www.missio.org.uk)

## MARRIAGE SUPPORT

Does your relationship need some TLC? Need help with deeper issues? The next Retrouvaille programme starts 17<sup>th</sup> October [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk) Tel: [+44 7887 296 983](tel:+447887296983)

## EVANGELII GAUDIUM SUNDAY – SECOND COLLECTION 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> SEPTEMBER

The Third Sunday in September, formerly called Home Mission Sunday, is now Evangelii Gaudium Sunday. Named after Pope Francis' first (solo) Apostolic Exhortation on the Joy of the Gospel, the day offers the Catholic community in England and Wales the opportunity to celebrate the beauty of our faith and our commitment to witness to the fullness of life in Christ. There will be a second collection next weekend for the work of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales for evangelisation nationally. Donations can also be made via the parish website or using the card machines at St John's.

## PRAYERS FOR ALL YOUNG PEOPLE STARTING OR RETURNING TO UNIVERSITY

Please can you keep all young people, who are starting or returning to university, in your prayers. It can be a daunting as well as exciting time to leave home for the first time and your prayers are greatly appreciated. For all those who may be interested here is the link for the Catholic chaplaincies of UK universities: <https://www.catholicsatuniversity.org.uk/>

## SURVEY FOR ALL THOSE ENGAGED WITH THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) have previously sent out the survey: *Public Call for Information – Survivor Engagement in the Catholic Church*. Clifton Diocese have been selected as part of the CSSA thematic inspection on survivor engagement and support. They are now inviting everyone engaged with the Catholic Church, including staff, volunteers and parishioners, to participate in a new survey. The aim of this survey is to better understand how the Catholic Church engages with survivors. Information regarding this survey can be found here:

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=SSQzRY2fT0OplmB\\_Xy63KLBEXoG2tIVAm\\_9UYqKjMSFUMIhSRIVC0EpYMUc4SDVQWTg3VkNDTzg5OS4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=SSQzRY2fT0OplmB_Xy63KLBEXoG2tIVAm_9UYqKjMSFUMIhSRIVC0EpYMUc4SDVQWTg3VkNDTzg5OS4u)

This process is being conducted with transparency, respect, and in a survivor-centred way. Your cooperation will help ensure we hear from as many voices as possible, enabling us to identify good practice and areas for improvement across the Church.

## EDUCATION SUNDAY- 14<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER

Education Sunday is the day that we celebrate Catholic education and give thanks to our forefathers for the sacrifices they made to build our schools, to our teachers & governors for their dedication and service and for the education that we, and/or our children, may have received. To ensure Catholic education is provided for current & future generations, Bishop Bosco is appealing for more people to answer the call he made in May for new school governors. More volunteers are urgently needed so please consider offering yourself for this important ministry. Contact [bill.mcentee@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:bill.mcentee@cliftondiocese.com) for further information or if you would like to apply.

## EDUCATION MASS

The Diocesan annual Education Mass will be celebrated this Sunday. The Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Bosco at SS Peter & Paul Cathedral, Bristol, at 6.00pm on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September. The singing will be led by the pupils of Downside School. Everyone is welcome to attend this special Mass, particularly teachers, pupils, governors & anyone else who is involved in our schools & colleges in any way.

## 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.

