

# 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

## Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 1<sup>st</sup> February 2026

|  |  |  |              |
|--|--|--|--------------|
| <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><br><a href="mailto:bradford-on-avon.stthomasmore@cliftondiocese.com">bradford-on-avon.stthomasmore@cliftondiocese.com</a> | 01225 698791 |
|  | 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 31 <sup>st</sup> Jan  | 4pm     | St Thomas More's | Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)          | People of the Parish                      |
|                           | 6pm     | St John's        |   | Thanksgiving                              |
| Sun 1 <sup>st</sup> Feb   | 9am     | St Bernadette's  |   | Michael Shrubsole (RIP)                   |
|                           | 10.30am | St John's        |   | Catherine Boyle (RIP)                     |
| Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> Feb   | 9am     | St John's        | Feast of the Presentation of the Lord       | Holy Souls                                |
| Tues 3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb  | 6pm     | St John's        | Memorial of Saint Blaise                    | Martin & Bridget McDonagh & Family (Ints) |
| Wed 4 <sup>th</sup> Feb   | 9am     | St Thomas More's | Weekday in Ordinary Time                    | Luigi Sineo (RIP)                         |
| Thurs 5 <sup>th</sup> Feb | 10am    | St Bernadette's  | Memorial of Saint Agatha                    | Holy Souls                                |
| Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> Feb   | 9am     | St John's        | Memorial of Saints Paul Miki and Companions | Intentions of Donors                      |
| Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> Feb   | 4pm     | St Thomas More's | Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)           | People of the Parish                      |
|                           | 6pm     | St John's        |   | Agnes Zammit (RIP)                        |

| 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 |   | Fri       | 8.00-9.00pm  | St John's |
| Sat         | 5.30-5.50pm   | St John's        |   |           |              |           |
| Thurs       | 9.30-9.50am   | St Bernadette's  |   |           |              |           |

### THE WORD THIS WEEK

Last week we heard Saint Matthew describing the beginnings of Jesus' public ministry. This week Saint Matthew begins the most important summary of the proclamation of the kingdom of God – what we refer to as the “Sermon on the Mount.” This great collection of Jesus' teachings begins with the Beatitudes – the Charter of the Kingdom. It is essential to understand these, if we are to understand what we will read in Saint Matthew during the rest of this year: the key, as underlined by the First Reading, is that the values of this world are not the values of the Kingdom of God – the Kingdom will see things turned upside down: happiness and blessing belong to those whom this world would ignore or mistreat. If we truly wish to live out the Gospel, we would do well to reflect on the virtues laid out in this familiar passage.

## WELCOME

Welcome to Fr Royston Price CSSR next weekend who will be speaking at Masses about the Parish Mission that will be taking place 9<sup>th</sup>- 13<sup>th</sup> March.

## CONGRATULATIONS

Mike and Joyce Bye celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary on 29<sup>th</sup> Jan. We wish them many congratulations on this wonderful milestone.

## 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.

## ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ICON AT ST THOMAS MORE'S

Following on from the blessing of the icon of St. John the Baptist on the 24<sup>th</sup> June last year, a number of parishioners have received this icon, and the accompanying prayer card, into their homes to pray with it for a week. Over the next few weeks the icon will be available to collect and return to St. Thomas More's. If you would like to participate in this please see the details on the noticeboard at St. Thomas More's and add your name against the relevant date.

## 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 which 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)

## LIVESTREAM

The livestream at St. John's is now working again and Masses can be watched remotely.

## 300 CLUB MEMBERSHIP

Annual subscriptions for the 300 club are now due. The next draw will be on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> Feb and it would be useful if everyone has paid their subs before then please. Please speak to Mike for further info.

## ADVENT RETREAT DAY NOTES

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

## UK PRAYS PUBLIC ROSARY

The public rosary is this Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> February at the War Memorial in Trowbridge Park at 4.30pm. All welcome.

## TOWN PRAYERS WESTBURY

Throughout February the Westbury Town Prayers will be at St. Bernadette's every Tuesday at 2.30pm. All welcome.

## VACANCIES ST. JOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

There are two vacancies at St. John's Primary School- a School Business Manager and a Permanent Teaching Assistant, ELSA and Mid-day Supervisor. For further info please see the school website: <https://www.st-johns-trowbridge.wilts.sch.uk/vacancies> or speak to the School Business Manager- Pam Poulter at: [admin@st-johns-trowbridge.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-johns-trowbridge.wilts.sch.uk) or via phone: 01225 752006

## 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.

## FAMILY SUPPORT MANAGER VACANCY- WILTSHIRE

The Family Support Manager is a key staff role which involves working with families and facilitating support from volunteers recruited from the local Church and community. Your objective is to help support families navigate challenging circumstances through connecting them into local volunteer based, sustainable support. For further information please see the job advert at: [https://safefamilies.uk/job\\_roles/family-support-manager-wiltshire/](https://safefamilies.uk/job_roles/family-support-manager-wiltshire/)

## 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.

## 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.

