**­­­­­ CHURCH OF OUR LADY & ST CHRISTOPHER**

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

**Telephone: 020 8759 9136**

**The Epiphany of the Lord – 6th & 7th January 2024**

**Readings: The Epiphany of the Lord (Year B): Isaiah 60:1-6, RP: Psalm 71:1-2, Ephesians 3:2-3, 5-6, Matthew 2:1-12**

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year B): 1 Samuel 3:3-10, 19, RP: Psalm 39:2, 4, 1 Corinthians 6:13-15, 17-20, John 1:35-42

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| **Parish Team**  **Parish Priest: Fr. John Tabor**  Email: [johntabor@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:johntabor@rcdow.org.uk)  Any required appointment will be at 11.00 am on Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays.  **PLEASE DO NOT USE Fr John’s personal number or email address for mass requests.**  **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 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  **These premises are monitored by CCTV.**  *This Parish is part of Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust (WRCDT) Registered Charity No: 233699* |  | Dear Friends  Happy New Year and Happy Feast of the Epiphany – which marks the end of the Christmas season. It has been a relatively short Christmas, but I think a good one – a time to reflect on the mystery of God’s Love for us in the gift of His Son to the world.  **The Church and RAAC**  In early December 2023, Paolo Camoletto, Chief Operating Officer of the Diocese and Nicholas Seed, Finance Director of the Diocese came to the parish to give an update on the RAAC in the Church and to answer questions. They shared the news that the remedial works will be undertaken using a £100,000 loan from the Diocese, which has been approved by the Archbishop’s Council. The tender process has now begun with works commencing soon afterwards. This work is urgent and is necessary to ensure that the Church is safe. The works are remedial and the roof beams will need to be checked every six months.  The parish is responsible for paying back the loan and so a concerted fundraising effort will begin once we have the detailed costs.  Paolo and Nick are due to come for a further meeting with the parish towards the end of January (date to be confirmed), once the tenders have been received and a contractor has been appointed. At this meeting, they will be able to give more details about the works, which will last six weeks. The Church will be closed during the period of the works.  **Discerning the way forward**  The Cardinal has asked that we use this period to consider the future. The existing church building is coming to the end of its usable life and a decision will need to be taken about this. A new build will be required within the next decade, at an estimated cost of around £3 million. Again, the parish would be responsible for fundraising for this project.  As part of this discernment process, the parish will need to consider the various options available, within the provisions of Church law. These range from closure, to merging with another parish, to coupling with a nearby parish. This last option would allow the parish to retain its separate individual identity, while making effective use of the resources available, including keeping the Church open.  Please do take the time to think about how you would like to be involved in the fundraising activities outlined above and about the longer-term future.  For now, the church and hall will only be used for scheduled services. The parish First Holy Communion and Confirmation in-person sessions will take place in Our Lady, Queen of Apostles, Heston.  Please be assured that the church is not about to be closed, but how the church is used will need to change until this matter is resolved.  Have a good week and let us pray for each other.  **Father John** |

**PRIMARY SCHOOL FORMS** – Fr John will be signing Primary School forms at **10.00 am** on **Saturday, 13th January.**

**THE GOOD COUNSEL NETWORK** - On Friday 12th January, the eve of the 27th anniversary of the founding of The Good Counsel Network, please pray and fast for the end of abortion in this Country. Through God’s grace we have seen thousands of Mothers in our counselling centre continue their pregnancies in very difficult circumstances. Please help us to help save lives with your prayers, fasting and support. [www.GoodCounselNetwork.com](http://www.GoodCounselNetwork.com)

**THE JUSTICE & PEACE NETWORK – UPCOMING - 15th January 2024, 12.45-2.00pm:** “Feedback from COP28” zoom meeting organised by Southern Dioceses Environment Network. Speaker: Neil Thorns (Director of Advocacy, CAFOD). Southern Dioceses Environment Network is a network for all Catholics and our friends who care about creation and protecting our common home. Attend as a one-off or participate regularly. Free tickets available under link:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/southern-dioceses-environment-network-feedback-from-cop28-tickets-763861880447?aff=oddtdtcreator>

**MASS INTENTIONS**

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| **Sat 06** | 05.00 pm | Doreen Byrne - RIP (1st Anniversary) |
| **Sun 07** | 09.00 am  11.00 am | Andrew Rodrigues – RIP  People of the Parish |
| **Wed 10** | 10.00 am | Elwyn Fernandes - Thanksgiving |
| **Thu 11** | 10.00 am | Sebastiao Vaz - RIP |
| **Fri 12** | 10.00 am | Troilan Vaz |
| **Sat 13** | 05.00 pm | George & Lucia Rutkiewicz - RIP |
| **Sun 14** | 09.00 am  11.00 am | People of the Parish  Hermito & Elizabeth Fernandes - RIP |

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| **Monthly Donation Report – December 2023** | |
| Standing Orders | 944.50 |
| Online Donations | 1,602.11 |
| Loose Plates | 2,438.56 |
| ***Total*** | ***£4985.17*** |
| ***Christmas Collection*** | ***£5098.40*** |
| **Weekly Collection Report as at 31st December 2023** | |
| Standing Orders | 62.00 |
| Online Donations | 179.00 |
| Loose Plates | 453.50 |
| ***Grand Total*** | ***£694.50*** |

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**

**Contactless payments or online banking (standing order or BACS) is now the preferred method of offertory giving. Cash handling is becoming increasingly difficult as the banks continue their roll out of branch closures.**

The Contactless machine is available in the Church. If you wish to **donate via online banking** please see our details below, 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 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. 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**