



Third Sunday of Advent

14 December 2025



PUBLISHED BY THE EASTBOURNE ORDINariate MISSION FOR ALL THE COMMUNITIES AT CHRIST THE KING AND ST JOACHIM'S

Dr Scott Hahn reflects on the coming Kingdom

John questions Jesus from prison in today's Gospel—for his disciples' sake and for ours.

He knows that Jesus is doing "the works of the Messiah," foretold in today's First Reading and Psalm. But John wants his disciples—and us—to know that the Judge is at the gate, that in Jesus our God has come to save us.

The Liturgy of Advent takes us out into the desert to see and hear the marvellous works and words of God—the lame leaping like a stag, the dead raised, the good news preached to the poor (see Isaiah 29:18–20; 61:1–2).

The Liturgy does this to give us courage, to strengthen our feeble hands and make firm our weak knees. Our hearts can easily become frightened and weighed down by the hardships we face. We can lose patience in our sufferings as we await the coming of the Lord.

As James advises in today's Epistle, we should take as our example the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Jesus also points us to a prophet—holding up John as a model. John knew that life was more than food, the body more than clothing. He sought the kingdom of God first, confident that God would provide (see Matthew 6:25–34). John did not complain. He did not lose faith. Even in chains in his prison cell, he was still sending his disciples—and us—to our Saviour.

We come to Him again now in the Eucharist. Already He has caused the desert to bloom, the burning sands to become springs of living

water. He has opened our ears to hear the words of the sacred book, freed our tongue to fill the air with songs of thanksgiving (see Isaiah 30:18).

Once bowed down, captives to sin and death, we have been ransomed and returned to His Kingdom, crowned with everlasting joy. Raised up, we now stand before His altar to meet the One who is to come: "Here is your God."

If you have inadvertently taken Mass cards or booklets home from CTK or St Joachim's, please bring them back.

The Tuesday Mass is changed this week for the Requiem Mass of Walston Julien RIP at 11am. The Advent course at CTK will start at **9:30am** this week.

Friday Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at CTK now finishes at 2pm.

Christmas Raffle: Tickets are on sale after all Masses this weekend, and the draw will be made on 23 December. We need unused gifts and alcohol for the prize hampers. There is a box at the back of the church for donations. Thank you!

Rorate Masses continue at Our Lady of Ransom Church at 6:30am on Fridays during Advent: this coming Friday is the last one this year. The Mass is a candlelit Mass of Our Lady greets the dawn to look forward to the Light of the world. The Mass takes its name from the introit, *Rorate caeli*, "Drop down dew from heaven." Mass is followed by breakfast; it

should be possible to catch trains after Mass at 0728 to Lewes and London, and 0731/0744 to Bexhill/Hastings.

An Advent Course, *Mary and Joseph speak to us today*, is being run on Tuesdays after Mass at CTK (9:30am before Mass this week) and on Wednesdays after Mass at St Joachim's. All are welcome to either session.

CWL Christmas Tree of Giving provides an opportunity to buy a gift for a needy child this Christmas. Pick a bauble containing the name of a child with a gift idea from the Christmas tree in the Lady Chapel at CTK. Bring your gift and place it under the tree by next Sunday. The designated charity is *Warming Up the Homeless*, which supports children and families in temporary accommodation.

New Mass times after Christmas at CTK:

Friday Mass will be at 10am; Tuesday Mass will be at 12 noon from 6 January.

Booking is now closed for the Epiphany Celebration Meal which will take place on Saturday 10 January at the Alexandra Arms.

The Repository at CTK has a wide selection of Christian Christmas cards available at reasonable prices as well as handmade candles. The repository is open after both weekend Masses.

Matthew 25 Mission is in need of donations at this time of the year. They particularly need tinned and package foodstuffs, long life milk, coffee and tea, dry pasta, as well as men's and women's winter clothes.

Pilgrimage to Poland May 2026: the parish is organising a seven-day pilgrimage to Poland from 26 May to 1 June 2026, including the shrine in Częstochowa and the Divine Mercy Basilica in Krakow as well as visits to Auschwitz, Wadowice and the Wieliczka Salt Mine. Masses will be celebrated by Fr Neil in different churches each day. We have been able to improve on the offer previously advertised! The cost is now £950pp sharing or £1200pp in a single room, which also includes return flights, airport duty and taxes, one suitcase, six nights' half-board (dinner, bed and breakfast), excursions and a travel representative. More

information from Ilona on 07904 680885. If you are interested, please put your name on the list at the back of the churches or call Ilona.

The December draw of the 200 Club was held recently and the winners are: 1st £100 Judith Rhys (no 85); 2nd £75 Laura Fear (no 17); 3rd £50 George Gibson (no 214). If you would like to join the club for a chance of winning, please see Mike Woods or David Cockett for details and an application form.

There is now a monthly newsletter for the seven churches of the West Hub of the New Parish of Eastbourne and St Leonards, with another for the East Hub. This month's is purple and available in all churches: please take a copy. This weekly leaflet for the two churches in Langney and Hampden Park complements the monthly publication across the deanery.

You can sign up to receive news

from the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton, including the weekly message from Bishop Richard. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/ABnewsletter> or point your smartphone at the QR code here. This week's email has details of the new Parish of Weybridge, and news of the Deanery of Crawley's progress to becoming a parish.



You can sign up to receive news

from the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham by visiting their website at ordinariate.org.uk: enter your email address about halfway down the page. Their recent email features a pastoral letter from Bishop David and a bit about Fr Neil too.



Votive Candles: Would you like to sponsor a candle for a personal intention or a special need at CTK? There are Masses available at both churches. Request forms for candles or Masses are available, which each include a card to give to those being prayed for.

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, Vicky Ferrera, and baby Autumn.

And we pray for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed, especially Robert Cutler RIP, Robert Anthony John “Tony” Roberts RIP and Walston Julien RIP who have recently died, and all those who have no-one to pray for them.

Ordinate of Our Lady of Walsingham in Eastbourne

FR NEIL CHATFIELD

Tel 01323 760048; emergency 07718 123304
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Safeguarding matters are dealt with through the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton, who can be contacted on 01293 651148. The Episcopal Vicar in the Ordinate who liaises with local dioceses is Fr Simon Ellis. He can be emailed at safeguarding@ordinate.org.uk.

For enquiries for baptism, first communion, confirmation, and marriages please speak to Fr Neil; also ring the office on 01323 760048.

Website: <https://eastbourneordinate.org.uk>

Facebook page: /eastbourneordinate

Banking

Eastbourne Ordinate Mission:
40-04-09 82035758

Parish of Christ the King Langney with St Joachim Hampden Park

FR NEIL CHATFIELD

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For enquiries for baptism, first communion, confirmation, and marriages please speak to either Fr Neil or Deacon Eugene; also ring the office on 01323 760048.

Parish Hall Bookings 01323 760048

Website: <http://christthekingeastbourne.org>

Facebook page: Christ The King with St Joachim, Eastbourne

Banking

Christ the King: 40-05-20 91127012;
CTK Building Account: “RCD A&B Christ the King Eastbourne” 40-05-20 61256130.
St Joachim’s: 40-05-20 51077058.

Third Week of Advent

(Year A) (Year II)

| Day | | | Location* | Intention |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| | Vigil Mass of Sunday NO | 5:00 pm | CTK | Late Lolo Edith Uche Obikwelu RIP |
| Sunday 14 December THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT | Mass NO Sung Mass DW | 9:30 am 11:30 am | St Jo CTK | Samantha Curry Bridget Smith RIP |
| Monday 15 December <i>Feria</i> | Mass NO Private Mass | 11:00 am | OLR | Fr John Horn RIP Fr Bruno |
| Tuesday 16 December <i>Feria</i> | Advent course Requiem Mass NO | 9:30 am 11:00 am | CTK† CTK | Walston Julien RIP |
| Wednesday 17 December O Sapientia | Mass NO followed by Advent course | 10:00 am | St Jo | Marcie Cassidy |
| Thursday 18 December O Adonai | Exposition; confession: Holy Hour Mass DW | 5:30 pm 7:00 pm | CTK CTK | For priests Christine Marie Anne Scothern RIP |
| Friday 19 December O Radix Jesse | Rorate Mass NO Exposition; adoration Mass NO Exposition, confession until 2pm | 6:30 am 10:00 am 12:00 noon | OLR CTK CTK | As announced Debbie Tresise RIP |
| Saturday 20 December O Clavis David | Exposition; confession Vigil Mass of Sunday NO | 4:00 pm 5:00 pm | CTK CTK | Private intention |
| Sunday 21 December FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT | Mass NO Sung Mass DW | 9:30 am 11:30 am | St Jo CTK | For our Community Alice and Frank Putland RIP |

Christmas 2025:

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|----------------------|---|---|----------------------------|--|
| Wednesday 24th | Children's Liturgy Vigil Mass of Christmas NO Vigil Mass of Christmas NO Midnight Mass DW | 4:30 pm 6:00 pm 8:00 pm 11:30 pm | CTK St Jo CTK CTK | Derek Seton-Smith Mannix family Harry Rock RIP |
| Thursday 25th | Sung Mass DW | 10:30 am | CTK | Graham & Sharon Pegley |
| 26 Dec; 30 Dec–2 Jan | All Masses will start at | 10:00 am | | |

DW Divine Worship (2014)
NO Novus Ordo (2010)
SM Syro-Malabar Rite (2021)
TLM Traditional Latin Mass (1962), when available

* **CTK** Christ the King Church, 3 Princes Rd BN23 6HT
StJo St Joachim's Church, 106 Brodrick Rd BN22 9NY
OLR Our Lady of Ransom Church, 2 Grange Rd BN21 4EU
DGH Chapel, District General Hospital, Kings Dr BN21 2UD
† In the Parish room: enter by the side door