**­­­­­CHURCH OF OUR LADY 020 8759 9136**

**AND ST CHRISTOPHER**  **email:** [cranford@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:cranford@rcdow.org.uk)

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

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

**4th Sunday of Advent 17th/18th December 2022**

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

**Christmas Eve (Year A) 8.00 pm Mass, Page 98:** Isaiah 9:1-7, Titus 2:11-14, Luke 2:1-14

**Christmas Day (Year A) 9.00 am Mass, Page 101:** Isaiah 62:11-12, Titus 3:4-7, Luke 2:15-20

**Christmas Day (Year A) 11.00 am Mass, Page 103:** Isaiah 52:7-10, Hebrews 1:1-6, John 1:1-18

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| **Parish Team**  **Parish Priest: Fr. John Tabor**  Email: [johntabor@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:johntabor@rcdow.org.uk)  **Catechetical Co-ordinator:** Bejoy Ignatious  Working 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](mailto:bejoyignatious@rcdow.org.uk)  **Parish Secretary:** Gillian Satchell  Working days: Wednesday & Friday mornings  Please e-mail parish office with requests and queries  In-person enquires on Wed & Fri between 10.30 – 11.30 am. Email**:** [cranford@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:cranford@rcdow.org.uk)    **Parish Safeguarding Officers:**  Natalie Smith & Pelazia Rodrigues  Email: [cranfordsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:cranfordsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)  Email: [cranfordsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto: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  **“I am coming soon”**  We are now at the Fourth Sunday of Advent and the days are getting shorter. Soon though, on Wednesday, we will reach the shortest day and then, very gradually at first, the days will start to lengthen. Light triumphs over darkness. From today until Christmas Eve, we will have the “Great O Antiphons”. These are titles and are those by which we ask Our Lord to come each night at Vespers from 17th-24th December. You may know the Advent carol “O Come, O Come Emanuel”, which is based on these antiphons.  Collectively they also suggest Christ's response to that plea: the seven titles in Latin—**Sapientia, Adonai, Radix Jesse, Clavis David, Oriens, Rex Gentium, and Emmanuel**—in reverse order form an acrostic ERO CRAS that means, “I am coming soon.” Enjoy these last days of Advent and may they be a time of grace and blessing for all of us!  Have a good week and let us pray for each other.  **Father John**  **Christmas Eve – after the 8.00pm Mass**  After the 8.00pm Mass on Christmas Eve, there will be tea and coffee. People are warmly encouraged to bring snacks to share, both sweet and savory, for which we thank you in anticipation! It will be an opportunity to celebrate the birthday of Our Lord.  Similarly, on New Year’s Eve there will be a Konkani Mass at 8.00pm, followed by a party hosted by the Goan Community.  **Caritas Parish Representative**  Caritas Parish Representative is required to help promote the charitable work of Caritas. Please see notice at the back of the church for more details. |

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

**ADVENT CONFESSIONS: Wednesday, 21st December after 10.00 am mass.**

**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 followed by tea and coffee, please bring snacks to share. Christmas Day: 9.00 am Family Mass, 11.00 am Mass.**

**PARISH OFFICE:** The Parish Office will be closed from 12.00 pm on Friday, 23rd December and reopen on Wednesday, 4th January from 9.30 am.

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

**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](mailto: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. In the case of weddings scheduled for February 2024, the couple should come and see Fr John during the middle part of July 2023 as both office and Chancery will not be working during the month of August and it is important that a six-month period is kept to avoid difficulties.

**PRIMARY 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 17 | 5.00 pm | Ventura & Engson Families – Thanksgiving |
| Sun 18 | 9.00 am  11.00 am  12.30 pm | Darren Luis – Birthday Thanksgiving  Dunzil Rabeiro & Family – Thanksgiving  Portuguese Mass |
| Wed 21 | 10.00 am | Pedro Miranda - Birthday |
| Thu 22 | 10.00 am | Maria S Mascarenhas - Birthday |
| Fri 23 | 10.00 am | Ana Maria Fernandes - RIP |
| Sat 24 | 5.30 pm  7.30 pm  8.00 pm | Portuguese Mass  Carols  Melwyn & Jane D’Mello & Family - Thanksgiving |
| Sun 25 | 9.00 am  11.00 am | People of the Parish  Kathleen Keane - RIP |

**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**