

# 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

## Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – 25<sup>th</sup> January 2026 Sunday of the Word of God

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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 website:</b>	<a href="http://www.stjohnthebaptisttrowbridge.co.uk">www.stjohnthebaptisttrowbridge.co.uk</a>		

### This Week's Mass Times

Sat 24 <sup>th</sup> Jan	4pm	St Thomas More's	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)	<i>Ladik Farion (RIP)</i>
	6pm	St John's		<i>Mary Laase (RIP)</i>
Sun 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan	9am	St Bernadette's		<i>People of the Parish</i>
	10.30am	St John's		<i>Richard Burbridge (RIP)</i>
Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<b>No Mass</b>		Memorial of Saints Timothy and Titus	
Tues 27 <sup>th</sup> Jan	6pm	St John's	Weekday in Ordinary Time	<i>Celine McCawley (RIP)</i>
Wed 28 <sup>th</sup> Jan	9am	St Thomas More's	Memorial of Saint Thomas Aquinas	<i>Peter Wardley (RIP)</i>
Thurs 29 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10am	St Bernadette's	Weekday in Ordinary Time	<i>Private Intention</i>
Fri 30 <sup>th</sup> Jan	9am	St John's	Weekday in Ordinary Time	<i>Holy Souls</i>
Sat 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan	9.30am	St John's	Memorial of Saint John Bosco	
	4pm	St Thomas More's	Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)	<i>People of the Parish</i>
	6pm	St John's		<i>Thanksgiving</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		<b>Morning Prayer</b>		
Sat	5.30-5.50pm	St John's		Sat 31 <sup>st</sup>	9am	St John's
Thurs	9.30-9.50am	St Bernadette's				

### THE WORD THIS WEEK

We will spend most of the Sundays of the coming year in the company of Saint Matthew. His Gospel (like the others) has its own characteristics. He is writing for a Jewish audience, and so is always at pains to stress one thing: that Jesus of Nazareth was the promised Messiah. He does this by reference to Jesus' teaching and miracles, and very often by quoting the prophecies of the Old Testament to show that Jesus was their fulfilment. Today is a perfect example. "Zebulun and Naphtali" was an old name for the area round Capernaum by the side of the Lake of Galilee, a busy fishing and trading area, with many Gentile towns and settlements: it is here, rather than in the dangerous town of Nazareth, that Jesus "settles" and begins his ministry. This is where the proclamation of the Kingdom of God begins, as was foretold, and the first followers are invited to join Jesus.

## ADDITIONAL MASS

On Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb at 9am at St. John's there will be an additional Mass for the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

## BLESSING OF THROATS

After Mass on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb, the Memorial of St Blaise, there will be the blessing of throats.

## FOODBANK ST. JOHN'S

The next foodbank collection at St. John's will be this weekend- 24/25<sup>th</sup> January. Please consider donating. A list of suitable items can be found on the notice board in St. John's or can be emailed to you- please speak to Eve.

## LECTIO DIVINA ST THOMAS MORE

The next Lectio Divina at St Thomas More will take place on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January from 10.15-11am. All Welcome.

## TIME OF PRAYER AT ST. BERNADETTE'S

The Rosary is prayed together followed by a time for private prayer during Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. This continues to take place on the last Wednesday of each month, 10.15-11:00am. The next date is 28<sup>th</sup> January. All welcome

## FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

A letter has been sent out to all families of children registered for the First Holy Communion programme. Please note the first session will be on Thurs 29<sup>th</sup> Jan from 6-7.30pm. This session is longer than our usual sessions and parents are asked to attend for the whole session. Please remember water bottles. Many thanks

## ST. BERNADETTE'S DROP IN

St. Bernadette's drop-in will be on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February from 2pm-4pm. The cakes are delicious served with a hot cup of tea. Everyone welcome.

## TEA AND CHAT ST. JOHN'S

The next tea and chat is on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> Feb in the Parish Centre at 2.30pm. All welcome

## STANDING ORDER DONORS- ST THOMAS MORE

Please be aware that all standing order donors will be receiving letters from the diocese shortly so please be on the look out for these.

## BUY A TILE FUNDRAISER

There is a stand set up at the entrance to St. John's where you can buy a roof tile in aid of the roof fund. Costs are £10 for an adult, £5 for a child or £20 for a family. A small tile will be manufactured especially for each buyer and it will have your name printed on the back to keep as a memento. They will be delivered to Church before Easter. Orders can be emailed to Mike Heather: [mike284305@btinternet.com](mailto:mike284305@btinternet.com)

## CATHOLIC MOTHERS

The Bath and Wilts Catholic Mothers group are next meeting on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March in the hall at St. John the Evangelist in Bath after the 10am Mass. There will be coffee, cake and book study. Children are very welcome too.

## LENT 2026- LITURGIES OF RECONCILIATION

Bishop Bosco invites you to join him during this season of Lent to celebrate the abundant mercy of God through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Join him at one of the five venues across our diocese as part of your Lenten Pilgrimage. Each Liturgy will start at 7pm.

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February – St Mary, Glastonbury

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March – Sacred Heart, Tisbury

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March – Immaculate Conception, Devizes

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March – St Joseph, Tewkesbury

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March – Christ the King, Thornbury

Building upon the beautiful gatherings during Lent he is inviting our diocesan community to gather with him in celebration of God's merciful love as part of our Lenten journey. There will be priests available at each venue to celebrate sacramental reconciliation. You will be most welcome at any of the venues.

## LIVE STREAM

We are currently experiencing some issues with the internet provider for our livestream and as such it's not currently working but we are trying to get it sorted asap.

## ADVENT RETREAT DAY NOTES

If anyone would like a copy of the advent retreat day notes please email Eve.

## DIOCESAN ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

This Pilgrimage will be led by Bishop Bosco MacDonald with the Catholic Association of Lourdes UK. Friday 21<sup>st</sup> - Friday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2026. Price Includes Airport transfers from Bristol to Birmingham Airport, Flights to Tarbes–Lourdes–Pyrénées Airport, hotel transfers and the full pilgrimage programme (including visits to the Grotto of the Apparitions, Mass each day, Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, Sacrament of Reconciliation, visits to sites related to St Bernadette, Open air Mass in the Cite-San– Pierre, Water Gesture, Stations of the Cross). For an extra charge there will be a Diocesan Day Trip to Bartres. To declare your interest please email: [lourdes@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:lourdes@cliftondiocese.com)

## CELEBRATION MASS FOR MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE

Bishop Bosco is to celebrate Mass in the Cathedral on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> February (12 noon) and is inviting all families to join him to acknowledge the joys & challenges of family life. In addition, we will celebrate those couples with significant anniversaries in 2026. You are all very welcome to join our diocesan family for this Mass. If you are, or know of a couple, celebrating a significant anniversary during 2026 please let Eve know.

## A COMPANION'S WAY- GLOUCESTERSHIRE SPIRITUAL DIRECTION COURSE

Spiritual direction is an ancient art, arising in many wisdom traditions, including Christianity. It is a practice of deep listening from a contemplative stance, offering another a companion's ear as they grapple with life's joys, sorrows and dilemmas; accompaniment as they 'live the questions' and learn to recognise more clearly that 'still, small voice' that calls us all to a place of freedom and wholeness. Gloucestershire course in Spiritual Direction (A Companion's Way) is now inviting applications for the intake in February 2026. Learn to listen as a 'soul friend', an 'anam cara', in service of spiritual growth and transformation. To download the application form & to find out more, please follow this link: <https://spiritualdirectioncourse.co.uk/>

## JESUS CENTRED LAY MINISTRY IN CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN LIFE

Are you involved in lay ministry of any kind in your parish, pastoral area or in a Catholic organisation? If so, then this project could be for you! David Blake, a parishioner in Salisbury, is bringing together two groups of lay people, one in Bristol and one in Trowbridge, to discuss the highs and lows of lay ministry. The meetings will take place on two Saturdays in April and May and will discern how people involved in Catholic lay ministry maintain Jesus Christ as the focal point for their ministry and avoid becoming absorbed by the mission itself. Ever felt that your Church life has taken over your spiritual life? Or maybe you have found that your route to an encounter with Christ is through lay ministry? Either way, David would love to hear from you and can be contacted at [david.blake@durham.ac.uk](mailto:david.blake@durham.ac.uk) for more information.

## 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.

