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

Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe – 22nd November 2026

Parish Priest:	Fr Richard Elson VF	richard.elson@cliftondiocese.com	01225 752152
Parish Deacon:	Rev Kwame Adoku	kwame.adoku@cliftondiocese.com	
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
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Parish website:	www.stjohnthebaptisttrowbridge.co.uk		

This Week's Mass Times

Sat 21st Nov	4pm	St Thomas More's	Solemnity of Christ the King (A)	*Deceased relatives of the Barry and Zlotnicki families*
	6pm	St John's		*Carmela & Anthony Mercieca (RIP)*
Sun 22nd Nov	9am	St Bernadette's		*People of the Parish*
	10.30am	St John's		*Catherine Boyle (RIP)*
Mon 23rd Nov	***No Mass***		Weekday in Ordinary Time	
Tues 24th Nov	6pm	St John's	Memorial of Saint Andrew Dũng-Lạc and Companions	*Donna May Ford (RIP)*
Wed 25th Nov	9am	St Thomas More's	Weekday in Ordinary Time	*Holy Souls*
Thurs 26th Nov	11am	St John's	Funeral Mass	*Teresa Pisarewicz (RIP)*
Fri 27th Nov	9am	St John's	Weekday in Ordinary Time	*Anne Whitehead (RIP)*
Sat 28th Nov	4pm	St Thomas More's	First Sunday of Advent (B)	*Private Intention*
	6pm	St John's		*People of the Parish*

Today's Readings

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

THE WORD THIS WEEK

"Shepherd-King o'er mountain steep, homeward guide thy wand'ring sheep." This hymn captures the readings perfectly: our King is not a cruel tyrant or despot, but a shepherd who loves his flock, who would (and did) give his life for them. Love for the flock means that he will have to judge them, separating the sheep from those who do not belong to him. Coming to the end of the Church's year leads us to look to our final ending, the homecoming the hymn speaks of. The judgement of the end of time we do not view as a trial or a terror, but as a coming home: look back to the Isaiah reading on the 28th Sunday to see what a homecoming party is offered. All we do is put our lives in order, living just and holy lives, longing for the Day of the Lord to come.

FUNERALS

The funeral for Anne Whitehead will be at St John's on Friday 11th December at 12 noon. Please pray for her and her family.

The funeral for Teresa Pisarewicz is on Thursday 26th Nov at St. John's at 11am. Please pray for her and her family.

BAPTISM

Margot Elizabeth Hazel Beek will be baptised at St. John's on Sat 21st Nov. Please pray for her and her family as we welcome her into the family of the Church

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Masses this year will be at the following times:

Thursday 24th December – Christmas Eve

6pm St John's

9pm St Thomas More's

11pm St John's

Friday 25th December – Christmas Day

9am St Bernadette's

10.30am St John's

LECTIO DIVINA- ST THOMAS MORE

The next Lectio Divina will be on Monday 23rd Nov from 10.15-11am. If you have a Sunday Missal, please bring this with you. All very welcome.

FOOD BANK- ST. JOHN'S

The next food bank collection will be after Masses next weekend- 28/29th November. There is a list of suitable items on the notice board in St. John's or you can email Eve. Please do consider donating to this worthwhile cause.

TEA AND CHAT- ST. JOHN'S

The next tea and chat will be in the Parish Centre on Thurs 3rd Dec from 2pm. All are welcome.

DIOCESAN DIRECTORIES

There are some diocesan directories available to purchase for £6.50. They will be available after all Masses if you would like one.

RED BOX HOLDERS-ST. JOHN'S

If you are a red box holder, please bring your box to St. John's during November and they will be emptied for you. There are a number of red boxes that do need collecting from St. John's

ST. JOHN'S QUIZ NIGHT

On Fri 27th Nov there will be a quiz night in the Parish Centre to raise funds for the ongoing building works. Tickets are £5 per person for teams of 4 or 6. For further info please contact Mike Heather 01225762966 / 07712662672

BLESSING OF BAMBINELLI – 13th DEC

This is a beautiful Advent Tradition – Bambinelli Sunday, Blessing the Christ Child – which has been celebrated in Rome for over thirty years and helps children and young people to prepare for Jesus. Each family will bring the Christ Child from its own crib or Nativity scene and the Pope blesses it during the noon Angelus that day. It is a wonderful way to bring family and parish together. Following that tradition, I encourage families to bring the baby Jesus from their own cribs to church on the Third Sunday of Advent and, at the end of Mass, I will bless the Bambinelli which have been brought to church. Everyone is welcome to take part – young and old alike. Fr Richard

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2027 REGISTRATION

Our next First Holy Communion and First Confession preparation programme will start on 21st January. If your child has been Baptised and is in school year 3 and above you can enrol here: First Holy Communion Registration 2027 Deadline for registration is Friday 1st January 2027. There will be no registrations past this date.

CONFIRMATION 2027 ENROLMENT

Our next Confirmation preparation programme will start on the 13th April. If your child is in school year 9 or above and has taken their First Holy Communion you can enrol them here: Confirmation 2027 enrolment form Deadline for registration is 12th February 2027. No registrations will be taken after this date.

ADVENT WALK WITH ME BOOKLETS AND CALENDARS FOR THE CHILDREN

The Advent 'Walk with Me' Booklets are now available from all Churches in time for the start of Advent. They are £1.50 each. There are Calendars also available for the children.

PARISH CAROL SERVICE

On Sun 20th Dec at 4pm, there will be our annual carol service at St. John's followed with mulled wine and mince pies in the Parish Centre. Do come along to this festive afternoon.

EPIPHANY RECEPTION FOR ALL VOLUNTEERS ACROSS OUR THREE CHURCHES

On Tuesday 5th January, after our evening Epiphany Vigil Mass, Father Richard would like to invite all Church Volunteers to an evening reception of drinks and nibbles at St. John's Parish Centre to thank you for all that you do. It would be good to get an idea of numbers for catering purposes so if you intend to come could you please let Eve know.

ADVENT CAROL SERVICE BRADFORD ON AVON CHURCHES TOGETHER

This will take place at Holy Trinity Church in Bradford on Avon on Advent Sunday- 29th November at 6pm. All very welcome.

ST. JOHN'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

St. John's primary school warmly invite prospective families to visit St John's Catholic Primary School and experience their welcoming, faith-filled community. Tours are available on the following dates: Mon 23rd Nov, Wed 9th Dec, Thurs 7th Jan & Tues 12th Jan- available at 9.15am and 10.30am on all dates. To book please visit the following link: St. John's Catholic Primary School

READING THE BIBLE THROUGH ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

A new book has been published, titled above, by Rev. Dr Adrian Graffy, a priest of the Diocese of Brentwood, and a well-known scripture scholar and lecturer, on the Advent and Christmas readings. This may be of use in the upcoming season and more details can be found at www.whatgoodnews.org

RESIDENTIAL MARRIAGE COURSE

Are you wanting to understand the Church's teaching on Matrimony and its vision for the Sacrament more deeply? Join us on the weekend of 8th – 10th January exploring the theology of Marriage, based on Scripture and structured around the Rite itself. With time for personal reflection and exercises, sharing in couples and as a group, this weekend course serves as a standalone or as an accompaniment to other in-person or online courses. For more information and to book: www.christianheritagecentre.com

PART TIME/ SELF-EMPLOYED ROLE AT AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED

Aid to the Church in Need is seeking Parish Appealers to help share the stories of persecuted Christians in parishes near you. Spend a few weekends each year giving short appeals at Mass. Full training and support are provided, and no fundraising experience is necessary. This flexible, self-employed role is suitable for those who are working, retired, or semi-retired. To view the job description and apply, visit acnuk.org/apply-pa or email Aloma Do Rozario at aloma.dorozario@acnuk.org

UK PRAYS-NEXT SUNDAY

The next public rosary will be at the War Memorial in the Park in Trowbridge next Sunday 29th November at 4.30pm. All welcome.