

# CHURCH OF OUR LADY AND ST CHRISTOPHER CRANFORD

32 High Street, Cranford, TW5 9RG



020 8759 9136

email: [cranford@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:cranford@rcdow.org.uk)

web: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/>cranford

**Second Sunday of Advent**

**4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

**Readings: Parish Mass Book Year C, Volume 1 (Page 84):** Baruch 5:1-9; Psalm 125; Philippians 1:4-6; 8-11; Luke 3:1-6  
**Next Week: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent (Page 87):** Zephaniah 3:14-18; Isaiah 12; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18



## Parish Team

*Parish Priest:*

**Fr. John Tabor**

Email: [johntabor@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:johntabor@rcdow.org.uk)

*Parish Secretary:*

**Florie Fernandes**

**Parish Office Open:**

Monday 2pm-5pm

Tuesday 9am-12noon and

Friday 9.00am-2.00pm

*Parish Safeguarding Officer:*

**Natalie Smith**

Email:

[cranfordsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:cranfordsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

Mobile: 07851 390118 (Dedicated Parish Safeguarding Number)

### Protecting your Privacy:

In compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which became effective in May 2018, the Parish requires your permission to hold your data for Parish/Diocesan use. You can read our full privacy policy on

[www.rcdow.org.uk/diocese/privacy-policy](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/diocese/privacy-policy)

### MASS INTENTIONS

If you wish to offer a Mass intention, please call Florie or visit the office on a Tuesday or Friday 10.30am-11.30am

### ONLINE MASSES

Mass and other liturgies live streamed from Westminster Cathedral and other parishes are available at [www.churchservices.tv](http://www.churchservices.tv)

### NEW MASS TIMES FROM NOVEMBER

**Sunday Masses:** Saturday Evening 5.00pm (Vigil Mass), 9.00am and 11.00am

**Monday to Thursday:** 10am Mass

No Mass on Friday or Saturday morning

**Confession:** Saturday 4.15pm-4.45pm and on call

*This Parish is part of Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust (WRCDT) Registered Charity No: 233699*

Dear Friends

## Making Straight Paths

As we come to the Second Sunday of Advent, I suspect we may be feeling a sense of weariness. The re-imposition of some restrictions following the emergence and occurrence of the “Omicron variant”, may well have us thinking back to this time last year.

In a sense that is natural and, during this Advent season of expectant preparation for Our Lord’s coming, we can reflect upon God’s constant love and care for each of us. In Him is our founded Hope, our source of real joy. Let us make our hearts ready to receive Him and all the gifts of His abundant Love that he offers us.

St Bede the Venerable puts it well: *“let us hurry along under Christ’s gaze.”* May we keep our gaze upon Him and may we take the straight path that leads to life in Christ each day!

Have a good week and let’s pray for each other.

**Father John**

### WEEK COMMENCING 6<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

Weekday Mass on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday only at 10am. No Mass Thursday, Friday or Saturday morning.

### CHANGE TO DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION AND OTHER MINISTRIES

From this weekend 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> December, Holy Communion will be distributed **at the end of Mass** until further notice. Once you receive the sacrament **please depart from Church**. No going back to your seat so please take your belongings with you. Please follow the stewards.

No Altar Servers, Singing or Choir until further notice. Instrumental music allowed. Minimum number of Readers and Eucharistic Ministers allowed.

### ATTENDING MASS

The Diocese have confirmed that the Guidelines of July 2021 remain in place. Local discernment is necessary so that people feel safe at Church and are encouraged to return as well as recognising the levels of COVID in particular locations.

***It has therefore been decided to continue with online Mass bookings until further notice. The weekday Masses do not require online booking but please complete the Track and Trace Register as you enter Church and sanitise your hands.***

### STEP 4 OF THE ROADMAP FOR ST CHRISTOPHER'S

- Sanitising of hands on entry and exit
- Wearing of face coverings/masks is still a requirement in Church
- If you or your child or any family member has a cough or cold, please do not come to Church until your cough clears.
- Social distancing will gradually be reduced
- Numbers attending Mass has gradually increased
- Online booking for weekend Mass will continue for a while especially now with an increase in cases.
- Track and Trace, stewards and following the one-way system will continue as usual for a few more weeks.
- Holy Communion will continue to be under one kind and **on the hand**. Holy Communion will be distributed at the end of Mass.
- Sign of Peace is still suspended.
- The Choir, music and Altar Servers suspended, readers, Eucharistic Ministers have resumed.
- Sunday obligation is still suspended as per the Bishops guidelines.

### HELP REQUIRED

Fr John is seeking volunteers to help during the weekday Masses at the altar and also with other small tasks around the Church and presbytery. Please take and complete the form given to you as you came into Church, think carefully about how you can help and what you can help with, complete and return it during the week or next weekend. This is your parish and you need to make it work.

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR 2022

Florie will be available to take Mass Bookings for next year from Monday 6<sup>th</sup> December during office hours. Please DO NOT call her at home to make bookings. The payment of £10 per Mass intention (as recommended by the Diocese) is required at the time of booking.

### THE GIFT OF THE SUNDAY EUCHARIST

The Sunday Eucharist is a gift; as God's holy people we are called to praise and thank God in the most sublime way possible. When the Church speaks of the Sunday obligation, it reminds us that attending Mass is a personal response to the selfless offering of Christ's love.

At this time, we recognise that for some people there may be certain factors which hinder attendance at Sunday Mass. The pandemic is clearly not over. The risk of infection is still present. For some, there is legitimate fear in gathering together. As your bishops, we recognise that these prevailing circumstances suggest that not everyone is yet in the position to fulfil the absolute duty to attend freely Sunday Mass.

*The above is an extract from a statement from the Bishops Conference entitled **Honouring Sunday**. Copies available at the back of church and on the website.*

### SACRAMENTS

**Baptisms** – please make an appointment to see Fr John to arrange your baby's baptism. In view of the current rise in Covid cases, only 6 people are allowed at the baptism – the parents, the godparents, baby and one other.

**MARRIAGE:** We need **six months' notice** for marriage paperwork to be done, more so as paperwork is now being returned to the Churches abroad and could be delayed in the post.

Registration for First Holy Communion and Confirmation closes this Sunday – Please see Page 3.

### OFFERTORY ENVELOPES

A few of you have requested envelopes and these have yet to be collected. There is a list the names in the porch. Please see Florie.

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

If you wish to donate online please do so directly to our bank, giving your name as a reference.

**HSBC Bank: WRCDT Cranford Sort Code: 40-05-20 Account: 01308637**

### ST JOSEPH

Pope Francis has offered the following Prayer to coincide with the official close of the The Year of Saint Joseph on 8<sup>th</sup> December the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception:



Saint Joseph, you who always trusted God,  
and made your choices guided  
by His providence teach us  
not to count so much on our own plans  
but on His plan of love.  
You who come from the peripheries  
help us to convert our gaze  
and to prefer what the world discards  
and marginalises.  
Comfort those who feel alone  
and support those who work silently  
to defend life and human dignity. **Amen.**

### **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PREPARATION**

Registration for the First Holy Communion programme will **close at midnight on Sunday, 5th December.**

To register, please go to our parish website <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/cranford>.

The child's Baptism certificate must be provided. This can be photographed and sent to Natalie Smith by WhatsApp to 07851 390 118, or emailed to [CranfordFirstCommunion@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:CranfordFirstCommunion@rcdow.org.uk) or a paper copy dropped into the letterbox of the Parish Office. Not the original please – but a copy.

**Important change:** due to the continued Covid issues, we have been advised to hold the Parent's Meeting online. It will still take place on Saturday, 11th December 2021 at 10:00am but via Zoom.

A link will be sent to the preferred parent's email address by Thursday. This will be your invitation to join the meeting. Please do sign into Zoom a little earlier so that we can start and finish promptly.

This situation will be reviewed in January and a decision made about the children's classes, the first of which will be held on Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

### **CONFIRMATION PREPARATION**

Registration for the confirmation programme will **close at midnight on Sunday, 5th December.**

To register, please go to our parish website <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/cranford>.

The child's Baptism certificate must be provided. This can be photographed and sent to Natalie Smith by WhatsApp to 07851 390 118, or emailed to [CranfordFirstCommunion@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:CranfordFirstCommunion@rcdow.org.uk) or a paper copy dropped into the letterbox of the Parish Office. Not the original please – but a copy.

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A link will be sent to the preferred parent's email address by Thursday. This will be your invitation to join the meeting. Please do sign into Zoom a little earlier so that we can start and finish promptly.

This situation will be reviewed in January and a decision made about the candidate classes, the first of which will be held on Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

### **PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS...**

#### **TWO ONLINE PROGRAMMES TO HELP US GET READY FOR THE COMING OF OUR LORD**

##### **1. Christmas Voices from the Holy Land**

Over Advent and Christmastide Fr Richard Nesbitt will be hosting a series of online sessions. The dates are as follows: 3

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> December

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January

All are scheduled to begin at 8.00pm. If you would like to attend these sessions, please register beforehand with me at [annadupelycz@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:annadupelycz@rcdow.org.uk). As before, you will then receive the Zoom link details.

The book is available at £9.99 including UK p&p [office@friendsoftheholylan.org.uk](mailto:office@friendsoftheholylan.org.uk)

##### **2. Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John**

In this Advent season we have an invitation to participate in a new 8 week online Bible study course called: Follow Me: Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John. This started on 29th November at 7pm, but new comers are still welcome.

Participants of 'Follow Me' will receive a workbook and will meet every week to view an engaging video presentation followed by a time of lively group discussion and fellowship.

For more information or to register for the study, please contact Ivan Čižmárik at [ivancizmarik@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:ivancizmarik@rcdow.org.uk). You can also visit the parish website <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/hounslow/parish-groups/https-parish-rcdow-org-uk-hounslow-wp-content-uploads-sites-231-2018-05-fkyer-new-pdf/>.

Also available as an e-book at a price of £7.99, using Issuu.. You can browse the first chapter of the book before you buy : [https://issuu.com/fhloffice/docs/cv\\_complete\\_digital?fr=sM2EzYTQzNjYxMDE](https://issuu.com/fhloffice/docs/cv_complete_digital?fr=sM2EzYTQzNjYxMDE)