

This Sunday is the Sunday of the Word of God, designated as such by Pope Francis on the Feast of St Jerome, 30 September, in 2019 in his Apostolic Letter Aperuit illis. Pope Francis writes: “The Bible belongs above all to those called to hear its message and to recognise themselves in its words.”

Last Sunday, the Gospel spoke of the call of the disciples in the account given by St John. This Sunday, we listen to the account given by St Mark.

In Mark’s Gospel, Jesus’ words to his first disciples are straight forward: “Follow me”. The response of Simon, Andrew, James and John is immediate: “At once, they left their nets and followed Him.”

May I invite you to reflect on the call of the disciples in the light of Pope Francis' words? As followers of Christ, we must recognise ourselves in this Gospel account. Jesus calls me and you. His call is not in the least bit

complicated, for we hear the same, straightforward words: “Follow me.” What is my response, your response? Are there excuses for not following

Him at once? Are there reasons why one might follow the Lord one day – but not the next? Jesus calls to us at every moment of our lives, for He wants us to be with Him, to be one with Him.

On this Sunday of the Word of God, take time to read the Scriptures. If the habit of daily Scripture reading has drifted a little bit, make this a day for a new beginning. Find a place of honour for the Scriptures in your home – a little prayer corner where it is possible to pause during the day to read, to pray for the intentions you hold in mind and heart. This is a wonderful gift to us, the amazing gift of the Scripture, let us treasure His Word, let us reflect on His Word, let us listen to His words: “Follow Me”.

With every blessing,  
Bishop Richard.

**Fr Neil is away** on a well earned post-Christmas break from 22nd January to 26th January 2024. There will be no weekday Mass this week; Fr Neil will say the allocated Mass intentions privately. There will be a Liturgy of the Word at St Jo’s on Wednesday 24th January at 10.00am. There will still be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and a Holy Hour for priests on Thursday 25th January at CTK, 5.30-7.00pm; on Friday 26th January there will still be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at CTK from 12.30-5.00pm.

**The Phoenix Choir** will be singing Durufle’s Requiem and other French masterpieces on Saturday 3rd February at 7.30pm in All Saints church, Grange Road. Tickets £15 (£5 for students and under 18s) are available from the Visitor Centre, Reid & Dean estate agents and online at WeGotTickets.

**The Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem** is appealing for financial help for the countless families affected by the war in the Holy Land: [www.lpj.org/en/news/general-appeal](http://www.lpj.org/en/news/general-appeal).

**Men of St Joseph**, a parish group offering spiritual support and friendship for the men in CTK and St Jo’s will now meet weekly on a Friday evening in the parish room CTK, 7.30pm-9.00pm, starting on Jan 19th. All welcome.

**The Bishop’s pastoral plan has been published! It’s called ‘The Word who is Life - The Call to Mission’.** There are copies of an abridged version available in the church, and it is also accessible online. Instead of eight independent parishes in the future, in our deanery, there will be one big parish : a ‘community of communities’, as the Bishop said in his Pastoral Letter a few weeks ago. The plan can also be accessed on the diocesan website: [www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/pastoral-plan](http://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/pastoral-plan).

**Hymns for the 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time :**

Open : CTK. (116) ‘Dear Lord and Father of mankind’  
St Jo’s. : (143) ‘Dear Lord and Father of mankind’  
Off : CTK. (28) ‘All that I am’ (sing twice)  
St Jo’s. (175) ‘Follow me’  
Close : CTK. (309) ‘Let us with a gladsome mind’  
St Jo’s.: (362) ‘Let us with a gladsome mind’

**Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity 2024** takes place from Jan 18th-25th. We join with our fellow Christians in praying for the unity of Christ’s followers. There will be a joint service for the churches in the Langney area at St Barnabas’s Church, Kingfisher Drive (next to the Langney shopping centre) on Sat 20th Jan at 12.30pm beginning with a shared meal. All welcome.

**Diocesan Justice & Peace Assembly**  
27 Jan, 10am-1.30pm at The St Philip Howard Centre, Crawley. This year's assembly will address violence and abuse in our homes. Doors will open at 9.30am with refreshments available. To register for your free place please go to [https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/nhphs9ff?ct=t\\_](https://abdiocese.churchsuite.com/events/nhphs9ff?ct=t_). Should anyone wishing to attend require transport please contact John Carmody, tel 01323.726334.

**Epiphany Celebration Lunch.** We had a very special time at our lunch held at The York House Hotel last Saturday. Thank you to all who came along, it really was thoroughly enjoyed.

**Altar Server Training.** Training for existing Altar servers and servers from St Jo’s and CTK wishing to attain the award of the St Stephen’s Medal will be held on Saturday 3rd February 2024 from 10.00am-12.00pm at St Joachim’s Church. All servers are welcome to attend.

**Church Cleaning at CTK.** Can you spare 1 hour a month to help with the cleaning of our church? We are hoping to draw up a list for church cleaners and if we get sufficient volunteers, we should be able to have a monthly rota. There is a sheet at the back of the church, please sign up if you can help. Thank you.

**CTK Social Committee.** We had some great events in 2023 are we in need of volunteers to help support our events throughout 2024. If you would like to have a chat about becoming part of our great team, please see Amanda or Dominic. Your help would be much appreciated please.

**Parish Clergy :**  
**Fr Neil Chatfield**  
**Tel. 01323 760048 or in an emergency - 07718123304**  
**[priest.ctlk@icloud.com](mailto:priest.ctlk@icloud.com)**

**Rev’d Deacon Eugene Adams**  
**Tel. 07917276140**  
**[deaconctlk@hotmail.com](mailto: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 and . 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.



Weekly Mass Schedule		
	3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	Mass Intentions
Sat. Jan 20th	CTK. : 4-4.45pm. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament CTK. : 5.00pm	John Hulm
Sun Jan 21st	St Jo's. 9.30am  CTK 11.30am  CTK. 4.00pm. (DW)	Mary McDonagh RIP  People of the Parish  Deacon Eugene & Debbie
Mon Jan 22nd St Vincent	No public Mass today	(Souls in Purgatory)
Tues Jan 23rd	No public Mass today	Mary Hepworth-Taylor
Wed Jan 24th St Francis de Sales	St Jo's : 10.00am. Liturgy of the Word	Mary Hanratty
Thurs Jan 25th	No public Mass today	Fr Ciaran O’Carroll
Conversion of St Paul	CTK : 5.30pm-7.00pm Holy Hour for Priests	
Fri Jan 26th Sts Timothy & Titus	No public Mass today  CTK. 12.30 : exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament till 5.00pm	Denise Stilton
Sat Jan 27th	4-4.45pm. CTK : Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  CTK : 5.00pm Mass	Joanna Stibbs RIP
Sun. Jan 28th	St Jo's. : 9.30am. Mass  CTK. : 11.30m. Mass  CTK. : 4.00pm. Mass (DW)	Patricia  Raphael RIP  People of the Parish

**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 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, Sylvia Brady

**For the recently deceased:** Pamela Chatfield, Fr Brian Gill, Fr John Lungley, Gary Neville, Olive Woodall, Charles John Hollands, Agostinho Jorge Alves, Bridget Smith, James (Jim) O’Hara.