

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 Easter – 12th April 2026 Divine Mercy Sunday

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 11 th Apr	4pm	St Thomas More's	Second Sunday of Easter	
	6pm	St John's		<i>Jeffrey Parkes (RIP) (Ann)</i>
Sun 12 th Apr	9am	St Bernadette's		<i>Mary Barlow (RIP)</i>
	10.30am	St John's		<i>People of the Parish</i>
	12.30pm	St John's		<i>Joaquim Fernandes (RIP)</i>
Mon 13 th Apr	No Mass		Weekday of Easter	<i>Judith Champ (RIP)</i>
Tues 14 th Apr	6pm	Parish Centre Hall	Weekday of Easter	<i>Mary McCullagh (RIP)</i>
Wed 15 th Apr	No Mass		Weekday of Easter	
Thurs 16 th Apr	No Mass		Weekday of Easter	
Fri 17 th Apr	No Mass		Weekday of Easter	
Sat 18 th Apr	4pm	St Thomas More's	Third Sunday of Easter	<i>Chris, Zdzisia, Irus (RIP)</i>
	6pm	St John's		<i>Michelle Harris (RIP)</i>

Today's Readings



Confessions

Sat 11 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

THE WORD THIS WEEK

Often people forget that Easter is not just a day, but a season - the longest in the Church's year, in fact! We are given fifty glorious days of Spring and Summer to prolong our baptismal joy, fifty glorious days of basking in the light of the risen Saviour. It seems a shame that after the efforts we put into Lent we don't celebrate Eastertide with the same enthusiasm. The readings of this Season have their origins in the instruction given to converts in the early Church: in Lent, the readings were the basis of catechesis on the forthcoming baptism; in Easter the readings are "Mystagogy" - a type of teaching where the newly baptised ("neophytes") learn through taking part in the celebration of the sacraments and hearing the word. On the Sundays we hear who Jesus is, and on weekdays hear about Baptism and the Eucharist. This "Mystagogy" is not just to nourish the neophytes, but to help all of us deepen our life in the risen Lord Jesus. this Sunday we are with the disciples in the Upper Room, where eight days after the Resurrection Jesus comes among them - as he comes among us.

THANK YOU

Many thanks for all the cards, gifts and offerings I received this Easter time. I am very grateful and touched by people's thoughtfulness and generosity. Fr Richard.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY AFTER 10.30AM MASS

Divine Mercy Sunday will be celebrated at St John's after 10.30am Mass this Sunday 12th April, where a reading from Saint Faustina's Diary will be given and the Chaplet of Divine Mercy will be prayed followed by an opportunity to venerate the Divine Mercy image.

In a series of revelations to St Faustina the apostle of Divine Mercy, in the 1930s, our Lord called for a special feast day to be celebrated on the Sunday after Easter. Today that feast is known as Divine Mercy Sunday.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH DECORATIONS- REDUCED SEATING AT 10.30AM SUNDAY MASSES

The decorations at St John's started again this week and continue through until 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 this Sunday 12th March. Please consider attending this additional Mass. If the toilet is needing to be accessed you will need to go out through the main entrance and come back into the church through the west door (outside the toilet). You must not go under the scaffolding. Thank you for your understanding.

WELCOME

Jack Taylor was baptised at the Easter Vigil and Emma and Connor Howard who were received into full communion with the Church at the Easter Vigil. We welcome them all into the family of the Church.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ICON AT ST. JOHN'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. John the Baptist's. If you would like to participate in this please see the details on the noticeboard and add your name against the relevant date.

ST. BERNADETTE'S DISABLED PARKING BAY

The disabled parking bay has had to be moved over so it is next to the fence. If you use the disabled bay please reverse in to the space so you have the clearance on the drivers side to open the door fully. If you drive in frontways the driver's door won't have the clearance to open fully.

FIRST AID COURSE- MONDAY 13TH APRIL

For all those who have booked on to the first aid course- it will be in the Parish Centre. Please arrive by 8.50am and bring a packed lunch with you. The course aims to finish by 4pm. Please wear loose clothing for the practical elements.

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

OUR COMMON HOME: ENGAGING POLITICIANS

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/delitics>

DIOCESAN DAY: 'JOY OF LOVE'

On Sat 4th July, Bishop Bosco warmly invites you to join him for the diocesan day at Downside Abbey to celebrate the 'Joy of Love'. In addition to the adult programme there will be a children's and young people's programme. For your free ticket you need to book. Please see the following link: <https://joyoflove.eventbrite.co.uk>

DIOCESAN ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES- BOOKINGS NOW OPEN

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. For more information or to book please see: <https://cliftondiocese.com/pilgrimage/lourdes/>

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

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

VOCATIONS WEEKEND

From Fri 17th April to Sun 19th April the Bernadine Cistercians of Esquermes are hosting a weekend for women in their 20s, 30s and 40s who have not already made a life commitment to experience monastic life. For further information

PRAYER-LIVE IN

From Friday 15th May to Sunday 17th May The Bernadine Cistercians of Esquermes invite you to the Monastery of Our Lady and St. Bernard in Stroud to experience prayer in the Christian tradition. There will be talks, group prayer and independent prayer times. "We invite you to enter into the rhythm of prayer that shapes every day in the monastery, and to take time to listen in silence with the ear of your heart." For further info please email: bookings_brownhill@yahoo.co.uk

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.

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.

