

Bishop Richard reflects on this Sunday's readings at Mass.

As I write this week's podcast, MPs are preparing to vote on the "Assisted Dying Bill." May I thank all those who have written to MPs, calling for them to vote against this proposed legislation. Let us continue to pray that the dignity of life will be respected; most especially on Friday 29 November, with fasting and prayer before the Blessed Sacrament during times of adoration in our churches.

This Sunday will see us begin using the new Lectionary in our parishes. The use of the new translation provides us with an opportunity to hear the Word of God afresh – the Word that is ever-new, and is always effective in the minds and hearts of those open to hear God's Word.

This Sunday also marks the beginning of the new Church's Year – the First Sunday of Advent – and this year we hear the Gospel of Luke on Sundays.

I invite you to reflect on the words of Jesus in the Gospel: "your redemption is drawing near." Our redemption begins with the Angel's message to Mary, telling her that she is to be the mother of Jesus, and in this season we now prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ, Emmanuel, God-with-us. The Season of Advent is a time of expectant hope in His coming – both at the end of time, and in our celebration of His birth at Christmas. The presence of Christ, the life of Christ, His death and resurrection – this is our hope and our life, and we rejoice at His coming.

This Season of Advent is a time for us to progress in love and hope – with faith – these are the marks of the Christian. All three are gifts – gifts in which we rejoice and gifts that we are called to share with our brothers and sisters, that all might rejoice in the birth of the One Who became one of us, though free from sin, for our salvation.

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of the Saviour, may the message of the wonder and dignity of life be proclaimed, celebrated, and protected.

May this Season of Advent be a time of grace and blessing for us all, that we may respond ever more deeply to the call the Lord has given to us, to be His people, His instruments, at the service of the Gospel for our brothers and sisters.

'Assisted Dying Bill'. Bishop Richard and the Bishops of England and Wales have both issued statements following the passing of the Bill on Friday. Copies of their respective statements are available at the back of the church.

Christmas Themed Community Lunch. Join us for our Christmas Themed Community Lunch held on Sun Dec 1st, following tea and coffee after 11.30am Mass. Please bring festive food to share.

Social Events at St Jo's : Carols, mulled wine and mince pies next Saturday 7th Dec, 3-5pm. 'Bambinelli Service' 15th Dec; festive hamper raffle tickets going on sale first week in December.

Readers for the 5.00pm Vigil Mass : Judith, the coordinator for the Vigil Mass writes : 'We are looking for readers to join the rota for the Saturday Vigil Mass. I am preparing a new rota for the period 1 Jan-30 June 2025 to be handed out before Christmas; please see me after Mass or phone me on 01323 735442. Many thanks.'

Advent : Season of justice and peace. The run up to Christmas reminds us that the Son is coming at the end of time to bring His justice to the earth and to bring the final reconciliation as the prophet Isaiah calls him the 'Prince of Peace'. We pray especially for peace in the land of Jesus's birth, and for the people of Gaza at this time.

Hymns : First Sunday of Advent

Open : CTK (52). 'Awake, awake' St Jo's (50) 'At the name of Jesus'
Off : CTK : (67) 'Blest are you Lord' St Jo's. (90). 'Blest are you Lord'
Close : CTK (104). 'Come, Lord Jesus' St Jo's. (128). 'Come Lord Jesus'

LECTIONARY, the book which contains the readings which are proclaimed at Mass, will come into use in England and Wales this evening, the vigil of the First Sunday of Advent. Information from the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales along with links to various resources for clergy, readers, and all Mass-goers is available at <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/lectionary/?ct=t>

Christmas Raffle. We are still looking for gifts for our Christmas Raffle. Tickets will be on sale this weekend after Masses, £1 per strip. The draw will be made after the 11.30am Mass on Dec 15th.

Children's Christmas party will be held on Sun 8th Dec. following teas and coffee after the 11.30am Mass. Please bring party food to share. There will also be a surprised visitor on the day, ho,ho,ho! Complete the form at the back of the church with your child(s) details.

Bach's Christmas Oratorio will be performed at 7.30pm on Sat Dec 7th at All Saints Church, Eastbourne, by Hailsham Choral Society. See poster at the back of the church.

The Rorate Caeli Mass is a traditional Advent devotion wherein the Mass of the Blessed Virgin Mary is offered, by candlelight, just before dawn. It will be said on Fridays - December 6th, 13th, 20th, at OLR, at 6.30am. Light breakfast available after Mass.

Epiphany Lunch 2025. After our thoroughly enjoyed Epiphany Lunch last January, we will be gathering for a lunch again on Sat 11th Jan 2025. This year it will be held at the Alexandra Arms, Seaside, 12noon for 12.30pm. The cost will be £25. A list will go up shortly for those interested to add their choice of menu. Cash will need to be collected beforehand and all orders must be in by December 29th.

Advent Resources : There are copies of various spiritual resources available at the back of the church. 'Day by Day' gives scripture readings for each day during Advent, and 'Walk With Me' offers a daily refecton. Calendars and prayer books are also available for children.

DONA Contactless payment card machine is available at the back of CTK. Payments using the machine have increased over recent weeks; thanks to those who are using it.

Parish Clergy :
Fr Neil Chatfield
Tel. 01323 760048 or in an emergency - 07718123304
priest.ctk@icloud.com

Rev'd Deacon Eugene Adams
Tel. 07917276140
deaconctk@hotmail.com

Safeguarding
Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator
Deacon Eugene Adams
Contact: 07917 276140
Diocesan Safeguarding Team
Contact: 01293 651148

Sacrament of Reconciliation
The Sacrament of Confession is available at CTK on Thurs 6-6.45pm, Friday, 12.45-2.00pm Saturday, 4-4.45pm. And on-call. Contact Fr Neil.

For enquiries for Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, and Marriage, 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 candle for a personal intention or a special need at CTK? This week the candles are for Deacon Dave Turner RIP and Bonnici Family (for the loss of Daniel). There are forms available at the back of the church if you would like to sponsor a candle.

RIP : Please pray for the repose of the souls of Bishop John Hine, Deacon Dave Turner, Anne-Marie Scouthern, John Gallagher.

	First Sunday of Advent	Mass Intentions
Sat Nov 30th St Andrew	CTK : 4.00pm-4.45pm. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament CTK. : 5.00pm Vigil Mass	Vincent Clancy RIP
Sun Dec 1st First Sunday of Advent	St Jo's. 9.30am CTK 11.30am (DW)	Ted Sutherland RIP People of the Parish
Mon Dec 2nd	No Public Mass today	(healing of Mary Caulfield)
Tues Dec 3rd St Francis Xavier	CTK : 10.00am. Mass	Anne-Marie Scouthern RIP
Wed Dec 4th St John Damascene	St Jo's : 10.00am. Mass	Holy Souls
Thurs Dec 5th	5.30-7.00pm : CTK. Holy Hour for Priests CTK. : 7.00pm. (DW)	Teresa O'Brien (birthday)
Fri Dec 6th St Nicholas	OLR. : 6.30am CTK : 10.00am-3.00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament CTK. : 12noon Mass	Rorate Mass Anne-Marie Scouthern RIP
Sat Dec 7th St Ambrose	CTK. : 4.00pm-4.45pm : Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament CTK : 5.00pm Vigil Mass	Fr Bruno
Sun Dec 8th Second Sunday of Advent	St Jo's. : 9.30am Mass CTK. : 11.30am Mass (DW)	People of the parish Noreen's Intentions

We pray for all the sick of the parish, and 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 McMeehin, 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, Zachary Hurst, Daniel Markham, Maria P Veras, Alison J Thomas, Alan Calivas, Maria Rosa Ferro, Sylvia Brady, Sue Davies, Lucas Mack, Samantha McLoughlin, Graham Pegley, Enogue G Peixoto, Elias Peixoto, Val Williams, Elenilse Martins, Alberto & Maria Nobrega, Antonio Lazo, Alicia Fillos, Sofia Rodrigo, Alicia Nobrega, Carlos Nobrega, Maria Adilia, Octavio Gomes, Bryan Santos, Maria Conceicao Silva, Antonio Rodrigues, Nanda Pacheco, Paula Alves