

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

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 8th February 2026

Parish Priest:	Fr Richard Elson VF	richard.elson@cliftondiocese.com	01225 752152
Parish Administrator:	Eve Hunneyball	trowbridge.stjohnthebaptist@cliftondiocese.com bradford-on-avon.stthomasmore@cliftondiocese.com	01225 698791
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 7 th Feb	4pm	St Thomas More's	Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)	<i>People of the Parish</i>
	6pm	St John's		<i>Agnes Zammit (RIP)</i>
Sun 8 th Feb	9am	St Bernadette's		<i>Raymond Scott (RIP)</i>
	10.30am	St John's		<i>Special Intention</i>
Mon 9 th Feb	No Mass		Weekday in Ordinary Time	
Tues 10 th Feb	6pm	St John's	Memorial of Saint Scholastica	<i>Special Intention</i>
Wed 11 th Feb	9am	St Thomas More's	Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes	<i>Private Intention</i>
Thurs 12 th Feb	No Mass		Weekday in Ordinary Time	
Fri 13 th Feb	9am	St John's	Weekday in Ordinary Time	<i>Holy Souls</i>
Sat 14 th Feb	4pm	St Thomas More's	Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)	<i>Christine Maria Morris (RIP)</i>
	6pm	St John's		<i>Harold & Nellie Murray (RIP)</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				
Sat	5.30-5.50pm	St John's				

THE WORD THIS WEEK

While the world may seem to be very indifferent to Christianity most of the time, it can be very critical of Christians who do not seem to be following the most basic tenet of their faith – to be a people of “good works”, as Jesus teaches in today’s portion of the Sermon on the Mount. While we may sometimes feel indignant about the world’s criticism of our faults, we have to remember that we are in a vital relationship with “the world” – we are to be its light. This means that we should welcome the world’s gaze and scrutiny of our actions and beliefs and we should, in a sense, be accountable to the world for the way we live. We should never be salt that loses its taste. This openness to the gaze of all is not for our own glory, however: it is so that others may find what we have found – their way to the Father.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS TIMES (18th FEB)

There will be a distribution of ashes at each of the following Masses:

10am	St Bernadette's
12noon	St Thomas More's
6pm	St John's

CONFIRMATION CATECHISTS

We would like to thank everybody who came forward to be a Catechist this year. Numbers of young people preparing for Confirmation varies each year and we have less children this year than last. If you weren't called forward for this year we will keep your details for next year.

WELCOME

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

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 24th 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.

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

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 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 24th February – St Mary, Glastonbury

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.

DISCERNING THE WILL OF GOD

Clifton Diocese in partnership with 'Light of Truth' are offering 'Discerning the Will of God' on Friday 13th February 2026, 7pm-8pm. This online session will look at understanding how to discern the will of God in every circumstance of life. To sign up for the session, please click on the Zoom link [here](https://www.lightoftruth.uk) or see <https://www.lightoftruth.uk>

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/

CATHOLIC MOTHERS

The Bath and Wilts Catholic Mothers group are next meeting on Wednesday 18th 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.

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 for more information.

CELEBRATION MASS FOR MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

Our diocesan family will be celebrating Mass in the Cathedral on Saturday 14th February (12 noon) and Bishop Bosco is inviting all families to join us to acknowledge the joys & challenges of family life.

RITE OF ELECTION

This year's Rite of Election takes place in our Cathedral at 11am on Saturday 21 February. On this first Saturday of Lent, as at the start of every Lent, our diocesan family will gather at the cathedral together with our bishop to celebrate the Rite of Election, where those who are journeying towards becoming part of our Catholic community are presented to Bishop Bosco.

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

CAR PARKING ST JOHN'S

The Car Park is still very busy on a Sunday. If you can, please do consider using St. Augustine's (just down the road) for parking.

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.

