**­­­­­CHURCH OF OUR LADY 020 8759 9136**

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

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

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

**3rd Sunday of Lent – 11th & 12th March 2023**

**Readings:** **3rd Sunday of Lent & 1st Scrutiny (Year A) Page 158: Exodus 17:3-7, Romans 5:1-2, 5-8, John 4:5-42**

4th Sunday of Lent & 2nd Scrutiny (Year A) Page 164: 1 Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13, Ephesians 5:8-14, John 9:1-41

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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**The Gift of Giving** Over the past two week, we have looked at two of the three traditional practices especially associated with this Lenten season – prayer and fasting. This week we come to the third practice – almsgiving.  Almsgiving is central to our lives as Catholics. None of us exists in isolation. We are all part of various communities – in particular our parish and our family. In recent weeks and months, we have seen the tragedy of the Syrian and Turkish earthquake disaster unfold, along with the continuing conflict and suffering in Ukraine and elsewhere. Those caught up in these theatres are our brothers and sisters for whom we have a responsibility to accompany, assist and encourage, as fellow children of God. In justice too, we are to see that each person is given his or her due and besides prayer, we can actually do something practical. Over the past two Fridays, we have had an extra collection at Mass. This has generated sufficient income that we have sent a cheque to Aid to the Church in Need for £100, towards aid for those caught up in the Syrian earthquake. Last week, we had the CAFOD Family Fast Day and the money raised from this will go to some of the poorest people in Africa and elsewhere, who have very little indeed to eat each day. It is good for us to look beyond our immediate circumstances to others who are really less fortunate than ourselves. This Sunday’s Gospel is a reminder of how we should try to act as Our Lord does towards the Samaritan Woman. We should be ready to respond when we see another person in need – and remember, we may be entertaining angels unawares! Have a good week and let us pray for each other!**Father John****Mary’s Meals** Last October we held a collection for Mary’s Meals and raised a very good amount – just over £750 – towards their work. This weekend the charity has sent a box into which you can put any unwanted or obsolete foreign currency. This can then be exchanged for “live” currency, which can be used by Mary’s Meals in their work.  |

**CARDINAL’S LENTEN APPEAL 2023 –** Please see details at the back of the church along with envelopes and details of other ways of donating. Cardinal Nichols has expressed his gratitude to everyone who supports the Appeal, with whatever they can afford.

**MUSICAL STATIONS OF THE CROSS –** will be held on Friday, 17th March at 6.00 pm followed by a St Patrick’s Day party afterwards. Volunteers to assist will be most welcome.

**ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACREMENT OF MATRIMONY – WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL, SATURDAY, 1TH MAY 2023 AT 2.30 PM** - The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their **5**th **10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60)** wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2023. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give your parish clergy the following details: husband and wife’s names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email). Details of attendees will be sent to family@rcdow.org.uk

**LENT RETREAT FOR YOUNG ADULTS** (18-30s) led by the Assumption Sisters on **Saturday 18th March 2023 in Kensington**. Young people are invited for a day retreat (10.30am-5pm) including talks • Mass • Stations of the Cross • confessions • adoration • faith sharing and social.  Venue: Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St Simon Stock Church Hall, London W8 4BB. Donations only. **Register**: tramy@assumptionreligious.org

**NEW ROTAS** are now available for **Money Counter, Readers and Eucharistic Ministers** in the Sacristy. Could you please advise Gillian at cranford@rcdow.org.uk if you would like to receive these via email.

**VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED FOR COUNTERS AND CATECISTS** please advise Fr John if you would like to volunteer.

**MASS OFFERINGS -** Please send your requests via email to Gillian at Cranford@rcdow.org.uk. A**ll 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.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

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| Sat 11 |  5.00 pm | People of the Parish |
| Sun 12  |  9.00 am11.00 am | Maria Piedade Cortez – RIPTony Penny – RIP  |
| Wed 15 | 10.00 am | Maria Felicia Coutinho – RIP  |
| Thu 16 | 10.00 am | Felicidade Palha – RIP (1st Anniversary) |
| Fri 17 |  **9.30 am\***  6.00 pm | Frank Mannion – Pray for Good Health**\* Holy Hour follows the 9.30 am mass**Musical Stations of the Cross |
| Sat 18 |  5.00 pm | Runa Rebello – RIP  |
| Sun 19  |  9.00 am11.00 am12.30 pm | People of the ParishVentura & Sarah Engson – Thanksgiving Portuguese 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**