

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

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord – 29th 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 28 th Mar	4pm	St Thomas More's	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord (A)	<i>People of the Parish</i>
Sun 29 th Mar	6pm	St John's		<i>Fr Danny (Intentions)</i>
	8.50am	St Bernadette's		<i>Holy Souls</i>
	10.30am	St John's		<i>Catherine Fox (RIP)</i>
Mon 30 th Mar	No Mass		Monday of Holy Week	
Tues 31 st Mar	11am	St John's	Funeral Mass	<i>Peter Atkins (RIP)</i>
	6pm	St John's	Tuesday of Holy Week	<i>Brian Routledge (RIP)</i>
Wed 1 st Apr	11am	Clifton Cathedral	Chrism Mass	
Thurs 2 nd Apr	7.30pm	St John's	Maundy Thursday	<i>People of the Parish</i>
Fri 3 rd Apr	3pm	St John's	Good Friday	<i>Celebration of the Passion of the Lord</i>
Sat 4 th Apr	8.30pm	St John's	Holy Saturday – Easter Vigil	<i>Evelyne & Romina Testa (RIP)</i>
Sun 5 th Apr	9am	St Bernadette's	Easter Sunday	<i>People of the Parish</i>
	10am	St Thomas More's		
	10.30am	St John's		<i>Michael Brennan (RIP) (Ann)</i>

Confessions

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

Today's Readings



Stations of the Cross

Tues	5.15pm	St John's
Fri	11am	St Bernadette's
Fri	7pm	St Thomas More's

Morning Prayer & Office of Readings

Thurs, Fri, Sat 4th 9am St John's

Night Prayer

Thurs 10pm St John's

THE WORD THIS WEEK

On Palm Sunday the long reading of the Passion dominates the celebration, and in a sense its meaning is obvious. Do not allow this, however, to detract from the other readings, which give the vital context necessary for understanding the Passion as more than just a long story. It is our story – the tale of how God achieved OUR salvation by the supreme sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

CLOCK CHANGE THIS WEEKEND

Please remember that the clocks go forward by one hour at 1am on Sunday morning so all Sunday Masses will be affected by the new time (please note if you have a smart phone this will most likely be automatically adjusted for you so upon waking your phone will show you the correct time but please make sure you double check).

SUNDAY MASS TIMES ARE BACK TO NORMAL- ST. JOHN'S

On Sunday at St. John's, there is just the 10.30am Mass as normal. The 12.30pm Mass was additional for last week to accommodate the reduced seating in the Church. Please keep an eye on the newsletter for any further changes in the coming weeks.

PALM SUNDAY- THIS WEEK

Please note Mass at St Bernadette's will begin 10 minutes earlier than usual at 8.50am.

At St John the Baptist, the 10.30am Mass will start with the blessing of the Palms in the Parish Centre followed by the procession to the Church. Please gather in the hall of the Parish Centre. The car park will be closed at 10.15am in order to keep the processional route clear. Please remember that additional parking is available at St Augustine's College.

FOOD BANK COLLECTION- THIS WEEKEND

The next food bank collection at St John's is this weekend- 28/29th March. For a list of suitable items to donate please see the noticeboard or ask Eve. Please do consider donating to this worthwhile cause.

GOOD FRIDAY

Good Friday 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.

TROWBRIDGE CHURCHES TOGETHER- GOOD FRIDAY

A Service at 10am at St James' Church followed by a 'Walk of Witness' starting outside St James' at 11am. Children's activities in the Lansdowne Room at St James' at 10am. All Welcome.

BRADFORD ON AVON AREA CHURCHES TOGETHER- GOOD FRIDAY

A 'Walk of Witness' on Good Friday starts at Westbury Gardens at 11am and ends at Christ Church for coffee and hot cross buns. All Welcome.

BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD

The blessing of Easter food on Holy Saturday and the sharing of blessed eggs after Easter morning Mass rank among the most popular Paschal traditions both in Poland and Polonia. Families bring baskets to Church for blessing and they contain a sampling of traditional Easter fare and usually include some or all of the following: hard-cooked eggs (coloured or plain), sausage and other meats, bread, cheese, Easter cakes, an Easter lamb (made of butter, sugar or non-edible material), salt & pepper, horseradish and possibly also a small cruet of vinegar. Blessing of Easter Baskets will take place on Holy Saturday at St John the Baptist at 11am.

EASTERTIDE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The special collection on Good Friday is for Holy Places and Christians in the Holy Land- This annual collection contributes towards the maintenance and upkeep of the Christian Shrines of the Holy Land. It also offers financial support to the Christian communities living in the Holy Land at times when they are experiencing opposition and suffering.

The collection at Easter Sunday Masses is for the Easter Offerings for the Parish Priest. Envelopes are available. The card machines and the Parish Website can also be used for both offerings.

ST BERNADETTE'S DROP IN

This is next drop in is on Wednesday 1st April from 2-4pm. Everyone is welcome

LINE PAINTING ST. BERNADETTE'S

Advance notice of line painting happening at St. Bernadette's. The Car Park will be closed from Tue 31st March for three days and will be open again on Friday 3rd April. Please do not park your cars in the car park during this time.

MINIATURE TILES FOR COLLECTION

For anyone who 'bought a tile' and ordered a miniature tile- they will be distributed in the Parish Centre after Mass on Sunday.

SPONSORED WALK IN AID OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY FUND

There is going to be a sponsored walk on Sunday 10th May to raise funds for the works happening at St. John's. A number of volunteers and helpers will be needed for this so if you are free and able to help please contact either Mike Heather: mike284305@btinternet.com or Anne Howard: annehoward0@gmail.com

CLIFTON DIOCESE SAFEGUARDING OFFICER VACANCY

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Clifton is committed to safeguarding and this vacancy provides an opportunity for a skilled and experienced professional to join the Safeguarding team at Alexander House, Bristol part- time (21 hrs per week: Wed to Fri).

The successful applicant will need to have comprehensive knowledge and experience of safeguarding legislation, policy procedure and best practice guidance and come from a background of either Policing, Social Work, Health or Probation. For further information about this role please visit www.cliftondiocese.com/Diocese/working-for-us or contact Janice Pearson or Tracey Holford, Clifton Diocese on 0117 954 0993. The closing date for applications is Fri 10th April with interviews on Thurs 16th April.

OUR COMMON HOME: ENGAGING POLITICIANS

With the May local elections fast approaching, now is an important time to let politicians know your views on climate and justice. Following a meeting with the Catholic Diocesan Environment Leads of England and Wales, an alliance of organisations has come together to offer parishioners guidance on key environmental issues and to help them engage local politicians in dialogue about defending our common home and safeguarding the dignity of all our brothers and sisters. This guidance is being offered via an online meeting with Bishop John Arnold on April 13th at 6.30pm. Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/delpolitics>

MARRIAGE SUPPORT

From relationships that are 'Just in a Rut', needing some refreshment or more serious issues - If you are open to try again - Retrouvaille could be the solution. We have helped thousands of couples get their relationship back on track as they rediscovered hope and trust in the marriage. To find out more: www.retrouvaille.org.uk +44 797 338 0443

CAR PARKING ST JOHN'S HOLY WEEK SERVICES

There are likely to be a great number of people attending the Holy Week Services- please remember there is additional parking at St. Augustine's. Please ensure you are parked legally and not across someone else's driveway and be mindful of others when parking your cars.

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.

