

Dear brothers and sisters,

The Third Sunday of the Year has been designated as ‘Sunday of the Word of God.’ It is a day that provides us with a particular opportunity to reflect on our reading of the Scriptures, whether that be during Mass and other liturgical celebrations, in a family setting, or when we are alone. For those who proclaim the Word at Mass, it is a day to give thanks for this service to the community and to think about the ways we prepare for this service.

“The Word of God is alive and active – it cuts more finely than any double-edged sword.” These are words we find in the Letter to the Hebrews. The Word of God does indeed go straight to the heart of things, for it is God’s word to us and God knows us better than we know ourselves. There is always something for us in every word of the Scriptures. This is something St Benedict recognised; he writes in the last chapter of his Rule: “What passage of the Old and New Testaments does not benefit us for our salvation.”

God’s Word is exactly that. When we read and pray with a Scripture text, God speaks to us. We then carry His Word in mind and heart. In His Word to us, He draws us ever closer to Him and it is His Word we are called to share with our brothers and sisters. It is His Word that is made flesh in the person of Jesus. As St John reminds us in the Prologue of his Gospel: “The Word was made flesh and dwelt amongst us” and in his first letter: “The Word Who is Life, this is our subject.”

This Sunday’s Gospel sees Jesus embark upon his public ministry, with St Matthew quoting the prophet Isaiah: “The people that lived in darkness has seen a great light.” It is the Word made Flesh who is the light of world. He is the Word Who calls us out of darkness to new life.

Our reading of the Scriptures enables us to grow in our relationship with Him, to reflect on His word to us – as a community and as individuals. Reading and reflection on the Scriptures, especially the Gospels, is a sure way for us to deepen our relationship with the Word Who is Life.

May this ‘Sunday of the Word of God’ be a day when we recommit ourselves to regular – daily – prayer and reflection on God’s Word, that being ever-closer to Christ we become ever more effective witnesses to Him.

With every blessing, + Richard

Fr Neil is having a post-Christmas break this week. There will be no Masses at CTK or St Jo’s this week. Deacon Eugene will lead a Liturgy of the Word at 10.00am on Wed at St Jo’s. Fr Neil will still say the Mass intention allocated for the day privately. There is daily Mass at OLR, usually at 11.00am, but please check the Mass times on the website: www.ourladyofransom.org.uk. There will still be a Holy Hour for priests on Thursday, 5.30-7.00pm and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday from 12.30pm-5.00pm.

Pope Benedict’s ‘My Spiritual Testament’: Before he died, Pope Benedict wrote a spiritual testament reflecting on his long life as a Catholic - priest, cardinal and pope. There are copies of this at the back of the Church.

Retrouvaille: A Programme for Couples Struggling in their Marriages. Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. For more information or to register for the next weekend on Feb 24-26 call/text : 07887 296983 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com.

Hymn Numbers for 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time :
Open : (CTK). 36. ‘Amazing Grace’
(St Jo’s) 40. ‘Amazing Grace’
Off. : (CTK) 82. ‘Christ is made the sure foundation’
(St Jo’s) 517. ‘O bread of heaven’
Close : CTK. : 438. ‘ O worship the king’
(St Jo’s) 559. ‘ O worship the king’

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 by the Lady Chapel or via: www.cathchild.org.uk/crib.

Annual Diocesan Justice & Peace Assembly,
'Hungry for Change', 28th January 2023,
9.30am-1.30pm at The St. Philip Howard Centre,
RH10 6RP. We will explore how war contributes to world hunger. [https:// abdiocese.churchsuite.com/ events/2iasupai?ct=t](https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/2iasupai?ct=t)

‘Matthew 25’. Dr Lesley Dawson will be speaking on the work of this local charity that supports homeless, unemployed and otherwise vulnerable people in Eastbourne. The meeting is in our parish room on Mon 30th Jan at 7.30pm. All parishioners and friends welcome. Donations to this charity can be placed in the box at the entrance to CTK.

Monthly Hospital Mass at the DGH : 12noon on the last Tuesday of each month. Next Mass is on 31st Jan in the hospital Chapel to pray with and for the staff and patients. All welcome. If you know of anyone in hospital/hospice/nursing home who would like a pastoral visit, please speak to Fr Neil or Deacon Eugene.

Pancakes on sale on the 19th February, after 11.30 Mass at CTK. They cost £1 each. Money will go towards church funds. On Sunday 16th April there will be a Bacon Butty sale after the 11.30 Mass.

Fr Neil’s Podcast : Fr Neil was interviewed recently by Fr Ed Tomlinson who, like Fr Neil, is a priest of the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham. Fr Ed has a Catholic podcast called ‘This turbulent priest’. Fr Neil talks about his spiritual journey into the Catholic Church. It can be found by putting ‘[this turbulent priest podcast](#)’ into your search engine.

The Third Sunday of Ordinary Time is the 'Sunday of the Word of God' - a day, instituted by Pope Francis on the Feast of Saint Jerome in 2019, devoted to the celebration and study of Sacred Scripture.

Parish Clergy:
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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? There are forms available at the back of the church. This week the candles are for Lily-Rose and Cliona Rock.

Prayers before Mass at CTK. The Holy Rosary will be recited every Sunday at 10.45am. On the first Sunday of the month, the prayer will be at 10.30 together with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. All welcome.

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 in Ordinary Time		Mass Intentions
Sat. Jan 21st	CTK : 4.00-5.00pm	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
	CTK. : 5.00pm Vigil Mass	John & Kathleen Geraghty & family RIP
Sun Jan 22nd	St Jo's 9.30am. Mass	Fr Tristan
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Sunday of the Word of God</i>	CTK. 11.30am Mass	Luke Roarty RIP
	CTK. 4.00pm Mass (DW)	Maureen Reynolds RIP
Mon Jan 23rd	No Public Mass	(Fr Kevin)
Tues Jan 24th St Francis de Sales	No Public Mass	(Holy Souls)
Wed Jan 25th Conversion of St Paul	St Jo's : 10.00am : Liturgy of the Word	(Robert Healy RIP)
Thurs Jan 26th Ss Timothy & Titus	CTK : 5.30-7.00pm. Exposition and Holy Hour for priests No public Mass	(Helga Edwards RIP)
Fri Jan 27th	CTK : 12.30pm exposition and adoration till 5.00pm	(Ouseph Augusthy RIP)
Sat Jan 28th St Thomas Aquinas	CTK. : 4.00-5.00pm CTK 5.00pm Mass	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Maureen Danaghar RIP
Sun Jan 29th Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	St Jo's 9.30am Mass CTK 11.30am Mass CTK 4pm mass (DW)	Holy Souls Roland de La Motte Jacqueline

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 Blat, 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

For the recently deceased: Timothy Van-Eugen, Mathew Orr, Victor Beale, Mary Cuddeford, Marian Molden, Pope Benedict XVI, Lois Forbes,

