

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

Second Sunday of Lent – 1st March 2026

Parish Priest:	Fr Richard Elson VF	richard.elson@cliftondiocese.com	01225 752152
Parish Administrator:	Eve Hunneyball	trowbridge.stjohnthebaptist@cliftondiocese.com	01225 698791
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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
Parish Safeguarding Representative:	Martin Micenec	PSR1.trowbridge.stjohnthebaptist@cliftondiocese.com	
Parish website:	www.stjohnthebaptisttrowbridge.co.uk		

This Week's Mass Times

Sat 28 th Feb	4pm	St Thomas More's	Second Sunday of Lent (A)	<i>People of the Parish</i>
	6pm	St John's		<i>Noreen Murphy (RIP)</i>
Sun 1 st Mar	9am	St Bernadette's		<i>Special Intention</i>
	10.30am	St John's		<i>Terry Morgan (RIP)</i>
Mon 2 nd Mar	No Mass		Weekday of Lent	
Tues 3 rd Mar	No Mass		Weekday of Lent	
Wed 4 th Mar	No Mass		Weekday of Lent	
Thurs 5 th Mar	No Mass		Weekday of Lent	
Fri 6 th Mar	9.15am	St John's	Commemoration of St John of God	<i>Staff and Pupils St John's School</i>
Sat 7 th Mar	4pm	St Thomas More's	Third Sunday of Lent (A)	<i>People of the Parish</i>
	6pm	St John's		<i>Intentions of Donors</i>

Confessions

Sat 28 th	10.00-10.30am	St John's
Sat	3.30-3.50pm	St Thomas More's
Sat	5.30-5.50pm	St John's

Today's Readings



Adoration

Thurs	9.30-10.30am	St John's
Fri	8.00-9.00pm	St John's

Stations of the Cross

Tues	5.15pm	St John's
Thurs	10.30am	St Bernadette's
Fri	5.00pm	St Thomas More's

THE WORD THIS WEEK

Lent is a Season of preparation for the whole Paschal Triduum – Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday: not just a time to reflect on the Cross. Often our Lenten devotions can focus exclusively on the Cross, and the idea of Baptism can be lost. This is why the Church invites us to join the disciples in looking beyond the cross this Sunday: we see the glory of Easter, the glory of the resurrection and the glory of the baptised. We see all this in the Transfiguration: we are invited to recognise who Jesus is. It is the glorified Jesus, whom we will celebrate at Easter, who calls us to journey through Lent, just as God called Abram to journey far from his home. So the readings lead to us acknowledge that Lent is a very special 'calling', to follow the Lord of glory to the renewal of baptismal purity.

FUNERAL

The funeral Mass for Kazik Jan Potem is on 12th March at St. John's at 12 noon. Please pray for him and his family.

A TIME OF PRAYER AND REFLECTION IN LENT

This Lent there will be an opportunity to meet together to focus and reflect on our Baptismal Vocation. Using the resource 'We Dare To Ask', each session will include scripture, prayers and a reflection with questions. This will take place at St. Bernadette's starting at 10:15am with the second session being this Friday 6th March and continue on the three subsequent Fridays. All welcome. More information about the resource can be found on the diocesan website.

PARISH MISSION LEAFLETS

The Parish Mission Leaflets are available at all churches. Please note the times of Masses and the main Mission Service, which will be at 7pm each day (9th-13th March)

PRAYER SPONSORS FOR OUR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CHILDREN

We have 35 children preparing for the sacraments of First Confession and First Holy Communion. At Masses this weekend, we invite parishioners to take home a piece of paper with the name of one of these children and pray for them and their family. They were very excited to know that someone would be praying specially for them and it is a wonderful way to support them on their journey of faith.

ST THOMAS MORE PEDESTRIAN GATE

Shortly there will be a code on the pedestrian gate in to the car park behind the church. This, along with the separate vehicle gate code, will be changed monthly or thereabouts. It will be unlocked for Masses. If you feel you need access through the back of Church (as opposed to the front entrance) outside of Mass times please email Eve in the office.

ST BERNADETTE'S PLANT SALE

We will be having another plant sale in May and ask gardeners, when sowing your veg and flower seeds, to sow a few extra for the sale and/or divide plants from your garden. Many thanks.

BUY-A-TILE FUNDRAISER CLOSING DATE

The buy-a-tile campaign will be closing this Sunday- 1st March so if you haven't yet bought your tile and would like to do so please do this weekend.

ST. BERNADETTE'S DROP IN

This will be on Wednesday 4th March 2pm-4pm. Everyone welcome.

LENTEN SOUP LUNCH- ST. BERNADETTE'S

St Bernadette's will be hosting a Lenten Soup Lunch after Mass on 12th March. Tickets are £5 and are available after Sunday Mass. Proceeds for Cafod.

SERVICE TIMES FOR HOLY WEEK

The Chrism Mass will be at 11am at the Cathedral on Wed 1st Apr. The Triduum will be celebrated at St John's, with Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.30pm on Maundy Thursday, the Celebration of the Passion at 3pm on Good Friday, and the Easter Vigil at 8.30pm on Holy Saturday. In addition to these services, The Office of Readings and Morning Prayer will be said at 9am at St John's on each of these three days. On Good Friday there will also be Stations of the Cross at St Bernadette's at 11am and the Via Desolata at 7pm at St Thomas More's. On Easter Sunday, Masses will be at 9am at St Bernadette's, 10am at St Thomas More's, and 10.30am at St John's.

CAR PARKING ST. JOHNS DURING THE WEEK

You are very welcome to use the Car Park during the week if you are going in to the Church to pray. We do, however, need to insist that parking is not always available due to events happening in the Parish Centre and/or Services going on in Church. If in doubt please call Becky in the Parish Centre who can advise if the car park is free.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH DECORATIONS

The decorations at St John's will be starting between 16th -27th March and then again from 7th April – 1st May. During this time weekday Masses will be held in the Parish Centre. The church will still be used for Sunday Masses, but there will be a greatly reduced seating capacity. An additional Mass at 12.30pm will be held on Sundays to make up for the reduced seating at the 10.30am Mass, starting on Sunday 22nd March. Please consider attending this additional Mass.

PARISH CENTRE

Please spread the word about our wonderful Parish Centre- as a conference facility it is suitable for many uses and is bookable by phoning Becky in the office. We need to be taking in more bookings so please do let family, friends and colleagues know it is available.

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.

Thursday 5th March – Sacred Heart, Tisbury

Tuesday 10th March – Immaculate Conception, Devizes

Tuesday 17th March – St Joseph, Tewkesbury

Tuesday 24th 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.

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY

This Lent, live out the Gospel call to love your neighbour. By fasting and giving what you save, you join in Christ's compassion and help another family put food on the table. Your donation can help families around the world grow food in difficult conditions – such as on flood-resistant floating gardens or using solar-powered water pumps in times of drought. Collect a CAFOD envelope to bless others with your support, donate online at www.cafod.org.uk/envelope or call 0303 303 3030. Text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10.

The Fast Day was Friday 27th Feb and there will be a retiring collection this weekend (28thFeb/ 1st March) For this. Envelopes are available at all churches this weekend.

MARCH FOR LIFE UK PRESENTS COMMISSIONED: PRO-LIFE MEN'S CONFERENCE

Calling men of all ages and states of life: book your place at 'Commissioned', the National Men's Pro-life Conference, on April 18th at Birmingham Christian College. Through compelling talks on fatherhood, marriage, post-abortion healing, spiritual warfare and sexual responsibility learn to live out your vocation with humility, courage and integrity. For more info including speakers or to book your place go to <https://www.marchforlife.co.uk/commissioned-pro-life-mens-conference/> or contact info@marchforlife.co.uk

LIVING THEOLOGY- THE AMMERDOWN CENTRE 2026

Living Theology is an annual weekend event "somewhere between a retreat and a conference" held at the Ammerdown Centre in Somerset every June. This year's subject is "Theology, Beauty and the Arts - Encountering the Sacred from von Balthasar to C S Lewis". You would be most welcome to join us. The dates are 12-14th June. For further details please visit our website at www.livingtheology.co.uk or email ltammerdown@gmail.com

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

