**­­­­­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**

**Christmas 24th December 2022 – 8th January 2023**

**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

**Mary Mother of God (Year A) Page 109:** Numbers 6:22-27, Galatians 4:4-7, Luke 2:16-21

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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 FriendsJoy to the WorldAs I write this, the preparations for Christmas are fully underway. For the first time since the pandemic began, there is a sense of a return to something approaching the “usual” Christmas, although I suspect we will have all been changed by the experiences of the past few years, so that new traditions surrounding Christmas may have emerged amongst our families and friends.Although much has certainly changed, the Christmas message of joy to the world and peace to all people of goodwill remains. The Incarnation – the coming of Christ as a baby in Bethlehem – remains the best news the world has ever heard. May our hearts be open to receiving His message of real joy and peace in this most Holy season and may the world hear and heed once more the message of love and life that He brings.My greetings to you, your families and loved ones this Christmas time.God bless you.**Father John****Thank you**I would like to thank everyone who has worked so hard in the run up to Christmas to ensure that we celebrate this Feast in an appropriate way. The place has been a hive of activity, from the Church decorating team, the (growing) choir, altar servers, money counters and all those who volunteer each week. It is also good to see a number of new faces, who have brought with them vigour and enthusiasm which is a delight to be part of. I look forward to an exciting 2023, with the start of the Sacramental Programmes and the liturgical cycle. More information on various suggested initiatives will follow in the New Year. The first event of the New Year will be the party following the Konkani Mass on New Year’s Eve. The first Coffee Morning of 2023 will be after the 11.00am Mass on Sunday 8th January.  |

**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

**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 24 |  5.30 pm 7.30 pm  8.00 pm | Portuguese MassCarolsMelwyn & Jane D’Mello & Family - Thanksgiving |
| Sun 25 |  9.00 am11.00 am | People of the ParishAnna Suntherland - RIP |
| Mon 26 | 10.00 am | Antonio Ordona - RIP |
| Tue 27 | 10.00 am | Rocha de Fernandes – Birthday Thanksgiving |
| Wed 28 | 10.00 am | Antonio Rodrigues - RIP |
| Sat 31 |  8.00 pm | Roque & Valentina Fernandes – Wedding Anniversary |
| Sun 1  |  9.00 am 11.00 am12.30 pm | Peter Newton – Recovery & Good HealthPeople of the ParishPortuguese Mass |
| Wed 4 | 10.00 am | Remmy & Judith Fernandes – Anniversary Thanksgiving |
| Thu 5 | 10.00 am | Elizabeth Fernandes – RIP - Anniversary |
| Fri 6 | 10.00 am 6.00 pm | Sabrina Fernandes – Birthday ThanksgivingPeople of the Parish |
| Sat 7 |  5.00 pm | George & Lucia Rutkiewicz - RIP |
| Sun 8 |  9.00 am11.00 am12.30 pm | Frankie & Danska De Costa – BirthdayPeople of the ParishPortuguese 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**