

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

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord – 11th January 2026

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		Working hours: Tue 1-3pm Wed, Thurs, Fri 9am-3pm	
Parish Centre Administrator:	Rebecca Nesbitt	enquiries@sjpc.org.uk	01225 767215
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Parish website:	www.stjohnthebaptisttrowbridge.co.uk		

This Week's Mass Times

Sat 10 th Jan	9.30am	St John's	Weekday of Christmas Time	
	4pm	St Thomas More's	The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord	Bill & Jean Stripp (RIP)
	6pm	St John's		
Sun 11 th Jan	9am	St Bernadette's		People of the Parish
	10.30am	St John's		Anne Conway (RIP)
Mon 12 th Jan	No Mass		Weekday in Ordinary Time	
Tues 13 th Jan	No Mass		Weekday in Ordinary Time	
Wed 14 th Jan	No Mass		Weekday in Ordinary Time	
Thurs 15 th Jan	10am	St Bernadette's	Weekday in Ordinary Time	Iwan Dätwiler (RIP)
Fri 16 th Jan	11am	St Thomas More's	Funeral Mass	Cynthia Booth (RIP)
Sat 17 th Jan	4pm	St Thomas More's	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	The Owen Family (Ints)
	6pm	St John's		Sammy Mercieca & Christopher Clarke (RIP)

Confessions

Sat	3.30-3.50pm	St Thomas More's
Sat	5.30-5.50pm	St John's
Sat 17 th	10.00-10.30am	St John's

Today's Readings



Adoration

Thurs	9.30-10.30am	St John's
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THE WORD THIS WEEK

It may seem strange, but this is a Christmas Feast. Not if we think of Christmas only in terms of the Baby in Bethlehem, but if we have followed the ideas of the Feasts of Holy Family and especially Epiphany, and have seen the Season in terms of the growing manifestation or appearing of the Son of God: first to the shepherds and then to the wise men from the East. Now in the River Jordan, Jesus, Son of Mary, is revealed to all as the fullness of all God's promises: "This is my beloved Son". On this day we stand before the revelation of God's love for us, such that he would send his only Son into the world. Christmas without the Baptism of the Lord, and the words that are spoken from heaven, would be incomplete, since it is only in them that we fully see the wonder of what happened in Bethlehem, that we fully understand the reason for the joy with which we celebrated Christmas Day. As we come to the end of Christmas today, and look forward to hearing the Gospel in Ordinary Time, we do so having been shown who it is we listen to: the only Son of God, the Beloved.

FUNERALS

The funeral for Iwan Dätweiler will be on 15th January at 1pm at West Wiltshire Crematorium.

The funeral for Cynthia Booth will be on 16th January at 11am at St Thomas More.

The funeral for Agnes Barry will be on 21st January at 2.30pm at St Thomas More. Please pray for them and their families.

EPIPHANY BLESSING OF HOMES

If you want to bless your home this year, there are still copies of a prayer of blessing available, along with blessed chalk, in all churches.

VOLUNTEERS EVENING RECEPTION

It was lovely to see so many of our volunteers on Monday evening- it was a wonderful evening. We are aware that some volunteers could not attend on the night and would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all volunteers for all that is done for our Church families. We are grateful for your hard work, dedication and care that goes in to all that you do.

ST. BERNADETTE'S DROP IN

This is cancelled for January. The next get-together will be on Wednesday 4th February.

LECTIO DIVINA AT ST. BERNADETTE'S: This continues on the second Wednesday of each month, 10.15-11am. The next date is 14th January. If you have a Sunday Missal, please bring this with you. All welcome

LIMITED PARKING OUTSIDE CHURCH FROM JANUARY

The roofing works are due to start in early January and due to scaffolding, storage of materials and parking spaces needed for the roofers, the parking spaces directly outside the Church will be limited. Please take note this includes the disabled parking bays.

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 29th 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

RACE NIGHT

In aid of the 150th anniversary fund we are hosting a race night on 23rd January in the Parish Centre. Doors open at 7pm- £5 entry. If you can't come on the evening you can still take part by owning a horse for the sum of £5.00. If your horse comes first or second you get a share of the purse. For tickets contact gerrycampbell@hotmail.com or Mike Heather, mike284305@btinternet.com

WORKS AT ST. JOHN'S- UPDATE

The roofing replacement is now underway with the gutter repairs commencing shortly. The stonemasons are almost finished and have a little bit of work left to do. We will then be re-painting the interior of the Church and re-carpeting so do please keep an eye on the newsletter for any notices regarding temporary Mass changes as these works progress.

WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

The week of prayer for Christian unity which takes place 18-25 Jan is an ecumenical celebration. It provides the opportunity to focus on prayers for Christian unity, joining with our international brothers and sisters in Christ. A booklet can be downloaded with prayers and reflections <https://ctbi.org.uk/resources/week-of-prayer-for-christian-unity-2026/> or for further information please see: <https://cte.org.uk/wpcu2026/>

ENCOUNTER REVIVE DAY

Begin 2026 in the fire of the Holy Spirit by joining us for a Day of Encounter with guest speaker Ros Powell. Let us start the New Year "awake and alert" 1 Thess 5:6. This is a day to renew heart, hope and mission. At Clifton Cathedral, 17th January 2026 from 9.30am – 4pm. For more information about the day, email Encounter@cliftondiocese.com or contact Ann on 07815 751556. All welcome.

CELEBRATION MASS FOR MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

Bishop Bosco is to celebrate Mass in the Cathedral on Saturday 14th 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/>

DIOCESAN ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

This Pilgrimage will be led by Bishop Bosco MacDonald with the Catholic Association of Lourdes UK. Friday 21st - Friday 28th 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, Station 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

MARY'S MEALS VOLUNTEERS

Mary's meals provide nutritious meals to children in school encouraging children in some of the poorest countries to gain an education. They are looking for volunteers in different sectors: community; faith representative; admin; volunteer speaker. For further information: 0800 698 1212

Or use their contact form: [Contact Us - Get in Touch | Mary's Meals UK](https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/contact-us)

CAR PARKING

Please note that with parking being a bit more of a squeeze at the moment- there is additional parking at St. Augustine's School for the Sunday Mass.

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.

