

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

Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – 5th October 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:	Martin Micenec	PSR1.trowbridge.stjohnthebaptist@cliftondiocese.com	
Parish website:	www.stjohnthebaptisttrowbridge.co.uk		

This Week's Mass Times

Sat 4 th Oct	4pm	St Thomas More's	Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time	<i>People of the Parish</i>
	6pm	St John's		<i>Joe & Agnes Schembri (RIP)</i>
Sun 5 th Oct	9am	St Bernadette's		<i>Special Intention</i>
	10.30am	St John's		<i>Anne-Marie Hunt (RIP)</i>
Mon 6 th Oct	No Mass		Weekday in Ordinary Time	
Tues 7 th Oct	6pm	St John's	Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary	<i>Noelle Fanning (RIP)</i>
Wed 8 th Oct	9am	St Thomas More's	Weekday in Ordinary Time	<i>Alan Cranham (RIP)</i>
Thurs 9 th Oct	6pm	St John's	Feast of Saint John Henry Newman	<i>Special Intention</i>
Fri 10 th Oct	9am	St John's	Weekday in Ordinary Time	<i>Intentions of Donors</i>
Sat 11 th Oct	4pm	St Thomas More's	Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time	<i>Eileen Syndercombe</i>
	6pm	St John's		<i>Justin Whitehead (RIP)</i>

Confessions			Today's Readings	Adoration		
Sat	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				

THE WORD THIS WEEK

Faithfulness, faith and trust. These most invisible and difficult things are what God asks of us – just as we, in our own way, ask them of those who love us. “Trust me”, we say, “all will be well.” And if someone does trust us, the reward is simply that trust was well-placed. We have done our duty. Sometimes when we talk about “faith” we put the emphasis on “believe and accept”. Today’s readings (especially the passage from Habakkuk) invite us to think in terms of “trust”. The request of the Apostles is interesting: “Increase our faith” could also mean “Make it easier for us,” or “Prove that you are who you say you are.” Jesus replies that he can’t do that – you can’t make someone trust you. It has to be a gift, freely given.

150th ANNIVERSARY FUND

We are raising money for urgent repairs at St. John's, including repairs to the walls and roof, and for the redecoration of the church in preparation for the 150th Anniversary of the opening of the church next year. Please consider donating. Gift aid envelopes are available and payments can also be made via the website and the card machines at St. John's.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Michael Ettridge died on 30th September. Please pray for him and his family.

CAFOD HARVEST FAMILY FAST DAY- SECOND COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

CAFOD (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development) is the official overseas development and relief agency of the Catholic Church in England and Wales. CAFOD state: "As a member of the Caritas International Federation, we play a vital role in the world's largest network of relief and development organisations, which enables us and our supporters to make a real and lasting difference. The cornerstone of CAFOD's income is the funding we receive from the Catholic Community whose generosity and compassion makes it possible for us to help many thousands of people to transform their lives. CAFOD's two Fast Days – at Lent and Harvest – are times when the whole of the Catholic Community joins together and with CAFOD stands alongside people in need, sharing resources and uniting in prayer to build a better, fairer, and more compassionate world."

www.cafod.org.uk/. The harvest family fast day was on Friday 3rd October with the second collection being this weekend 4th/5th October.

CATECHIST RECRUITMENT

Ahead of our next Confirmation and First Holy Communion programmes we are looking to recruit for more catechists. We are appealing to all who may feel they could contribute some time to one of these programmes. If you have an interest in youth work or catechesis and think you could help or would like more information please contact Eve in the office.

OCTOBER- MONTH OF THE HOLY ROSARY

You are invited to join The Children's Rosary in the parish centre from 09.45 - 10.15am (before 10.30am Mass) each Sunday. All are very welcome. We give a little treat to the children to enjoy after mass.

ROSARY ST THOMAS MORE

The Rosary will be said after each Wednesday morning Mass at St Thomas More during the month of October. All are very welcome.

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 this Tuesday 7th October, starting at 6.45pm. There will also be an opportunity for you to raise any questions that you may have.

MEETINGS FOR NEW ALTAR SERVERS

New Altar Servers for St. John's are invited to attend a meeting on Saturday 11th October at 11am. All those wishing to start serving should attend this meeting.

New Altar Servers for St. Bernadette's and St Thomas More will receive their instruction immediately before the weekend Masses so please arrive early.

QUIZ NIGHT ST. BERNADETTE'S

There will be a quiz night in the annex of St. Bernadette's on Friday 17th October at 7pm. Tickets are £3 and will be on sale in the entrance to St. Bernadette's, after Mass at St. John's or from the Parish Office. There are a limited number of tickets so book early to avoid disappointment. All very welcome.

VOLUNTEERS FOR A SOCIAL/FUNDRAISING GROUP

If anyone might be interested in helping raise funds for our Parishes and organising social opportunities please let Eve know.

CONFIRMATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION ENROLMENT

Our next Confirmation will be in the early summer of 2026 and preparation sessions will begin in early Spring. Our next First Holy Communion Mass will also be in the summer of 2026. Preparation classes will start for this in the New Year. Enrolment information for both will be given out in the next couple of weeks so please keep an eye on the newsletter and for announcements made after Masses.

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.

NEW CHILDREN'S ROSARY GROUPS

Would anyone be interested in attending or helping to lead a monthly/weekly Children's rosary before any of the Masses in our parishes? Our Sunday morning rosary has brought countless blessings and graces. Please contact Sinead haywoodsmv@yahoo.co.uk

MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like to have a Mass said for someone please bear in mind that, particularly for weekend Masses, they can be booked up to a month or more in advance. If anyone would like a specific date please check with Fr directly or leave your contact details on the envelope so Fr can contact you.

UK PRAYS- PUBLIC ROSARY

Come and join us in praying for cohesion and reconciliation in our communities and our country. Next one is on Sunday 28th September at 4.30pm by the War Memorial in Trowbridge Park. All welcome.

JUBILEE INDULGENCE

From Christmas Eve, 24th December 2024 until Epiphany, 6th Jan 2026 we are in a Jubilee Year. The two pilgrimage locations in our diocese are Clifton Cathedral and the Church of Our Lady St Mary of Glastonbury. There are two potential trips to Our Lady St Mary of Glastonbury, to gain a plenary indulgence, being planned. There are no specific dates yet set, but they will be on a Saturday, leaving at 7am and returning at 12 noon. If you are interested please email colin.j.whitehead@gmail.com

INVESTIGATIVE WORKS AT ST. BERNADETTE'S

The High Altar and statues need to be temporarily taken down in order for structural investigations to take place within the Church. This has already happened and the stone has been placed within the Church, making less space for pews. We are not sure how long these works will take as it very much depends on what is found during the investigations so when attending Mass please make full use of all available seating including the side pews and gallery. Thank you

DIOCESAN ANNUAL FORMATION DAY

The Clifton Diocesan Annual Formation Day will take place on Saturday 11th October at St Brendan's College, Brislington, with Mgr John Armitage as our keynote speaker. He will be reflecting on the theme of 'Being an Evangelist Today: the tools required to be a joyful witness of Jesus'. There will also be several workshop options to attend. More details and to register for the day, please use the Eventbrite link: <https://diocesanformationday.eventbrite.co.uk>

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.

