

# 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

## Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe – 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2025

|                                            |                                                                                                |                                                                                                                              |              |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Parish Priest:</b>                      | Fr Richard Elson VF                                                                            | <a href="mailto:richard.elson@cliftondiocese.com">richard.elson@cliftondiocese.com</a>                                       | 01225 752152 |
| <b>Parish Administrator:</b>               | Eve Hunneyball                                                                                 | <a href="mailto:trowbridge.stjohnthebaptist@cliftondiocese.com">trowbridge.stjohnthebaptist@cliftondiocese.com</a>           | 01225 698791 |
|                                            |                                                                                                | <a href="mailto:bradford-on-avon.stthomasmore@cliftondiocese.com">bradford-on-avon.stthomasmore@cliftondiocese.com</a>       |              |
|                                            | Working hours:                                                                                 | Tue 1-3pm<br>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 22 <sup>nd</sup> Nov   | 4pm            | St Thomas More's | Solemnity of Christ the King                     | <i>People of the Parish</i>            |
|                            | 6pm            | St John's        |                                                  | <i>Evelyne &amp; Romina Testa</i>      |
| Sun 23 <sup>rd</sup> Nov   | 9am            | St Bernadette's  |                                                  | <i>Special Intention</i>               |
|                            | 10.30am        | St John's        |                                                  | <i>Angela Pare (Ints)</i>              |
| Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> Nov   | <b>No Mass</b> |                  | Memorial of Saint Andrew Dũng-Lạc and Companions |                                        |
| Tues 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov  | 6pm            | St John's        | Weekday in Ordinary Time                         | <i>Bobby &amp; Maisie Dawson (RIP)</i> |
| Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> Nov   | 9am            | St Thomas More's | Weekday in Ordinary Time                         | <i>Alan and Tessa Dolman (Ints)</i>    |
| Thurs 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov | 10am           | St Bernadette's  | Weekday in Ordinary Time                         | <i>Jean Sullivan</i>                   |
| Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> Nov   | 9am            | St John's        | Weekday in Ordinary Time                         | <i>Special Intention</i>               |
| Sat 29 <sup>th</sup> 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>            |

### Confessions

|       |               |                  |
|-------|---------------|------------------|
| Sat   | 10.00-10.30am | 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  |

### Today's Readings



### Adoration

|       |              |           |
|-------|--------------|-----------|
| Thurs | 9.30-10.30am | St John's |
|-------|--------------|-----------|

## THE WORD THIS WEEK

The year of Saint Luke ends with a characteristic take on the feast of Christ the King: in Luke's gospel we are so familiar with seeing and hearing the voiceless, the rejected, those whom society puts in second place: how suitable, then, that on the feast of the King of all Creation we see him at his most vulnerable – on the cross, with only an abrupt inscription to announce that he is the King. He is King because of the work he has done, which is described by Saint Paul in the Second Reading: "For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross." Next week, when we re-enter Advent and a new Liturgical Year, we will be thinking of the King who will come again: though he will come as his disciples saw him go at the Ascension, the marks of the cross will still be visible for all time, to remind us of the one who came to reunite all Creation, especially frail human creatures.

## FUNERALS

The Funeral for Ian Raymond Hungerford is on 11<sup>th</sup> Dec at 11am at St. Bernadette's. The funeral for Wacław Wozniak is on Fri 12<sup>th</sup> Dec at 11am at St. John's. Please pray for them and their families.

## NOVEMBER LIST

Envelopes for the November List are available in all of the churches. Please place the names of deceased relatives and friends for whom you wish to pray in the envelopes and place them in the basket provided. These names will be remembered at Masses during the month of November.

## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Masses this year will be at the following times:

### Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Eve

6pm St John's

9pm St Thomas More's

11pm St John's

### Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Day

9am St Bernadette's

10.30am St John's

## BLESSING OF BAMBINELLI – 14<sup>th</sup> DEC

This is a beautiful Advent Tradition – Bambinelli Sunday, Blessing the Christ Child – which has been celebrated in Rome for over thirty years and helps children and young people to prepare for Jesus. Each family will bring the Christ Child from its own crib or Nativity scene and the Pope blesses it during the noon Angelus that day. It is a wonderful way to bring family and parish together. Following that tradition, 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

## MISSION APPEAL

The recent mission appeal are very grateful for our kind donations, of which £1692.24 (including online and card payments) was raised.

## 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 150<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY FUND

Christmas cards in aid of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary will be on sale after Masses from this weekend 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec. 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.

## NEW CHILDREN'S ROSARY GROUP AT ST THOMAS MORE

Starting on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> 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 on 30<sup>th</sup> Nov & 7<sup>th</sup> 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

## PARISH CATHOLICISM COURSE

The Catholicism Course is next taking place on Sun 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov from 5-6.45pm. The remaining sessions will be on: 7<sup>th</sup> Dec and the 21<sup>st</sup> Dec.

## LECTIO DIVINA- ST THOMAS MORE

Lectio Divina will next be at St Thomas More Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November from 10.15am for about 45 minutes. All welcome.

## TEA AND CHAT- ST. JOHNS

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November in the Parish Centre 2 pm. All welcome. (There may be Christmas cards and gifts on sale and it would be helpful if you brought cash)

## QUIZ NIGHT- FRI 28<sup>th</sup> NOV

In aid of fundraising for the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (including works at St. John's). Friday 28<sup>th</sup> Nov, 7.30pm at the Parish Centre. Teams of 4, 5 or 6. £5 a ticket, includes nibbles. BYOB. Contact Mike Heather for tickets: 01225 762966, mob: 07712662672

## ADVENT RETREAT DAY: LIFE OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

27<sup>th</sup> June 2026 marks the 150-year anniversary of the opening of the Church of St. John the Baptist. In preparation for this celebration is our Advent Retreat Day which will be taking place on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2025 (10am-3pm, with coffee and tea from 9.30am). This will be led by Fr. John Hemer MHM who will be delivering two talks on the life of St. John the Baptist. There will also be times for prayer, quiet, Mass and Adoration and lunch (please bring a packed lunch with you). Full details can be found on the noticeboards at each of our three churches. To give us an idea of the number of parishioners planning to attend this, there will be someone with a sign-up sheet at each Mass over these next two weekends. All welcome.

## 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 14<sup>th</sup> December, 6pm at St. John's.

## EPIPHANY RECEPTION FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS ACROSS OUR THREE CHURCHES

On Monday 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION ENROLMENT

Our next First Holy Communion and First Confession preparation programme will start on 29<sup>th</sup> January and run on certain Thursday evenings at St. John's Parish Centre until June (dates will be given to parents upon registration). If your child has been Baptised and is in school year 3 and above you can enrol them by filling in the online form: [First Holy Communion Registration 2026](#) Alternatively, the form can be found on the parish website. Deadline for registration is 5<sup>th</sup> December. There will be no registrations past this date.

## CONFIRMATION ENROLMENT

Our next Confirmation preparation programme will start on the 28<sup>th</sup> April 2026 and run every Tuesday evening at St. John's Parish Centre for 7 weeks (not including May half term) with an additional retreat day. If your child is in school year 9 or above and has taken their First Holy Communion you can enrol them by filling in the online form [Confirmation 2026 enrolment form](#) Alternatively, the form can be found on the parish website. Deadline for registration is 5<sup>th</sup> December. No registrations will be taken after this date.

## DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES AND LITURGICAL DIARIES

The Diocesan Directories (£6) and Liturgical Diaries (£6.50) for 2026 are now available from all of the churches.

## PARISH SKIING TRIP- 23<sup>rd</sup> JAN RETURNING 1<sup>st</sup> FEB

Skiing 2026 to Valmeinier, France. £1263PP incl. transport by coach from Trowbridge, half board accommodation, 6-day lift pass and equipment hire. Everybody is welcome on this skiing trip which is being organised to help pay for the new roof for St John's. Lessons are not included but available (at extra cost). Please contact Alf Haywood for further details: 07973 166602, email: [haywoodalf@gmail.com](mailto:haywoodalf@gmail.com)