

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

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 15th 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 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>
Sun 15 th Feb	9am	St Bernadette's		<i>People of the Parish</i>
	10.30am	St John's		<i>Lee Cafferkey (RIP)</i>
Mon 16 th Feb	No Mass		Weekday in Ordinary Time	
Tues 17 th Feb	12noon	St John's	Funeral Mass	<i>Tom Bentley (RIP)</i>
	6pm	St John's	Weekday in Ordinary Time	<i>Holy Souls</i>
Wed 18 th Feb	10am	St Bernadette's	Ash Wednesday	<i>Peter Martin (RIP) (Ann)</i>
	12noon	St Thomas More's		<i>Special Intention</i>
	6pm	St John's		<i>People of the Parish</i>
Thurs 19 th Feb	No Mass		Thursday after Ash Wednesday	
Fri 20 th Feb	9am	St John's	Friday after Ash Wednesday	<i>Catherine Boyle (RIP)</i>
Sat 21 st Feb	4pm	St Thomas More's	First Sunday of Lent (A)	<i>Holy Souls</i>
	6pm	St John's		<i>People of the Parish</i>

Confessions

Sat 14 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

Stations of the Cross

Thurs	10.30am	St Bernadette's
Fri	5pm	St Thomas More's

THE WORD THIS WEEK

Back in the 60s some groups “adopted” Jesus Christ as an icon of rebellion, overturning authority and tearing up the rule book – possibly because of the frequent confrontations between Our Lord and the Pharisees. Today's Gospel, however, shows us Jesus not as rule-breaker, but as rule-fulfiller, bringing an even greater depth to the rule that had guided the people of Israel for centuries. Jesus does not throw out the rulebook – or as the first reading says, He does not command us to be godless! He challenges us in this Gospel to see how far our keeping God's Law will go: will it just be about the letter of the Law (“I have never killed anyone”), or will it look deeper (“Have I ever been angry? Have I been violent in my thoughts?”). The challenge of the Kingdom of Heaven is to keep the commandments first and foremost from within, so that our outward behaviour conforms to the requirements of God's Law.

ASH WEDNESDAY- 18TH FEB

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent and is a day of fasting and abstinence. Fasting means that the amount of food we eat is considerably reduced. This means taking no more than one full meal, and one or two light collations (snacks) in order to prevent oneself from being made seriously ill, particularly if working. Abstinence means abstaining from the eating of flesh meat. The rules of fasting and abstinence apply to those over 14 years for abstinence, and those between the ages of 18 and 60 for fasting. Ashes will be distributed at all Masses on Ash Wednesday: 10am St Bernadette's, 12noon St Thomas More's, 6pm St John's. As it is half term there will not be any distribution of ashes to the pupils at St John's School or St Augustine's College.

AN INVITATION: ST JOHN THE BAPTIST NOVENA

Day 5: Thursday 19th February, 6pm, St. Bernadette's: A significant part of our spiritual and prayerful preparation to celebrate St. John's 150 year anniversary in June this year, all are invited to Evening Prayer, St. John the Baptist Novena and Benediction. All welcome.

RITE OF ELECTION

Please keep in your prayers Jack Taylor, who is preparing to be baptised at the Easter Vigil, and Emma and Connor Howard who are preparing to be received into the church. Jack, Emma and Connor will be attending the Rite of Election at Clifton Cathedral next Saturday, 21st February, at 11am. All are welcome to attend.

FOOD BANK- ST JOHNS

The next food bank collection at St John's is on 21st/22nd Feb. For a list of suitable items to donate please see the noticeboard or ask Eve. Please do consider donating to this worthwhile cause.

LECTIO DIVINA ST THOMAS MORE

This is next on 23rd Feb from 10.15am for approximately 45 minutes. All welcome.

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 on Friday 27th February and continue on the four subsequent Fridays. All welcome. More information about the resource can be found on the diocesan website.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT

Tuesdays 5.15pm St John's
Thursdays 10.30am St Bernadette's
Fridays 5pm St Thomas More's

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)

LENTEN RESOURCES

Walk with Me booklets for Lent are available at all churches (£1.50). Lent Calendars for children are also available. There are also copies of the Diocesan Booklet, We Dare to Ask (£1.25)

NO MORNING CONFESSIONS

On Saturday 21st February there will be no morning confessions

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH DECORATIONS

The decorations at St John's will be 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.

LOST PROPERTY AT ST. JOHN'S

A number of items of lost property have been left behind at St John's. Please check to see if you have left anything in church. These items will be disposed of if they are not claimed this weekend.

MISSIO BOXES- ST. JOHNS

There are still a number of missio red boxes left in the lobby of St. John's (under the card reader). Can these please be collected this weekend before they are removed.

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.

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.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

Invitation to Couples to get away together and join us for a weekend to discover ways to grow deeper in love for a happier marriage and a happier life! The weekend draws on Marriage Encounters' 50 years of wisdom and experience, based on scriptural truths, and might just be the gear change you *didn't* know you needed or thought possible. Couples welcome whether married or in long term relationships, with faith or no faith. 27th Feb – 1st Mar - Swindon - Holiday Inn Express West. To find out more or book: Visit our website: wwme.org.uk

JESUS CENTRED LAY MINISTRY IN CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN LIFE

Are you involved in lay ministry of any kind in your parish? 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. David would love to hear from you if this of interest and can be contacted at david.blake@durham.ac.uk for more information.

JANUARY 300 CLUB RESULTS

Prize	Number	Name
£200	114	Forde/Strickland
£70	129	Moore family
£50	247	Maria Mellon
£10	10	Kirsty Simmons

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

