**­­­­­CHURCH OF OUR LADY 020 8759 9136**

**AND ST CHRISTOPHER**  **email:** cranford@rcdow.org.uk

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

**32 High Street, Cranford, TW5 9RG**

**3rd Sunday of Advent 10th/11th December 2022**

**Readings:** **3rd Sunday of Advent (Year A) Page 88:** Isaiah 35:1-6, 10, James 5:7-10, Matthew 11:2-11

**Next week: 4th Sunday of Advent (Year A) Page 90:** Isaiah 7:10-14, Romans1:1-7, Matthew 1:18-24

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| **Parish Team****Parish Priest: Fr. John Tabor**Email: johntabor@rcdow.org.uk**Catechetical Co-ordinator:** Bejoy IgnatiousWorking days: Thursdays 9.00 am – 5.00 pm, Saturdays 11.00 am – 6.00 pm and on Sundays 9.00 am - 2.00 pm. Email: bejoyignatious@rcdow.org.uk **Parish Secretary:** Gillian SatchellWorking days: Wednesday & Friday morningsPlease e-mail parish office with requests and queriesIn-person enquires on Wed & Fri between 10.30 – 11.30 am. Email**:** cranford@rcdow.org.uk **Parish Safeguarding Officers:**Natalie Smith & Pelazia RodriguesEmail: cranfordsg@safeguardrcdow.org.ukEmail: cranfordsg2@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 email or call/visit the Parish Office on a Wed/Fri between 10.30 – 11.30 am.-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**ONLINE MASSES**Mass and other liturgies live streamed from Westminster Cathedral and other parishes are available at [**www.churchservices.tv**](http://www.churchservices.tv)------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**MASS TIMES** **Saturday:** 5pm; **Sunday Masses**: 9.00 am and 11.00 am **Weekday Mass Timings**: Please see Mass intentions overleaf**Confession:** Saturday afternoons 4.15 – 4.45 pm **Portuguese Mass**: 12.30 pm on Sundays as advised**Konkani Mass**: 4th Sunday of the month - 5.00 pm*This Parish is part of Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust (WRCDT) Registered Charity No: 233699* |  | Dear Friends,**Rejoice in the Lord Always**These words come from the Introit of this Sunday's Mass.  We are now halfway through Advent and today’s Liturgy has a festive feel to it.  In some places, there are rose-coloured vestments and the rose-coloured candle on the Advent Wreath is lit.At this halfway point of the Advent season, it is an opportunity for us to take stock, to see how our Advent practices are shaping up and where we might want to start afresh.  This year, Advent is four full weeks, which gives the opportunity to take full advantage of this quiet time (amidst the pre- Christmas rush) to prepare for Christmas.St Francis Xavier’s FeastLast weekend we celebrated the Feast of St Francis Xavier with a beautiful Mass, followed by a very enjoyable lunch.  I would like to thank everyone who worked so hard to make the day such a success.  We also raised over £450 for the Church Building Fund, which is extremely encouraging.  Next Year, St Francis Xavier’s feast falls on a Sunday.  We will have Mass at 4.00pm, followed by a party.  More details will follow in due course.Have a good week and let us pray for each other.**Father John****Addendum**Copies of My Day by Day for Advent are available for purchase at £1.50 a copy. We have ordered a small number initially, but more can be ordered if there is sufficient interest. |

**CHRISTMAS CHURCH DECORATION:** On 21st December, we will be decorating the church after the 10.00 am mass. Volunteers welcome.

**ADVENT CONFESSIONS: Friday, 16th December – 6.00 pm-8.00 pm.**

**CHRISTMAS MASSES: Christmas Eve: 5.30 pm Portuguese Mass; Carols round the Crib from 7.30 pm. 8.00 pm Solemn First Mass of Christmas. Christmas Day: 9.00 am Family Mass, 11.00 am Mass.**

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION PARENTS** on 17th December there will be a meeting for the parents of the First Holy Communion and Confirmation candidates. **Meeting times: 11:00 Confirmation Parents & 12:00 First Holy Communion Parents**. Attendance is required; if unable to attend, please contact Fr. John via e-mail cranford@rcdow.org.uk

**VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED FOR COUNTERS** please advise Fr John if you would like to volunteer to be a counter.

**CAFOD World Gifts: Give a gift of hope this Christmas:** In Advent, let us share the promise of hope that has been made to us with our sisters and brothers around the world. You can buy CAFOD’s World Gifts for family and friends this Christmas online at <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/> or pick up a catalogue in church. World Gifts such as “super soup kitchens”, “trees for life”, or “water for a family” will help transform lives in a world filled with challenges.

**MASS OFFERINGS** There are some spaces for masses in January and February and we are taking bookings up to the end of March 2023. You are encouraged to book anniversary Masses etc. **AT LEAST three months** in advance to avoid disappointment. We recommend three Mass bookings per person at a time, so that everyone receives a fair chance to have Mass requests booked. As the Diocese suggests moving to a cashless system, wherever possible, all payments should be made online through bank transfer into the parish account, quoting the reference “Mass Offering”. Please refer to the bottom of this newsletter for bank details.

**BAPTISMS** Please request an appointment with Fr John via e-mail cranford@rcdow.org.uk

**POLITE REQUEST** Our insurers have asked us to ensure that only Diocesan approved contractors are engaged in property survey and repairs such as roof clearing, drain inspection etc. related to the church/presbytery.

**MARRIAGE** Couples seeking marriage should inform Fr John **AT LEAST** **six months** before the scheduled wedding date so that there is enough time for all the necessary administration work to be processed. This is a statutory requirement applicable across all parts of the UK and overseas.

**secondary school signing forms (Certificate of Catholic Practice)** If you have missed the assigned dates for CCP forms, please contact Fr John by email to make an appointment. You are encouraged to apply for more than one Catholic school, as the local schools around our area are often oversubscribed. Fr John is required to know the person for whom he is signing the form, so it is important that your child comes with you. There is a reasonable expectation for the parents to be practising Catholics and be supportive of the parish.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

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| Sat 10 |  5.00 pm | People of the Parish |
| Sun 11 |  9.00 am11.00 am | Peggy Reynolds – RIP (Anniversary)Peter Fernandes – RIP (Anniversary) |
| Tue 13 |  9.30 am | Abel & Eva Silva - Thanksgiving |
| Wed 14 | 10.00 am | Carol Smith – Good Health |
| Thu 15 | 10.00 am | Russell Payne – Good Health |
| Fri 16 | 10.00 am | Vincent & Family - Thanksgiving |
| Sat 17 |  5.00 pm | Ventura & Engson Families – Thanksgiving |
| Sun 18  |  9.00 am11.00 am12.30 pm | Darren Luis – Birthday ThanksgivingDunzil Rabeiro & Family – ThanksgivingPortuguese Mass |

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**

The Contactless machine is available in the Church. If you wish to donate by online banking please do so directly to our bank, giving your name as a reference and indicate if it is for baptism, wedding, mass intention etc.

**Gift Aid:** If you are a UK taxpayer, the Diocese strongly recommends you to Gift Aid your donation, as the government will top up your donation by 25 percent. The parish relies heavily on this extra support, which comes at no additional cost to you. This facility is also available on the contactless device. It takes only just 2 minutes and is a one-time process, meaning all future donations made using the same bankcard will automatically be processed through Gift aid. If you have any questions on Gift Aid, please contact the parish office. Thank you for your continued financial support for your parish church.

**HSBC Bank: Account name: WRCDT Cranford**

**Sort Code: 40-05-20 Account: 01308637**