**­­­­­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**

**6th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 11th & 12th February**

**Readings:** **6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) Page 136:** Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20, 1 Corinthians 2:6-10, Matthew 5:17-37

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) Page 139: Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18, 1 Corinthians 3:16-23, Matthew 5:38-48

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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 (Cranford@rcdow.org.uk) 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**Finding Happiness**Over the past thirty years or so, there has been a real growth industry in the pursuit of happiness. The readings this Sunday offer us a way in which this might be found. Happiness consists in doing God’s Will, moment by moment. As the psalm says “They are happy whose life is blameless, who follow God’s Law”. Of course, we retain our free will – we can choose to do the good – or the not-so good. Our starting point for living well is the Commandments. I suggest we can take these in a positive light. For example, we can try to find someone’s good points and talk about these and instead of swearing, we could try a silent prayer. I think in both instances that it is a question of practice so that it becomes habit forming. Someone once asked a friend of mine whether the members of his Community were happy. His response was interesting – “they are not unhappy”. I suggest that we should try to cultivate an attitude of joy – of joy and wonder for the very gift of life itself. This will not be straightforward – trying to see joy in the pictures of devastation wrought by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria is almost a contradiction in terms – and yet God is there amidst the suffering. Through this, we are drawn to the Cross. Let us place ourselves at the foot of the Cross and ask Our Lady “Cause of our Joy”, to pray for us now and always.Have a good week and let us pray for each other. **Father John** |

**IMPORTANT DATES: Confirmations: Saturday, 18th February 2023 at 2.00 pm; First Holy Communions: Saturday, 25th February 2023 at 2.00 pm; 2nd Sunday Coffee Morning/Brunch following 11.00 am mass.**

**VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED FOR COUNTERS AND CATECISTS** please advise Fr John if you would like to volunteer. **Counters** **please note** there is a revised Counters Rota available from the office.

**COMMITTEE FOR THE EASTER PARTY** - Pelazia Rodrigues has very kindly agreed to co-ordinate this and will be approaching people over the coming weeks to discuss outlines and allocate tasks. The party will be a wonderful opportunity for us to come together as a parish family, to celebrate our life here and the Easter feast itself. The date will be Monday 10th April, in the evening – with actual timings to be confirmed in due course.

**MASS OFFERINGS -** **We have spaces in March and up until the end of June 2023.** Please send your requests via email to Gillian at Cranford@rcdow.org.uk. You are encouraged to book anniversary Masses etc. **AT LEAST three months** in advance to avoid disappointment. **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.** Due to unforeseen circumstances, we regret we may have to move the mass intentions to another day, please see newsletter for rescheduled mass intention date.

**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 11 |  5.00 pm | Special Intentions – De Mendonca Family |
| Sun 12 |  9.00 am11.00 am | All Souls of Serra & Corriea FamilyPeople of the Parish |
| Wed 15 | 10.00 am | Sick Members of the Mannion Family |
| Thu 16 | 10.00 am | Mabel Fernandes - RIP |
| Fri 17 | 10.00 am | Private Intention for the D’Souza Family |
| Sat 18 |  5.00 pm | George Smith - RIP |
| Sun 19  |  9.00 am11.00 am12.30 pm | Noah Fernandes-Water – BirthdayVentura & Sarah Engson – 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. For those that do not have a bank account, charge cards are available.

**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**