

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

Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time – 6th September 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 9-11am Wed, Thurs, Fri 9am-3pm	
Parish Centre Administrator:	Rebecca Nesbitt	enquiries.sjpc@cliftondiocese.com	01225 767215
Parish Safeguarding Representative:	Martin Micenec	PSR1.trowbridge.stjohnthebaptist@cliftondiocese.com	
Parish website:	www.stjohnthebaptisttrowbridge.co.uk		

This Week's Mass Times

Sat 5 th Sep	4pm	St Thomas More's	Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)	People of the Parish Justin Whitehead (RIP)
	6pm	St John's		
Sun 6 th Sep	9am	St Bernadette's		Ursula & Dale Cook (RIP)
	10.30am	St John's		George & Joan Mills (RIP)
Mon 7 th Sep	No Mass		Weekday in Ordinary Time	
Tues 8 th Sep	6pm	St John's	Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	Intentions of Donors
Wed 9 th Sep	9am	St Thomas More's	Weekday in Ordinary Time	Mary Gaisford (RIP) (Ann)
Thurs 10 th Sep	10am	St Bernadette's	Weekday in Ordinary Time	Private Intention
	1.30pm	St John's	Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit	Staff & Pupils St John's School
Fri 11 th Sep	9am	St John's	Weekday in Ordinary Time	Paul Elson (RIP) (Ann)
Sat 12 th Sep	4pm	St Thomas More's	Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)	People of the Parish
	6pm	St John's		Special Intention

Confessions

Sat	10.00-10.30am	St John's
Sat	3.30-3.50pm	St Thomas More's
Sat	5.30-5.50pm	St John's
Thurs	9.30-9.50am	St Bernadette's

Today's Readings



Adoration

Thurs	9.30-10.30am	St John's
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THE WORD THIS WEEK

No man is an island..." How true this is for those who follow Christ: each of us has responsibilities towards each other, based on our debt of mutual love. When we see wickedness and wrongdoing, then because of our privileged position of following the Lord Jesus, we have a duty to speak out. This will not always be easy - remember the prophet Jeremiah last week - but this was the mission of the Lord Jesus himself, and as his followers, it is our mission too. As with everything, love is the answer to every one of the commandments.

PASTORAL LETTER FROM BISHOP BOSCO- THIS WEEKEND

The 1st September was the first day of the Season of Creation. Bishop Bosco has issued a pastoral letter which will be read out at Masses this weekend. There are also copies available at all churches.

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

For all new altar servers, the training will be on Saturday 12th September at 11am

LECTIO DIVINA ST. BERNADETTE'S

This continues on the second Wednesday of each month, 10.15-11am. The next date is 9th September. If you have a Sunday Missal, please bring this with you. All welcome.

COACH TO KWAME'S ORDINATION

The coach has now been booked for Kwame's Ordination at the Cathedral on Saturday 19th September. I have emailed all those who let me know they wanted a seat. Pick up is 9am from St. John's. There are a few seats spare so if you would like to go please do let Eve know. Cost is £10 per person.

ST. JOHN'S CHILDREN'S LITURGY

The St. John's Children's Liturgy are in need of adult volunteers/catechists to assist once a month with the Liturgy in order to continue into the future. For information please contact: lucypinkney12@gmail.com

DBS VOLUNTEERS TRAINING

The Safeguarding Office is asking for all Diocese Volunteers who require a DBS to complete the on-line training programme on offer by 31st December 2026. Across our 3 Churches we are able to offer 3 dates to join an on-line Microsoft Team meeting in St John's Hall led by Janice Pearson. You could join the meeting remotely or do the on-line version. Please contact: Martin, PSR1.trowbrigestjohnthebaptist@cliftondiocese.com or Teresa, PSR.trowbridgestjohnthebaptist@cliftondiocese.com

VOLUNTEERS FOR THE WELCOMING TEAM

The welcomers for St John's at both the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses are looking for new volunteers to join a rota for the welcoming team. If this is something you think you'd be interested in, please let Eve know.

OFFICE APPOINTMENTS FOR EVE AND BECKY

A gentle reminder to please contact Eve or Becky first if you would like to come and see either of us. We are not always in the office and if we are in the office we are often engaged in other tasks which need to take our priority. We are very eager to be able to give you our dedicated time and attention and to ensure we can do this we please ask you contact us first to see when we are best available. Thank you for your understanding.

DIOCESAN CALL FOR NEW AND EXPERIENCED FACILITATORS

A significant amount of time has passed since the 2023-2024 Synod but I know that many of you will be aware that the Synod work has continued, and we are now in the stage of implementing the final document with a Diocesan Assembly in 2027. Over the next few months, we will be encouraging Parishes to gather the fruits of this work through Conversations in the Spirit (CiS). In addition, we will be having area assemblies in the run up to the main assembly. To do this well we will need good facilitators both experienced and new who would feel confident about offering their service to the Diocese. Anyone who feels called to support us will be very welcome. You do not need to have experience of running small groups using the methodology of CiS as we will offer formation and guidance to everyone. We hope to start this formation in September/October so please do let us know if you would be happy to be included by clicking on this link:

[Synod Facilitators: Conversation in the Spirit – Fill in form](#)

CARITAS CLIFTON ADMINISTRATION SUPPORT

We have had a Caritas initiative in the Diocese as part of the Catholic Social Action Network for many years. (www.csan.org.uk). Bishop Bosco is now keen that this is developed into a practical resource for parishes. We are looking for volunteers to assist in the setting up and administration of the initiative. This could be for a few hours per week or days. For more information, please contact Deacon Robert von Hawrylak on caritasclifton@cliftondiocese.com.

JUBILEE GARDEN PROJECT

A new project launching on September 1st. It is an invitation to use physical space to heal, transform and renew with the siblings Mary, Martha and Lazarus, representing Faith, Charity and Hope, as Patrons of the project. To join the launch of the project in partnership between 'The God Who Speaks' and the 'Ecological Conversion Group', you can register here: www.jubileegarden.org/events

MAGNIFICA HUMANITAS

The first encyclical letter of Pope Leo has been received with great interest and excitement from around the world. Pope Leo has, from the beginning of his Papacy, focused on AI as a central issue and sees it as a new phase of the industrial revolution. A day exploring Magnifica Humanitas on 24th October at St Brendan's College, Brislington, offers all the opportunity to go deeper into the encyclical. Bishop Bosco, Dr Austen Ivereigh and Professor Carmody Grey (tbc) will, together, unpack for us the encyclical from their perspective and lead us into conversation. For more details: [Magnifica Humanitas | Clifton Diocese](#)

GREAT CHALFIELD QUIET GARDEN

Many of you may be aware of the National Trust property Great Chalfield Manor and Gardens, near Melksham (SN12 8NH), but you may not know that for over 25 years there has been a monthly Quiet Garden Day held in the Church and Gardens as part of the Quiet Garden Movement. Each Quiet Garden is different but all provide a chance to truly rest in the peace of a beautiful garden, an opportunity to stop and pray, read and reflect - to be in God's presence. During the day we have two led reflections, the first, short one, as an introduction to what will be in the longer reflection at lunchtime. But you can come and go as you please throughout the day. We are there from 9.30am until 2.30pm but you can stay till 3.00pm. The Quiet Garden is held on the first Tuesday of every month, except in January and August. There is no need to book, or to pay, but we do ask for donations, and please bring your own lunch. Refreshments are available. Our next Quiet Garden is on Tuesday 1st September. Please do join us if you can.

VOCATION RETREAT DAY

What is God calling you to? Whether discerning your own path or simply curious about how others live out their faith, this day retreat is a chance to pause, explore, learn and reflect together as a community. Open to both men and women, the day brings together speakers from across different vocations each sharing their story of how they found their calling. The day includes Mass and time for confession, with lunch and refreshments included in the ticket price. Saturday 26th September, 10am to 4.30pm, at St Mary on the Quay, Bristol. Tickets from £10, available via Eventbrite/Zeffy. For enquiries, please contact bristol-catholicwomen@gmail.com

NOT DEAD YET CAMPAIGN

Not Yet Dead is a network of disabled people who oppose legalising assisted suicide. They have printed and distributed thousands of postcards throughout the UK for people to fill in and send to their MPs. The House of Lords have sent us a letter asking for these to be given to parishioners to fill in and send to their local MP before the second reading, on 11th September, of the revived assisted suicide bill. Only 12 MPs need to change their minds for this bill to be defeated. You can also send a message to your MP online via: <https://www.notdeadyet.org/> The postcards will be available at all Masses this weekend.