**­­­­­CHURCH OF OUR LADY 020 8759 9136**

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

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

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

**5th Sunday of Lent & 3rd Scrutiny – 25th & 26th March 2023**

**Readings: 5th Sunday of Lent & 3rd Scrutiny(Year A) Page170: Ezekiel 37:12-14, Romans 8:8-11, John 11:1-45**

Palm Sunday (Year A) Page 182: Isaiah 50:4-7, Philippians 2:6-11, Matthew 26:14-27:66

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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 ([Cranford@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:Cranford@rcdow.org.uk)) or 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 Love of Friends**  Today we celebrate what used to be called “First Passion Sunday” – we are now in that second part of Lent where we move from the desert experience and focus more closely on Our Lord’s journey to Jerusalem.  Today we hear about the raising of Lazarus. It is a beautiful Gospel. One radiates hope and joy as well as showing Our Lord at his most human. He loves Lazarus and that love is one we should try to copy in all our friendships. Nowadays, especially with the inevitable growth of online socialising, it can be easy to miss the “connection between persons”, that is to say, seeing the other as a unique individual, created in love by God Who is Love and possessing a unique dignity. Real friendships are very precious – sometimes they can last a lifetime. I think that one of the marks of a long standing and well-balanced friendship is that I can be myself with the other person. Each one seeks to bring out the best in the other and, I think, with our real friends, we see something unique in them that eludes others.  I think we will find in this life that there are people to whom we are instinctively drawn. This is natural – even Our Lord found this. God also brings people into our lives at the right time for the right reason and we can rejoice in that. We will journey together for however long - or short – a time the friendship lasts. It is once again, about living in the present moment. I suspect that both Martha, Mary and Lazarus, experienced this reality, following Lazarus’ return to this life.  As you will see from the Newsletter and the Easter Timetable, we will have an increase in liturgical activity over the next two weeks. There are volunteer sign-up sheets in the Sacristy for the Triduum. Thank you in anticipation for your help over these most important days in the Church’s year and remember that the Lord loves a cheerful giver!  Have a good week and let us pray for each other.  **Father John** |

**LENTEN CONFESSIONS – Thursday, 30th March** after **9.30 am** mass and at 5.00 pm in Konkani. Friday, 31st March at 6.00 pm.

**VOLUNTEER REQUIRED FOR EASTER MASSES** – Eucharistic Ministers, Alter Servers and Readers required for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Saturday masses. Please put your name down on the rotas in the Sacristy.

**HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE** – at the back of the church.

**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](mailto:family@rcdow.org.uk)

**NEW ROTAS** are now available for **Money Counter, Readers (revised) and Eucharistic Ministers** in the Sacristy. Could you please advise Gillian at [cranford@rcdow.org.uk](mailto: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](mailto:Cranford@rcdow.org.uk). **All payments to 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](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.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

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| Sat 25 | 5.00 pm | Ignatius & Virginia De Mendonca – RIP |
| Sun 26 | 9.00 am  11.00 am  12.30 pm  5.00 pm | Runa Rebello – Private Intention  Eveny Mascarenhas – Birthday  Portuguese Mass  Konkani Mass |
| Mon 27 | 10.00 am | Jake Jesus Mascarenhas – 2nd Birthday |
| Wed 29 | 10.00 am | Karen Shah - RIP |
| Thu 30 | 10.00 am | Mary Valanka Dias - Birthday |
| Fri 31 | **9.30 am\***    6.00 pm | Gail Tate – RIP (Birthday)  **\* Holy Hour follows the 9.30 am mass**  Stations of the Cross |
| Sat 01 | 5.00 pm | Francisco Fernandes – RIP (6th Anniversary) |
| Sun 02 | 9.00 am  11.00 am  12.30 pm | People of the Parish  Norman & Shirley Newlands – RIP  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**