

Bishop Richard reflects on this Sunday’s Gospel reading.

Dear brothers and sisters,  
‘The Fourth Sunday of Lent is Laetare Sunday. We mark this day with rose coloured vestments at Mass. The word Laetare is taken from the Entrance Antiphon for Mass: "Rejoice, Jerusalem". Perhaps we do not see Lent as a time for rejoicing – it is the penitential season of our year – yet there must be always an element of rejoicing in the life of the Christian.

In this Sunday’s first reading, from the Book of Chronicles, the writer tells of the coming of Cyrus, King of Persia, who allows the people of Israel to return home after some seventy years of exile in Babylon. The yearning of the people for their homeland, expressed in the Responsorial Psalm, comes to an end and Cyrus, in response to his own experience of God’s call to him, also allows the people to rebuild their temple. The Chosen People of Israel find their unity once again, their dignity is restored. They can be at home once more. They rejoice.

St Paul, writing to the Ephesians, speaks of a different separation. This is the separation that comes through sin. The conscious turning away from God that is sin brings exile. We find ourselves living in the darkness that is separation from God’s love. The greater our turning away, the greater the separation – the more distant the exile. Yet, as St Paul celebrates in his letter, God’s mercy is generous and in Christ we see the richness of His love, His grace. Through the saving work of Jesus, we can recognise once more that we are truly works of art, created by and for the love of God. We can be at home once more – brought home through Jesus' Passion, Death and Resurrection. We rejoice.

Jesus, in his conversation with Nicodemus, describes His own saving work: “God sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but so that through Him the world might be saved.” This is the reason for our rejoicing. We must lament our sins, a necessary part of our Lenten journey, but we do this knowing that God’s love and mercy – in the saving work of Jesus – overcomes even the darkest moments, the darkest places of our lives. Christ Jesus calls us home to live His life. This is the only way we can be truly at home. In Him we rejoice.’

**Mothering Sunday** : a happy Mothers’ Day to all our mothers!

**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 Tuesday 12th March at 10.30am and on Wednesday March 13th at 7:30pm. Both in the parish room at CTK.

**Stations of the Cross** : during Lent at CTK, there will be Stations each Friday at 5.00pm following Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, as well as every Sunday in March at 10.30am. On Wednesdays during Lent at St Jo’s, there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 9.00am, followed by Mass at 10.00am. Then there will be Stations of the Cross at 10.30am.

**Please note** that there will NO MASS on Tuesday March 12th at CTK. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 10.00-10.30am, praying for vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life. There are prayer cards for vocations available. This will be followed by the Lent group ‘Journeying with Jesus through Lent’ in the parish room. All welcome.

**CTK Seniors** : meet again for our next session on Wed March 13th, at 11.00am-1.00pm in the parish room. All welcome as we join together for nibbles, sharing and fun. As part of our Lenten penance we will have bread & cheese for our light lunch! If you need a lift, contact Dominic - 07709305657

**Divine Mercy Sunday** is celebrated on April 7th; there will be a service at CTK at 3.00pm with the Sung Chaplet and Confessions.

**DONA Contactless** payment card machine is available at the back of CTK.

**Hymns for the 4th Sunday of Lent** :  
Open : CTK. (36). ‘Amazing Grace’  
St Jo’s. : (40). ‘Amazing Grace’  
Off : CTK ( 455). ‘Praise to the holiest’  
St Jo’s (606) ‘Praise to the holiest’  
Close : CTK. : (375). ‘Now thank we all our God’  
St Jo’s. : (512) ‘Now thank we all our God’

**Lilia Vickers**, a young parishioner from St Jo’s writes : Thanks to those who contributed last weekend. We are still raising money to support our trip to Lourdes; please pray for us and if you are able to sponsor or donate it would be very much appreciated. [https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/Lilia-Vickers-Maria-King?utm\\_term=AVEvmAYGW](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/Lilia-Vickers-Maria-King?utm_term=AVEvmAYGW)

**Newman Association** : Bob Clark will be speaking about Eastbourne Street Pastors, CTK parish room on March 18th at 7.30pm. Street Pastors provide support to vulnerable people out at night in Eastbourne town centre. All welcome.

**200 Club** : Following the draw last Saturday by Fr Neil, the winners as follows:  
1st: No 40 £100 Emma Encinas-Steele;  
2nd: No 200 £75 David Cockett;  
3rd: No 1 £50 Mike Woods. Congratulations! To join this excellent parish fund raising venture, there are forms at the back of the church.

**Esterházy Chamber Choir**, one of the best choirs in the county, are performing a concert *Faire is the Heaven* at St Michael's Church, Lewes BN7 1XU at 7:30 this coming Saturday. There's a poster in the porch at CTK with more details, or see <https://www.esterhazychoir.org/faireistheheaven> Tickets £15 (with free tickets for under-16s) via the QR code on the poster or that web address.

**National Day of Prayer & Fasting for Life** on March 23rd the vigil of Palm Sunday. Please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia. Pray especially that the government will not bring in national buffer zones.

**The DGH Hospital chapel service** is organised next Sunday March 17th by our parish. We gather to pray for the patients, as well as staff and families of the sick. The service is at 3.00-3.30pm in the hospital chapel on the 3rd floor. Free car parking available.

**Men’s Way of the Cross** – All men are invited to join in this Churches Together 5-6 hour night Stations of the Cross along Beachy Head, on Friday 22 March 2024. Gather at OLR Church 9-10pm; 10-11 Mass and start of the walk; 4-6am back at OLR for 15 Mins silent Adoration followed by a hearty breakfast in the Parish Hall.

**Parish Community Lunch** at CTK on Sunday March 17th, after the 11.30am Mass. Bring and share some food with the parish community at 1.00pm in the parish hall.

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

**Rev’d Deacon Eugene Adams**  
**Tel. 07917276140**  
**[deaconctl@hotmail.com](mailto:deaconctl@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 Graham Pegley and Enogue G Peixoto. 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.



Sat March 5th	CTK. : 4-4.45pm. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament CTK. : 5.00pm	Bridget O’Regan RIP
Sun March 10th Fourth Sunday of Lent	St Jo's. 9.30am  CTK 11.30am	Mrs Marie Poole  Charles John Hollands RIP
Laetare Sunday	CTK. 4.00pm. (DW)	People of the Parish
Mon March 11th	No public Mass today	(Sylvia Seelagama RIP)
Tues. March 12th	CTK : No public Mass today  CTK - 10.00am-10.30am : Exposition of the Blessed. Sacrament	(Thanksgiving for priests)
Wed March 13th	St Jo's : 9.00am Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10.00am. Mass 10.30am. Stations of the Cross	Private Intention
Thurs March 14th	CTK : 5.30pm-7.00pm Holy Hour for Priests 7.00pm Mass (DW)	Maria Dos Santos RIP
Fri March 15th	CTK. 12noon : Mass Followed by exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament till 5.00pm.  CTK. : 5.00pm	Timothy McCormach RIP  Stations of the Cross
Sat March 16th	CTK : 4-4.45pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  CTK : 5.00pm Mass	People of the Parish
Sun. March 17th Fifth Sunday of Lent	St Jo's. : 9.30am. Mass  CTK. : 11.30am Mass	Thanksgiving  Jim Murray RIP
Passion Sunday	CTK. : 4.00pm. Mass (DW)	Harry Rock RIP

**We pray for the sick of the parish, especially :** 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, Daniel Markham, Maria P Veras, Alison J Thomas, Alan Calivas, Maria Rosa Ferro, Deacon Dave Turner, June Neville, Sylvia Brady, Sue Davies, Samantha McLoughlin, Graham Pegley, Enogue G Peixoto

**For the recently deceased:** For the repose of the souls of : David McMeekin, Theresa Janka, Viviana Anna Maria Fossati,

