

Scott Hahn reflects on this weekend’s readings :

Though we be “but dust and ashes,” we can presume to draw near and speak boldly to our Lord, as Abraham dares to do in this week’s First Reading.

But even Abraham—the friend of God (see Isaiah 41:8), our father in the faith (see Romans 4:12)—did not know the intimacy that we know as children of Abraham, heirs of the blessings promised to his descendants (see Galatians 3:7, 29).

The mystery of prayer, as Jesus reveals to His disciples in this week’s Gospel, is the living relationship of beloved sons and daughters with their heavenly Father. Our prayer is pure gift, made possible by the “good gift” of the Father—the Holy Spirit of His Son. It is the fruit of the New Covenant by which we are made children of God in Christ Jesus (see Galatians 4:6–7; Romans 8:15–16).

Through the Spirit given to us in Baptism, we can cry to Him as our Father—knowing that when we call He will answer.

Jesus teaches His disciples to persist in their prayer, as Abraham persisted in begging God’s mercy for the innocent of Sodom and Gomorrah.

For the sake of the one just Man, Jesus, God spared the city of man from destruction (see Jeremiah 5:1; Isaiah 53), “obliterating the bond against us,” as Paul says in this week’s Epistle.

On the Cross, Jesus bore the guilt of us all. He canceled the debt we owed to God, the death we deserved to die for our transgressions. We pray as ones who have been visited in our affliction and saved from our enemies, as ones who have been spared.

We pray always a prayer of thanksgiving, which is the literal meaning of “Eucharist.” We have realized the promise of this week’s Psalm: we worship in His holy temple, in the presence of angels, hallowing His name.

In confidence we ask, knowing that we will receive, that He will bring to completion what He has done for us—raising us from the dead, bringing us to everlasting life along with Him.

(Scott Hahn is a Catholic scripture scholar and former Protestant minister)

Change of Mass time this week : Please note that Mass on Wed 30th July at St Joachim’s has been changed to 11.00am. This is a Requiem Mass for David Prynn RIP celebrated by Fr Neil.

Hospital Mass : Next Mass: Tues 29 July, 12.00noon in the Hospital Chapel on Level 3, next to Michelham ward. All welcome as we pray for patients, staff and families.

Relics of St Andrew, the Apostle, St Columba of Iona and St Margaret of Scotland are touring through Scotland, England and Wales during this Jubilee year. The Relics will be displayed on Wed 27th Aug, at St Wilfrid's, South Road, Hailsham, between 9.30am and 7pm. All welcome.

August is dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. This devotion is a time for Catholics to reflect on Mary's love and virtues, particularly her love for her son, Jesus, and for humanity. It's also a time to honour the Assumption of Mary, which is celebrated on August 15th. There is a Novena to the Immaculate Heart of Mary available at the back of the church, along with other prayers to Our Lady for August.

Family Exposition and Adoration has been cancelled for August because of the summer holidays; the next meeting will be on Sept 6th, 11.00-11.30am at CTK. Come as a family and share time in the presence of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, praying for our families and friends.

Eastbourne CWL meets on Wednesday 6th August 7-9.00pm in the Parish Room at CTK.

CTK Seniors meets on Thursday 31st July in the Parish Room, 11.30-1.30pm. Come along and share some time with friends from the parish. Enjoy a chat with tea and cake.

Hymns for 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time:
Opening Hymn :
CTK : (175). ‘God forgave my sin’
St Jo’s : (71). ‘Be still and know’
Off :CTK : (473). ‘Seek ye first’
St Jo’s : (159). ‘Father I place into your hands’
CTK (147)). ‘Forth in the peace of Christ’
St Jo’s : (633). ‘Seek ye first’

Annual Church Cleaning Day at CTK on Saturday 2nd August, we will have a chance to clean up and tidy the church, hall, car park and surroundings at CTK. We’ll be cleaning out cupboards, tidying up, painting and carrying out general odd jobs. We will start at 9.00am, and finish at 1.00pm to enjoy a BBQ together. Please sign up sheet at the back of the church. Any questions, please see Amanda.

The diocesan annual diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes began on Friday (25 July) with nearly 700 pilgrims journeying as "Pilgrims of Hope" to France. You can read the Pilgrimage Handbook at <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/news/lourdes-2025?ct=t> and follow the prayers, Masses, and events taking place during their week away. Let us pray for those travelling – and for those staying at home but with the Lourdes Pilgrimage in their hearts – that they will all be blessed by this holy time.

Bishop Richard writes : “The Holy Family Church, the only Catholic Church in Gaza, was struck by a raid and shelling by an Israeli tank last Thursday (17th July), resulting in three deaths and several injuries, with extensive damage to church buildings. More than 60,200 people (58,313 Palestinians and 1,983 Israelis) have been reported killed in the war since 7 October 2023, according to the Gaza Health Ministry. Speaking shortly after the attack, the Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, Cardinal Pizzaballa, appealed to leaders "to raise their voices and to do all that is necessary in order to stop this tragedy which is humanly and morally unjustified.” More information on the diocesan website.

World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. Pope Leo has issued a message for the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, which is celebrated this Sunday (27 July). Highlighting that hope is a source of joy, no matter what age, Pope Leo writes: "[When hope] has been tempered by fire over the course of a long life, it proves a source of deep happiness. In the Bible, God repeatedly demonstrates His providential care by turning to people in their later years.” To read the whole message go to <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/popes-message-to-grandparents-and-the-elderly-2025/>

Parish Clergy :
Fr Neil Chatfield
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Rev’d Deacon Eugene Adams
Tel. 07917276140
deaconctlk@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:** A/C Name : **RCD A&B Christ the King Eastbourne.** Sort Code : **40-05-20** A/C No : **91127012; 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? There are forms available at the back of the church if you would like to sponsor a candle.

DONA Contactless payment card machine is still not available at the back of CTK. It should be available soon. Payments using the machine have increased over recent weeks.

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time		
Mass Intentions		
Saturday July 26th St Joachim & St Anne	CTK : 4-4.45pm. : Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament CTK. : 5.00pm Vigil Mass	Maureen Panther RIP
Sun July 27th	St Jo's. 9.30am	Patricia Bott
17th Sunday in Ordinary Time	CTK 11.30am (DW)	Davina’s birthday
Mon July 28th	No Public Mass today.	(Thanksgiving)
Tues July 29th	CTK. : 10.00am Mass	Holy Souls
St Martha, Mary & Lazarus	12noon : Hospital Mass at DGH	
Wed July 30th	St Jo’s : 11.00am Requiem Mass	David Prynn RIP
Thurs July 31st	CTK : 5.30-7.00pm. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Holy Hour for priests. CTK : 7.00pm Mass. (DW)	For Priests
Fri Aug 1st	CTK : 10.00am-3.00pm. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament CTK : 12.00noon : Mass	Celebrant’s Intention
Sat Aug 2nd	CTK. 4.00pm-4.45pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament CTK : 5.00pm Vigil Mass	Ilona’s birthday
Sun Aug 3rd. 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time	St Jo’s. : 9.30am Mass CTK. : 11.30am Mass (DW)	People of the parish Raymond Brady RIP

We pray for all the sick of the parish, and especially : Eithne Lloyd, Stuart McCarthy, Marie Williams, Maria P Veras, Sylvia Brady, Alexandra Waters, Neidilane Emerch, Rose Hellyer, Graham Pegley, Serena May, Enogue G Peixoto, Freda Swales

For the recently deceased, for the repose of the souls of : David Prynn, Fr Ray Blake, Jane Hollands