

Dear brothers and sisters

The day has come, the event foretold by the prophets has taken place – the Child is born for us, Emmanuel – God-with-us.

For the last four weeks, purple and rose candles have been lit on our Advent wreaths – both in church and in many homes; today the white candle is lighted, for the Light of the World shines upon us.

The cribs in our churches and homes, perhaps built for a little while now, are complete – for the baby is placed in the manger. The joy of the Christmas Mass spills over into our celebrations at home, especially for our young ones, as eyes light up in the joy of present opening. These birthday gifts celebrate the birth of the Saviour and invite us to ask ourselves a question; what do I give to the One who was born for us – for me?

The Christmas season provides a wonderful time for us to reflect on this question. The feast days that we celebrate after Christmas focus our minds on the impact of the Gospel on our lives, and lead us to the feast of the Epiphany, Jesus showing Himself to the whole world in the persons of the Magi.

The great message of peace proclaimed by the angels on Christmas night, is one our world needs to hear: for our families, our local communities, the country in which we live – indeed the whole world. The peace that is God’s gift to us we must give to our brothers and sisters who find themselves as refugees, to those who are alone in our communities, to those whose lives are broken and who are searching for light – the light of Christmas, the light of Christ.

May this great feast be a time of peace for us all – a peace that we share with others. May God bless each and every one of you on this great and wonderful feast of Christmas.

With prayers, Bishop Richard.

Christmas Service times : **24th Dec** - 4.30pm at CTK : children’s liturgy. Please come dressed as angels, shepherds, Mary, Joseph etc.
8.00pm : CTK - Vigil Mass of Christmas.
11.30pm : CTK - Midnight Mass (DW)

25th Dec - 9.30am. : Mass at St Jo’s
11.30am : Mass at CTK
4.00pm : CTK. - Divine Worship

Thank you : Fr Neil and Deacon Eugene would like to thank you for your kind gifts over the Christmas period and they wish you, your families and friends a happy and holy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Christmas Week Mass Times : Please notice change of Mass times this week. There is a public Mass each day at CTK at 10.00am, except Monday, with Mass at St Jo’s on Wednesday. There will be no exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Thursday evening or Friday afternoon of this week.

200 Club. December’s draw was made last weekend, and the winners are : 1st prize (No 12) Terry Swales - £100 ; 2nd prize (No 64) Michael Dowd - £60. Many thanks to all who take part in this fund-raising activity. There are forms at the back of the church if you would like to join.

Matthew 25 is a local charity that supports the homeless and unemployed in Eastbourne. It is based at Christchurch in Seaside and is especially busy during this very cold spell. There is a a box in the entrance to CTK where you can donate items - especially clothes for men and women, blankets, duvets, and various food products - canned foods, long-life foods, i.e.pasta, milk. ‘Matthew 25’ comes from the passage of St Matthew’s gospel where Jesus says : ‘I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me a drink’ (25:35)

Hymn Numbers this weekend will be announced at Mass.

Feast days during Christmas week. The octave of Christmas is celebrated each day this week, but we also keep other important feast days : St Stephen, first Christian martyr, St John the Apostle and Evangelist, Holy Innocents (we pray for the protection of the unborn), St Thomas a Becket (the patron of our parish school) and the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph (we pray for God’s protection of family life).

Monthly Eastbourne Hospital Mass: 12noon on the last Tuesday of each month. The next Mass is on 27th Dec in the hospital chapel to pray with and for the staff and patients. If you know of anyone in hospital or the hospice who would like a visit from the clergy, please let Fr Neil or Deacon Eugene know.

Fund Raising ‘Thank you to everyone who helped and supported the three events that took place over the winter. Money raised has brought a chest freezer for the Church. The remaining money will be put to good use within the building. The raffle raised approx £150. We have retained £20.70p towards our pancake sale in Feb. Winning Tickets :- Green 414 Drinks Hamper/ Claimed; White 811 (981015) Food Hamper? Not Claimed; Green 759/Not Claimed. Please return the hamper baskets for reuse. Heather’

Catholic Children’s Society A & B Crisis Fund: There are many vulnerable families in need of support and our parish will be donating our Crib offerings to support this important work. You can donate at the Crib or via: www.cathchild.org.uk/crib.

Understand your Catholic Faith with the Catechism in a Year podcast with Fr. Mike Schmitz starting 1st Jan 2023. The Catechism holds the great treasures of the teachings of the Church, some are beautiful in their simplicity, others can be challenging. See <https://ascensionpress.com/pages/catechisminayear?ct=t> to join this potentially life changing adventure.

Updated parish website. We have updated our parish website and added some excellent new features. These include a parish calendar which has Mass intentions and daily events in the parish. Please take a look : www.christthekingeastourne.org

World Day of Peace. Pope Francis has released his message for World Day of Peace which is celebrated on 1st January. The message, which was released on Friday, highlights that all crises are interconnected and stresses that we must not forget any of them but work for the good of humanity.

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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

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? This week they are dedicated to the Holy Souls and Eugenia Stanczak RIP. Forms are available at the back of the church if you would like to sponsor a candle.

‘Warm Spaces’. We have started the warm spaces sessions on Monday’s 11-5pm at CTK in the parish room and St Joachim’s Friday’s 10am-3pm. Please speak to Fr Neil if you can help.

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.



	Christmas Day	Mass Intentions
Sat. Dec 24th	CTK : 4.30pm	Childrens’ Nativity Liturgy
	CTK. : 8.00pm Vigil Mass	Jack & Anne Edwards
	CTK. 11.30pm Midnight Mass (DW)	Harry Rock RIP
Sun Dec 25th	St Jo’s 9.30am. Mass	Derek Seton-Smith RIP
Christmas Day	CTK. 11.30am Mass	Danuta
	CTK. 4.00pm Mass (DW)	Fr Bruno
Mon Dec 26th St Stephen	No Public Mass	(Thanksgiving)
Tues Dec 27th St John the Apostle	CTK : 10am : Mass	Anne Rose in thanksgiving
Wed Dec 28th Holy Innocents	St Jo’s : 10.00am : Mass	Eugenia Stanczak RIP
Thurs Dec 29th St Thomas Becket	CTK. : 10.00am Mass (DW)	Victims of addiction
Fri Dec 30th Holy Family	CTK : 10am : Mass	Baz
Sat Dec 31st	CTK. : 4.00-5.00pm CTK 5.00pm Mass	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament James & Sheila Douds
Sun Jan 1st New Year’s Day	St Jo’s 9.30am Mass CTK 11.30am Mass CTK 4pm mass (DW)	Holy Souls Keshia de la Motte Timothy & Hend

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, Marian Moulding, Marie Williams, Terry Swales, Lois Forbes, Pauline Sollis, Alexandra Waters, Daniel Markham, Maria P Veras, Alison J Thomas, Mary Ayling

For the recently deceased: Elia Borsoi, Timothy Van-Eugen, Mathew Orr, Victor Beale, Mary Cuddeford,