Scott Hahn, an American Catholic scripture professor and author, reflects on this Sunday's readings at Mass :

'The Sunday readings in Lent have been showing us the high points of salvation history—God's covenant with creation in the time of Noah; His promises to Abraham; the law He gave to Israel at Sinai.

In today's First Reading, we hear of the destruction of the kingdom established by God's final Old Testament covenant—the covenant with David (see 2 Samuel 7; Psalm 89:3).

His chosen people abandoned the law He gave them. For their sins, the temple was destroyed, and they were exiled in Babylon. We hear their sorrow and repentance in the exile lament we sing as today's Psalm.

But we also hear how God, in His mercy, gathered them back, even anointing a pagan king to shepherd them and rebuild the temple (see Isaiah 44:28–45:1, 4).

God is rich in mercy, as today's Epistle teaches. He promised that David's kingdom would last forever, that David's son would be His Son and rule all nations (see 2 Samuel 7:14–15; Psalm 2:7–9). In Jesus, God keeps that promise (see Revelation 22:16).

Moses lifted up the serpent as a sign of salvation (see Wisdom 16:6–7; Numbers 21:9). Now Jesus is lifted up on the Cross, to draw all people to Himself (see John 12:32).

Those who refuse to believe in this sign of the Father's love condemn themselves as the Israelites in their infidelity brought judgment upon themselves.

But God did not leave Israel in exile, and He does not want to leave any of us dead in our transgressions. We are God's handiwork, saved to live as His people in the light of His truth.

Midway through this season of repentance, let us again behold the Pierced One (see John 19:37) and rededicate ourselves to living the "good works" that God has prepared us for.'

Lenten study groups. Fr Neil will lead a study group during Lent on the 'Theology of The Body'. It will be held on Tuesdays, at 11.00am, Mass in the parish room at CTK. A group for men will meet at 8.00pm on Thurs evenings, hosted by the parish 'Men of St Joseph' looking at the same material. Also, Graham and Virginia will be leading a study group on Wed at 7.30pm in the parish room at CTK. All welcome.

Stations of the Cross. During Lent, Stations of the Cross will take place after the Exposition and Adoration on Fridays at 5.00pm at CTK.

Lost property at CTK. : there are many items of lost property left in CTK over recent months; there is a list at the back of the church. If any item belongs to you, please collect it by March 30th after which they will all be taken to 'Matthew 25' charity shop.

New Parish Secretary : the parish of Our Lady of Ransom is seeking to employ a new parish secretary to start 24th April. This role will be 16 hours per week (£12ph), Mon- Thurs (9.30am -1.30pm). The role will be to provide an efficient secretarial service and personal assistance to the parish priest and clergy and good communication and administration within the parish. Further details, contact Fr Kevin : kevin.dring@abdiocese.org.uk . The closing date for applications is 9 am on Friday 31st March.

Parish Social Events for 2023 at CTK: dates for your diary : April 1st - Easter Spring Fayre, 10am-4.00pm in parish hall; April 16th -Bacon Rolls after 11.30 Mass; 22nd April - fish & chips at 1.30pm; May 8th -Coronation Tea at 2.00pm, bring a plate to share; 17th June - International Food Fair : 6.30pm, adults £6, children under 10, £3. 16th Dec.-Christmas dinner/raffle, cost : £16, children under 10 £6, family of 4 : £38. Also, there will be a Summer BBQ in Aug/Sep; New Year Brunch 2024, dates tbc. Hymn Numbers for 4th Sunday of Lent :

Open : (CTK). 529 'The light of Christ' (St Jo's) : 40. 'Amazing Grace' Off. : (CTK.) 243. : 'In bread we bring you Lord.' (St Jo's) : 302 : 'In bread we bring you Lord' Close : (CTK) : 528. : 'The King of love' (St Jo's) : 475 : Loving shepherd of thy sheep'

Spanish Lessons are being offered by a member of our Parish. If interested please contact Mariela : <u>mariela.goode@yahoo.com</u>. Please note a small charge will be made for lessons which will be donated to our Parish.

The Catholic Bishops' Conference has released a new document about migrants and refugees called 'Love the Stranger' It articulates our Christian duty to look beyond labels and see the person who has left their homeland in search of a better life. You can read 'Love the Stranger' on the Bishops' website - www.cbecw.org.uk

Men's Way of the Cross: join us on March 31st on this 5-6 hour night walk of the stations of the cross along the hills of Beachy Head. This provides an opportunity to renew our dedication and vocation as men of faith. We gather at Christ the King Church: 9PM - 10PM. Registration 10pm- 11pm; Mass -11pm. We drive to Station 1 before midnight; we start our Way of the Cross! 6am: A hearty breakfast back at the Church. Please see website :

www.menswayofthecross.co.uk.

Easter Spring Fayre at CTK church hall on April 1st, 10am-4.00pm. Childrens' colouring competition, luxury raffle, name the rabbit, tombola and many more. This is a charity event raising funds for 'You Raise Me Up', who support families who have lost a young adult. Please come and support the day if you can.

Solemnities this week. The Solemnity of St Joseph. This is usually celebrated on March 19th, but this year it has been transferred to Mon March 20th. Devotions to St Joseph can be found at *www.praymorenovenas.com-st-joseph-novena*. The Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord is celebrated on March 25th.

Rented Accommodation wanted : a single lady is looking for a one bedroom flat in the Eastbourne/Langney area. If you can help, please contact Noreen : 07903360328.

Classical Music Spring Concert : works by Rossini, Mozart, Mendelssohn; March 21st at Winter Gardens; doors open 7.00pm, concert starts at 7.30pm. See poster at back of the church. Note the change of venue. Parish Clergy: Fr.Neil Chatfield Tel. 01323 760048 or in an emergency - 07718123304 priest.ctk@icloud.com

Rev'd Deacon Eugene Adams Tel. 07917276140 <u>deaconctk@hotmail.com</u>

Safeguarding Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator Deacon Eugene Adams Contact: 07917 276140 Diocesan Safeguarding Team

For enquiries for baptism, first communion, confirmation, and marriages please speak to either Fr Neil or Deacon Eugene and also ring the office. Tel. 01323 760048

Contact: 01293 651148

Parish Hall Bookings Enquiries: 01323 760048

Website : http://christthekingeastbourne.org

Facebook page: Christ The King with St Joachim, Eastbourne

Banking Matters

We have shortened the name of the bank account for those who wish to set up standing orders for Christ the King. **CTK main account** details : Sort Code : **40-05-20** A/C No : **91127012; CTK Building Account No : 61256130.** A/C Name : **RCD A&B Christ the King Eastbourne. St Joachim's A/C. Sort Code : 40-05-20; A/C No : 51077058.**

Votive Candles. Would you like to sponsor a weekly candle by the Blessed Sacrament tabernacle or the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham in CTK? There are forms available at the back of the church. This week the candles are for Harry Rock RIP and Zuzana, Stan & Stanislav Janky.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. Our Redshirts and Young Helpers Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes takes place Thurs 27 July-Fri 4 Aug this year, offering an unforgettable experience for young people in school years 10, 11,& 12 to journey in faith with people from across our Diocese. See notice at the back of the church.

Make a donation on-line to the parish today! Scan the QR code below, select our parish and add Gift Aid if you pay tax. Also see the poster at the back of the church.

Sat. March 18th

Sun March 19th

Fourth Sunday of Lent *'Laetare Sunday'*

Mon March 20th Solemnity of St Joseph.

Tues March 21st

Wed March 22nd

Thurs March 23rd

Fri March 24th

Sat March 25th 'Annunciation of the Lord'

Sun March 26th

Fifth Sunday of Lent

We pray for: Emma Raper, Eithne Lloyd, Peter Champion, Chris Gimmons, Don Wilkins, Stuart McCarthy, Helena Sagnelia, Frankie Farrell, Daisy Kelly, Sue & Mick O'Driscoll, Rene Cook, Jan Blake, Sandra McMeekin, David Dwyer, Diana Smith, Colleen Stock, Sr Mary Keiley, Jane Hollands, Kirina Blaty, Moira Morrison, Philip Duffy, Pamela Chatfield, Eddie Burke, Theresa Kitchener, Roy Worsley, Betty Donovan, Lucas Mack, Marie Williams, Terry Swales, Pauline Sollis, Alexandra Waters, Daniel Markham, Maria P Veras, Alison J Thomas, Mary Ayling, Alan Calivas, Ann Snelling

For the recently deceased: Marian Molden, Peter Dodd, Lois Forbes, Joseph Fok-Seang, Padraig Quinn, Norah Miles

| Fourth Sunday of Lent | Mass Intentions |
|---|---|
| CTK : 4.00-5.00pm | Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament |
| CTK. : 5.00pm Vigil Mass | Norah Miles RIP |
| St Jo's 9.30am. Mass | Deceased member of the McAteer family |
| CTK. 11.30am Mass | Zuzana Tuskova |
| CTK. 4.00pm Mass (DW) | Harry Rock RIP |
| No Public Mass | (in thanksgiving to Ss Raphael, Vincent, Anne & Joachim) |
| CTK : 10.00am | Maureen Sweeney. (RIP) |
| St Jo's :10.00am: | Holy Souls |
| CTK : 5.30-7.00pm. Exposition and Holy Hour for priests | |
| 7.00pm Mass (DW) | Fr Tadeusz |
| CTK : 12 noon Mass followed by exposition and adoration till Stations of the Cross at 5.00pm | Special intention |
| CTK.: 4.00-5.00pm | Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament |
| CTK 5.00pm Mass | Patrick Fitzgerald (RIP) |
| St Jo's 9.30am Mass | Maureen Farrant (RIP) |
| CTK 11.30am Mass | Kim R. (RIP) |
| CTK 4pm mass (DW) | In thanksgiving for health |