

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

Third Sunday of Lent – 8th March 2026

Parish Priest:	Fr Richard Elson VF	richard.elson@cliftondiocese.com	01225 752152
Parish Administrator:	Eve Hunneyball	trowbridge.stjohnthebaptist@cliftondiocese.com	01225 698791
		bradford-on-avon.stthomasmore@cliftondiocese.com	
		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 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>
Sun 8 th Mar	9am	St Bernadette's		<i>Holy Souls</i>
	10.30am	St John's		<i>Staff and Students St Augustine's College</i>
Mon 9 th Mar	9am	St John's	Weekday of Lent	
Tues 10 th Mar	9am	St John's	Weekday of Lent	
Wed 11 th Mar	9am	St John's	Weekday of Lent	
	12noon	St Thomas More's	Weekday of Lent	
Thurs 12 th Mar	9am	St John's	Weekday of Lent	
	12noon	St Bernadette's	Weekday of Lent	
	12noon	St John's	Funeral Mass	<i>Kazik Potem (RIP)</i>
Fri 13 th Mar	9am	St John's	Weekday of Lent	
	12noon	St Thomas More's	Weekday of Lent	
Sat 14 th Mar	4pm	St Thomas More's	Fourth Sunday of Lent (A)	<i>Holy Souls</i>
	6pm	St John's		<i>People of the Parish</i>

Confessions

Sat	3.30-3.50pm	St Thomas More's
Sat	5.30-5.50pm	St John's
Sat 14 th	10.00-10.30am	St John's

After each Parish Mission Mass and Service

Today's Readings



Stations of the Cross

Tues	9.30am	St John's
Thurs	11.15am	St Bernadette's
Fri	12.30pm	St Thomas More's

Parish Mission Services

Mon- Fri 7pm St John's

THE WORD THIS WEEK

The Gospel of the third Sunday is the remarkable conversation between Jesus and the Samaritan woman by the well, the theme is water - which gives life, which cleanses, which is so necessary. This reading forms part of the catechesis given before Baptism at Easter: the candidates who would go into the water are invited to reflect on what that means. But more necessary than the water which gives life is the water which gives eternal life - the water of baptism, the water flowing from Jesus' side on the cross. Even if a Church does not have any candidates preparing for Baptism, we will all renew our baptismal promises at Easter: we should take this opportunity to reflect on what baptism has given us, and what God has done for us in this gift.

BISHOP BOSCO STATEMENT

Bishop Bosco has issued a statement regarding the war in Iran. To see the statement in full please visit: <https://ymlp.com/zVWTa3>

BAPTISMS

On Saturday 7th March Ruby and Maya Robinson are being Baptised. Please pray for them and their family as we welcome them into the family of the Church.

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.

PARISH MISSION WEEK

Parish Mission Week is this week and we welcome Fr Royston and Fr Peter for this event. All details are on leaflets available at all churches and on our website. Please do come along.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS- ST THOMAS MORE

On Friday 13th March, during the parish mission week, Stations of the Cross at St Thomas More will be after noon Mass instead of 5pm

HOUSE BLESSINGS/ VISITS FOR THE SICK DURING MISSION WEEK

If you would like your house to be blessed or arrange for a visit to the sick during mission week these will take place on Wednesday afternoon. Please contact Eve in the office to arrange this.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK AFTER MASS- THURSDAY 5TH MARCH

If you are seriously ill and would like to receive the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick after the 9am Mass on Thursday 5th March please let Eve know in advance so we can accommodate numbers.

LECTIO DIVINA ST. BERNADETTE'S

Due to the Parish Mission taking place this week, Lectio Divina is postponed to 18th March, 10.15-11am. 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 at 10.15am. The third session is this Friday 13th March and there will then be two more sessions on subsequent Fridays. All welcome. More information about the resource can be found on the diocesan website.

COFFEES AFTER MASS- 22ND MARCH

Whilst the decorations are happening at St. John's there will be reduced seating available in the Church and therefore there will be extra Masses put on for Sundays. To prevent any issues with car parking for incoming parishioners to the 12.30pm Mass, the teas and coffees after 10.30am Mass will need to be wrapped up by 12noon.

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.

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.

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.

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.

FUNDRAISING UPDATE- ST.JOHN'S

So far we have received an amazing £36,400 in fundraising. This is due to the generous donations of parishioners so thank you to all who have donated, bought tiles, turned up to fundraising nights etc. The amounts are broken down as follows:

Donations: £16,000

Gift Aid £4,000

Quiz Night £229

Race Night: £581

Buy-a-tile: £4590

Grant: £11,000

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.

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.

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. 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

