

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 Advent – 30th November 2025

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	Working hours:	Tue 1-3pm Wed, Thurs, Fri 9am-3pm	
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Parish website:	www.stjohnthebaptisttrowbridge.co.uk		

This Week's Mass Times

Sat 29 th Nov	4pm	St Thomas More's	First Sunday of Advent	<i>Eileen Dunn (RIP)</i>
	6pm	St John's		<i>People of the Parish</i>
Sun 30 th Nov	9am	St Bernadette's		<i>Special Intention</i>
	10.30am	St John's		<i>Isabella Burke (RIP)</i>
Mon 1 st Dec	No Mass		Memorial of Saint Alexander Briant	
Tues 2 nd Dec	6pm	St John's	Weekday of Advent	<i>Fr John Gaffney (RIP)</i>
Wed 3 rd Dec	9am	St Thomas More's	Memorial of Saint Francis Xavier	<i>Mary Diedre Perrot (RIP)</i>
Thurs 4 th Dec	10am	St Bernadette's	Memorial of Saint Osmund	<i>Special Intention</i>
Fri 5 th Dec	No Mass		Weekday of Advent	
Sat 6 th Dec	9.30am	St John's	Weekday of Advent	
	4pm	St Thomas More's	Second Sunday of Advent	<i>People of the Parish</i>
	6pm	St John's		<i>Pia McGhee (Ints)</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		Morning Prayer		
Sat	5.30-5.50pm	St John's		Sat 6 th	9am	St John's
Thurs	9.30-9.50am	St Bernadette's				

THE WORD THIS WEEK

Advent opens with a great promise: "It shall come to pass in the latter days..." the hope of a people who need God. "...The Lord is coming" is also a promise, not a threat to breed fear, but to answer our cry. So Advent begins, not with thoughts of the past, with the coming of the Lord we celebrate at Christmas, but with the future, and the promise that He is coming back. We are encouraged to stay awake, and treat every day as the day the Lord will come; we do not do this out of fear for a Master who beats his servants, but out of love of a Master who always treats us with mercy. Nevertheless, we must always be watchful, because we can grow sleepy and complacent, saying that we can leave this prayer or that confession or the other change in the way we live to tomorrow. Even as we look forward to the tomorrow of the Lord's coming, we must remember that it might be today!

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION ENROLMENT

Deadline for registration is **NEXT WEEK- 5th DECEMBER**. **There will be no registrations past this date.** To enrol your child please fill in the form and send a copy of your child's Baptism Certificate to Eve. Form: [First Holy Communion Registration 2026](#)

CONFIRMATION ENROLMENT

Deadline for registration is **NEXT WEEK- 5th December**. **No registrations will be taken after this date.** To enrol your child please fill in the form and send a copy of your child's Baptism Certificate to Eve. Form: [Confirmation 2026 enrolment form](#)

PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED

Iwan Dätweiler died on 25th December. Please pray for him and his family.

SECOND COLLECTION- 6TH/7TH DECEMBER

The Second Collection next weekend is for the Poor Missions of the Diocese. This fund enables the Bishop to support some of the financially less fortunate parishes in our Diocese. This is one collection that reminds us of the support and encouragement we give to each other as a Diocesan family, and our responsibility to care for our wider family in the diocese.

ACN SECOND COLLECTION AMOUNT

The total amount raised by kind donations from our three Churches was £2456.55. Thank you for contributions.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Masses this year will be at the following times:

Wednesday 24th December – Christmas Eve

6pm St John's, 9pm St Thomas More's, 11pm St John's

Thursday 25th December – Christmas Day

9am St Bernadette's, 10.30am St John's

HOLYDAYS OF OBLIGATION 2026

The following dates are Holydays of Obligation which occur on a weekday in 2026 (apart from Christmas Day):

The Epiphany of the Lord – Tues 6th Jan

The Ascension of the Lord – Thurs 14th May

In England and Wales, any Holydays of Obligation which occur on a Saturday or Monday are transferred to the Sunday (unlike some other English-speaking countries). Mass will be celebrated at the following times on these dates:

Vigil Mass: 6pm St Johns

Mass on the day: 10am St Bernadette's, 12 noon St Thomas More's, 1.30pm St John's

FOOD BANK COLLECTION

There will be a collection for food bank items this weekend at St. John's- 29th/30th November. Please consider donating items. There is a list of suitable items on the notice board or please email Eve.

NEW CHILDREN'S ROSARY GROUP AT ST THOMAS MORE

Starting on Saturday 29th November there will be a Children's Rosary Group starting at St Thomas More at 3.15pm and will continue at this time before each Saturday afternoon Mass. Please do go along to support this. All Welcome

CHOIR PRACTICE

Choir practice for this year's Carol Service will next take place this Sunday- 30th Nov & again on 7th Dec from 6-7pm at St. John's. We welcome members from all of our three churches to come together and rehearse for this year's Carol Service

ST. BERNADETTE'S DROP IN

The next drop in at St. Bernadette's will be on Wednesday 3rd December from 2-4pm. Tea, chat and delicious cake. Everyone is welcome.

CANDIDACY MASS

Kwame Adoku, from our Parishes, is due to be admitted as a Candidate for Holy Orders, the final step in preparation for Ordination to the Diaconate, along with two other students. Parishioners are welcome to attend and support Kwame at this important stage in his preparation for ordination. The Candidacy Mass is on Friday 5th December at 7pm at the Polish Church of Our Lady of Ostrobrama, Cheltenham Road, Bristol. Please keep him in your prayers along with all of those in formation for Diaconal Ordination.

PARISH CATHOLICISM COURSE

The Catholicism Course is next taking place on Sun 7th Dec from 5-6.45pm. The remaining session will be on the 21st Dec.

ADVENT RETREAT DAY: LIFE OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

In preparation for the 150th anniversary we have our Advent Retreat Day on 13th Dec from 10am-3pm (Please bring a packed lunch with you). Full details can be found on the noticeboards. All welcome.

BLESSING OF BAMBINELLI – 14th DEC

I encourage families to bring the baby Jesus from their own cribs to church on the Third Sunday of Advent and, at the end of Mass, I will bless the Bambinelli which have been brought to church. Everyone is welcome to take part – young and old alike. Fr Richard

THE CHURCHES OF ST JOHN'S, ST BERNADETTE'S AND ST THOMAS MORE CAROL SERVICE

We welcome parishioners from all of our three churches to come together and start the Christmas season off with a beautiful celebration of readings, carols and Christmas music. Sunday 14th December, 6pm at St. John's.

ADVENT WALK WITH ME BOOKLETS AND CALENDARS

The Advent 'Walk with Me' Booklets are now available from all Churches in time for the start of Advent. They are £1 each. There are Calendars also available for the children.

CHRISTMAS CARDS IN AID OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY FUND

Christmas cards in aid of the 150th anniversary will be on sale after all Masses. All profits will go to the funds for the building and roof works at St John's so please consider them for your Christmas Cards this year.

EPIPHANY RECEPTION FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS ACROSS OUR THREE CHURCHES

On Monday 5th January, after our evening Epiphany Vigil Mass, Father Richard would like to invite all Church Volunteers to an evening reception of drinks and nibbles at St. John's Parish Centre to thank you for all that you do. It would be good to get an idea of numbers for catering purposes so if you intend to come could you please let Eve know.

DATE FOR DIARY- FRI 30TH JANUARY

Continuing on with our fundraising efforts for the building works at St. John's, on Friday 30th January at the Parish Centre there will be a race night. More details in the New Year.

PARISH SKIING TRIP- POSTPONED

As of yet we have not had anyone interested in the Parish Skiing trip and therefore we are postponing until 2027.

BRADFORD ON AVON CHURCHES TOGETHER ADVENT CAROL SERVICE

All are very welcome to the Bradford on Avon Churches Together Advent Carol Service taking place at Holy Trinity Church, Church St, Bradford on Avon Sunday 30th November at 6pm

UK PRAYS- PUBLIC ROSARY

Our next public rosary for cohesion and reconciliation in our community and country as well as remembering the dead is this Sunday 30th November at 4.30pm by the War Memorial in Trowbridge Park. All Welcome.