

Bishop Richard reflects on this Sunday’s Gospel reading.

So many of us, so many of our brothers and sisters, are living with stresses of one kind or another. There are increasing financial pressures, often combined with the perceived need to "keep up" in a consumerist society. There is concern for the peace of the world, and for those in so many places who are suffering the impact of conflict. Perhaps some are feeling rather like Job in the first reading of this Sunday’s Mass: “Lying in my bed I wonder, ‘When will it be day?’ Risen I think ‘how slowly evening comes.’” Job is inflicted with sufferings and his life drags. He is experiencing a sense of pointlessness. It might be suggested that Job is depressed.

Reading on through the book of Job, we find that the one thing he will not do is deny the presence of God in his life. He comes through his sufferings, the loss of everything and everyone he holds dear, and finds newness of life.

In today’s Gospel, Jesus, the Word made Flesh, is present in our moments of suffering. He cures Peter’s mother-in-law and, heals the sick who are brought to him and casts out devils. The Lord is present to us in our own times of suffering and struggle. He never leaves us. He is always present – and in this reality we experience true Hope.

Jesus also teaches us another lesson today – the foundation of our action as His disciples must grow out of prayer. The Lord Himself gives time to this. He is alone, in the silence of the time before dawn, in the presence of His Father. It is out of this time of prayer that the Lord’s actions flow. Prayer leads us to a real sense of purpose and direction. Just as Jesus went from prayer to his mission of healing and preaching – so our prayer ensures that our own actions are directed aright and produce the fruit that the Holy Spirit prompts in us.

With every blessing, + Richard

**Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, Feb 14th.** Mass times are 10.00am at St Jo’s, 12noon at CTK, and 7.00pm at CTK (DW). Ashes will be distributed at all Masses.

**Shrove Tuesday** is on Feb 13th. There will be an additional opportunity at CTK for confession from 5.00pm before a Sung Evensong at 6pm, following which there will be a get-together in the small hall before Lent starts. Bring savoury dishes, pancakes and sweet fillings to share and enjoy.

**St Joachim’s** are preparing for Lent with pancakes after Mass on Feb 11th. We are asking for £1 donation. Also we are after a fridge - if anyone is getting rid of one, let Sam know on 07790673118.

**Lent Groups. ‘Journeying with Jesus through Lent’:** During Lent there will be an opportunity to join a Lenten group. The meetings will be held on Tuesdays after the 10am Mass and on Wednesdays Eve at 7:30pm, starting on the 20th and 21st February respectively. Both in the parish room at CTK. All welcome.

**Lenten books.** Spiritual materials for Lent are available to help us during our Lenten preparation. ‘Bible Alive’, ‘Day by Day’ and ‘Walk with Jesus’ are at the back of the church this weekend. Please take a copy.

**National Day of Prayer and Fasting for Life.** On Sat 10th Feb, the vigil of Our Lady of Lourdes, please pray and fast for the end of abortion in this country. See [www.GoodCouseNetwork.com](http://www.GoodCouseNetwork.com)

**Advance Notice :** Agnes Curtis’s funeral is on Tues 20th Feb at 12.30pm in CTK, so there will be NO 10.00am Mass on that day.

**Hymns for the 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time :**  
Open : CTK. (210). ‘He who would valiant’  
St Jo’s. : (248). ‘He who would valiant be’  
Off : CTK (243). ‘In bread we bring you’  
St Jo’s. (302). ‘In bread we bring you’  
Close : CTK : (438). ‘O worship the king’  
St Jo’s. : ( 559). ‘O worship the king’

**CTK Seniors** meet again for our next session on Wed Feb 14th, at 11.00am-1.00pm in the parish room. There’s a Mass at 12noon for Ash Wednesday, so we will have the opportunity to attend that Mass if so desired. All welcome as we join together for nibbles, sharing and fun. If you need a lift, contact Dominic - 07709305657.

**Newman Association :** Due to unforeseen circumstances Fr Dring has had to postpone the meeting scheduled to take place on 8th February to a later date. Next scheduled meeting is on March 18th. More details later.

**A Day with Mary - CTK Sat 24th Feb 10am to 4pm.** There will be an opportunity to spend time in prayer, including the Rosary and the Stations of the Cross with Mary, as well as reflections, Adoration, confession and a votive Mass of Our Lady. There will be time for lunch, bring your own food.

**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; the next meeting is on Feb 16th. All welcome.

**Men’s Rosary Walk** takes place again on Friday, Feb 9th from 7.00pm-9.00pm starting at CTK parish room. As we walk around the parish we recite the Holy Rosary, praying for God’s blessing on our town. We then gather afterward for a time of sharing and nibbles.

**200 Club winners for January :** 1st No 72 £100 David Hellicar; 2nd No 30 £75 Ilona Hollands; 3rd No 80 Heather McDonagh. We are now approaching the time when reminders to those members is relevant where they pay by cheque £1PW for each numbers i.e. £52 per number. Please make your cheque out to "Christ the King Parish" and pass for the attention of Mike Woods in an envelope. New members are always welcome. Many thanks.

**Pope Francis has asked that 2024 be a ‘Year of Prayer’.** The Pilgrims of Prayer booklet introduces exercises that you may find useful in your own prayer life with short chapters on the Morning Offering, the act of the presence of God, the four anchor points of prayer, Lectio Divina, imaginative contemplation, the Examen and praying with art. The booklet can be found at <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2023/11/Pilgrims-of-Prayer-A5-BOOKLET- School-of-Prayer.pdf>

**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 Abbot Stephen Ortiger and Lucas Mack . 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**

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time		Mass Intentions
Sat. Feb 3rd	CTK. : 4-4.45pm. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament CTK. : 5.00pm	Ian Platt RIP
Sun Feb 4th	St Jo's. 9.30am	People of the Parish
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	CTK 11.30am	Katie McDonagh RIP
	CTK. 4.00pm. (DW)	Tom Kelsey RIP
Mon Feb 5th	No public Mass today	(David Hellicar)
St Agatha		
Tues Feb 6th	CTK : 10.00am Mass	Mrs Jean Martin RIP
St Paul Miki & companions		
Wed Feb 7th	St Jo's : 10.00am. Mass	Augusthy RIP
Thurs Feb 8th	CTK : 5.30pm-7.00pm Holy Hour for Priests 7.00pm Mass (DW)	Ilona & Mark
St Cuthman of Steyning		
Fri Feb 9th	CTK. 12noon Follow by exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament till 5.00pm	Kevin Hanratty
Sat Feb 10th St Scholastica	4-4.45pm. CTK : Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  CTK : 5.00pm Mass	Rebecca
Sun. Feb 11th	St Jo's. : 9.30am. Mass	People of the Parish
Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time	CTK. : 11.30m. Mass	Mark & Ilona Hollands
	CTK. : 4.00pm. Mass (DW)	Joyce & James Telford 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 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, Sue Davies

**For the recently deceased:** Gary Neville, Charles John Hollands, Agostinho Jorge Alves, Bridget Smith, James (Jim) O’Hara, Abbot Stephen Ortiger, Agnes Curtis