

A message from Bishop Richard on the third Sunday of Advent

This Sunday is ‘Gaudete Sunday’. It takes its name from the beginning of the Entrance Antiphon of the Mass, from the St Paul’s Letter to the Philippians: ‘Gaudete in Domino semper’; ‘Rejoice in the Lord always’. St Paul goes on to say: ‘Again, I say, rejoice. Indeed the Lord is near.’

St Paul writes about this joy in the Lord in the Letter to the Thessalonians – and we hear those words in the Second Reading this weekend.

It is the nearness of the Lord that is the cause of our rejoicing and, as always in Advent, this nearness of the Lord relates to our celebration of His birth and also our expectant hope in His coming at the end of time.

This second nearness is, perhaps, rather daunting for us – perhaps we are not quite ready to rejoice! If we are to rejoice in our hope at his coming, then we must heed the voice of John the Baptist. This week, the Gospel reading is from John’s Gospel and the accent is on the Baptist’s call to believe in the One who is to come.

There is a third sense in which the Lord is near – for the Lord is with us always. He is closer to us than we are to ourselves and knowing that He is with us, in us, is the cause of a joy beyond imagining – a joy that is present even in the most difficult and challenging moments.

It is the joy, the gift of the spirit of the Lord, about which Isaiah speaks: good news, healing, liberty, favour from the Lord. Even in the most difficult times, the gift of faith enables us to be open to this joy. We see this throughout the history of the Church, in the lives of the martyrs.

It is this joy that cannot be taken from us, that brings us to rejoice as we await the coming of the Lord at the end of time. It is a joy that is renewed as we prepare to celebrate His birth.

With every blessing, Bishop Richard Moth

Hymns for Third Sunday of Advent

Open : CTK (462) ‘Rejoice in the Lord’
St Jo’s : (619) ‘Rejoice in the Lord’
Off : CTK. (201) ‘Hark a herald voice’;
St Jo’s (684) ‘Tell out my soul’
Close : CTK (365) ‘My soul is filled with joy’
St Jo’s : (831) ‘You shall go out with joy’

Epiphany Celebration. Our Epiphany celebration takes place on Sat 13th Jan 2024 at York House Hotel. Forms available at the back of the church. Return it with FULL PAYMENT by Dec 17th and place it in the labelled box at the back of the church on SUNDAYS ONLY when these will be collected.

‘**Matthew 25 Mission**’ is a local Eastbourne charity that provides support for the unemployed and homeless in the town. Each day they provide hot lunches, and last winter they were serving up to 100 meals a day. They are in need of tinned foods, dry pasta, long life milk etc. They also have a charity shop so items of clothing are welcome. There is a box at the back of the church for your donations. Many thanks.

Bacon Butties will be available after 11.30am Mass on December 31st. A good way to celebrate the end of the year!

St Joachim’s : Evening Prayer and Benediction will be celebrated on 17th December at 4.30pm as part of our Advent preparation.

THE ‘RORATE CAELI MASS’ is a traditional Advent devotion. This season’s final Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary is offered, by candlelight, just before dawn, and will be celebrated at OLR on Friday Dec 22nd at 6.30am. Breakfast will be provided after Mass.

Funeral service for Pamela Chatfield, Fr Neil’s mother, will be on 19th December at All Saints Church, Sidley (opposite Lidl), at 12.30pm. Please note there will be NO 10.00am Mass at CTK that day.

Welcomers at CTK - we are looking for volunteers to act as welcomers to greet people at the beginning of 5.00pm and 11.30am Masses, to hand out and collect hymn books and newsletters. If enough people volunteer we could have a rota. See Fr Neil if you can help.

200 Club Christmas Draw. There will be an extra 200 Club draw this weekend, after the 5.00pm Mass. There will be 3 prizes of £75 each. Thank you to all who have supported the 200 Club over the past year; it has added greatly to the parish finances. There are forms available at the back of the church if you would like to take part.

Advance Notice : There will be a 10.00am Mass daily in Christmas week, Dec 26th-29th.

Parish Clergy :
Fr Neil Chatfield
Tel. 01323 760048 or in an emergency - 07718123304
priest.ctlk@icloud.com

Rev’d Deacon Eugene Adams
Tel. 07917276140
deaconctlk@hotmail.com

Safeguarding
Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator
Deacon Eugene Adams
Contact: 07917 276140
Diocesan Safeguarding Team
Contact: 01293 651148

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

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 for a personal intention or a special individual, by the Blessed Sacrament tabernacle, the statue of Our Lady of Walsingham or the statue of St Joseph by the church porch? This week the candles are for Sabina Wyrzynska RIP, the Friel family and Elliott, Danielle, Christina & family. There are forms available at the back of the church if you would like to sponsor a candle.

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.



Third Sunday of Advent		Mass Intentions
Sat. Dec 16th	CTK. : 4-4.45pm. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament CTK. : 5.00pm	Stanislav Drezewniak RIP
Sun Dec. 17th	St Jo’s : 9.30am. Mass	People of the Parish
Third Sunday of Advent	CTK. : 11.30am Mass	Luke Roarty RIP
	CTK. : 4.00pm Mass (DW)	Alvin Lee
	St Jo’s. : 4.30pm	Evening Prayer & Benediction
Mon Dec 18th	No Public Mass	(Holy Souls)
Tues Dec 19th	No Public Mass	(Debbie Tresise RIP)
	All Saints, Sidley : 12.30pm	Funeral : Pam Chatfield RIP
Wed Dec 20th	St Jo’s : 10.00am. Mass	Prince & family
Thurs Dec 21st	CTK : 5.30pm-7.00pm : Exposition and Holy Hour for Priests followed by 7.00pm. : Mass (DW)	Allister Lee
Fri Dec 22nd	OLR. 6.30am	‘Rorate Caeli’ Mass
	CTK. 12noon Mass followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament till 5.00pm.	For good vocations for all orders
Sat Dec 23rd	4-4.45pm. CTK : Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	M. Moulding RIP
	CTK : 5.00pm Mass of 4th Sunday of Advent	
Sun. Dec 24th Fourth Sunday of Advent	CTK 10.00am Mass of 4th Sunday of Advent	Sabina Wyrzynska RIP
	CTK. 4.00pm.	Children’s Christmas Liturgy
	St Jo’s. 6.00pm Mass of Christmas	Derek Seton-Smith RIP
	CTK. 8.00pm Mass of Christmas	Fr Sean Murphy RIP
Christmas Eve	CTK. 11.30pm Christmas Midnight Mass (DW)	Harry Rock RIP

We pray for: Emma Raper, Eithne Lloyd, Peter Champion, Chris Gimmons, Stuart McCarthy, Helena Sagnelia, Frankie Farrell, Daisy Kelly, Sue & Mick O’Driscoll, Rene Cook, Jan Blake, Sandra McMeekin, David Dwyer, Diana Smith, Sr Mary Keiley, Jane and John Hollands, Kirina Blaty, Moira Morrison, Philip Duffy, Theresa Kitchener, Betty Donovan, Marie Williams, Terry Swales, Pauline Sollis, Alexandra Waters, Lucas Mack, Zachary Hurst (age 3 years) Daniel Markham, Maria P Veras, Alison J Thomas, Mary Ayling, Alan Calivas, Fr Laurence Quin-Morris, Maria Rosa Ferro, Deacon Dave Turner, June Neville

For the recently deceased: Melvin Moulding, Pamela Chatfield, Fr Brian Gill