



# The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

28 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 model of the Holy Family*

Underlying the wisdom offered in today's Liturgy is the mystery of the family in God's divine plan.

The Lord has set father in honour over his children and mother in authority over her sons, we hear in today's First Reading. As the Psalmist sings in Psalm 128, the blessings of the family flow from Zion, the heavenly mother of the royal people of God (see Isaiah 66:7, 10–13; Galatians 4:26).

And in the drama of today's Gospel, we see the nucleus of the new people of God—the Holy Family—facing persecution from those who would seek to destroy the child and His Kingdom.

Moses, called to save God's first born son, the people of Israel (see Exodus 4:22; Sirach 36:11), was also threatened at birth by a mad and jealous tyrant (see Exodus 1:15–16). And as Moses was saved by his mother and sister (see Exodus 2:1–10; 4:19), in God's plan Jesus too is rescued by His family.

As once God took the family of Jacob down to Egypt to make them the great nation Israel (see Genesis 46:2–4), God leads the Holy Family to Egypt to prepare the coming of the new Israel of God—the Church (see Galatians 6:16).

At the beginning of the world, God established the family in the “marriage” of Adam and Eve, the two becoming one body (see Genesis 2:22–24). Now in the new creation, Christ is made “one body” with His bride, the Church, as today's Epistle indicates (see Ephesians 5:21–32).

By this union we are made God's chosen ones, holy and beloved. And our families are to radiate the perfect love that binds us to Christ in the Church.

As we approach the altar on this feast, let us renew our commitment to our God-given duties as spouses, children and parents. Mindful of the promises of today's First Reading, let us offer our quiet performance of these duties for the atonement of our sins.

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**Fr Neil and Deacon Eugene** would like to thank all those who have supported the parish in any way during the Christmas season and those who have generously given gifts and cards to the parish clergy. Thank you also to all who help out generally in the parish of CTK and St Joachim's throughout the year. Your support is very much appreciated. Happy 2026 to you all!

**There's a special second collection this weekend for Fr Gerard's church of St Patrick's in Edinburgh which suffered an act of desecration over Christmas.**

**Masses on Tuesday to Friday this week** are all at 10am, in their usual churches: see the back page. After next Sunday, Masses at CTK on Tuesdays will be at noon (not 10am), and those on Fridays will be at 10am (not noon).

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

**CWL Christmas Tree of Giving** provided an opportunity to buy a gift for a needy child this Christmas, and the League says a very big

thank you to all who have supported it. The designated charity was *Warming Up the Homeless*, which supports children and families in temporary accommodation.

**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.

**Crib Offerings** are donated to the Catholic Children's Society (A&B Crisis Fund), which supports needy families. The crib will be in church until Candlemas on 2 February.

**Mass on Thursday 1 January** (**DW** 10am at CTK) will include the *Veni Creator Spiritus* to pray for the year ahead. The solemn invocation of the Holy Spirit at the New Year carries a plenary indulgence, under the usual conditions.

**First Saturday Devotions** on Saturday 3 January at 10:30am at CTK. This will include Holy Mass (**DW**), confessions, Holy Rosary, and family adoration.

**Eastbourne Catholic Women's League** meets on 7 January in CTK Parish Room, 7:00–9:00pm. Come and join us as we spend time supporting the parish and each other. There are leaflets at the back of the church if you would like to find out more about the CWL.

**CTK Seniors** next meet on 14 January at 12:30pm (note change of time) in the Parish Room. It will be a post-Christmas celebration with a guest singer to welcome us into 2026!

**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.

**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. January's is yellow, and features an article by Fr Neil. This *weekly* leaflet for the two churches in Langney and Hampden Park complements the monthly publication across the deanery.

**Notices for this leaflet** and/or the Deanery Newsletter should be sent to Dominic via the parish's current email address of priest.ctk@icloud.com.

**You can sign up to receive news** from the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton, including the weekly message from senior clergy. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/ABnewsletter> or point your smartphone at the QR code here. There wasn't an email issued this week due to the Christmas celebrations, but it usually arrives on Thursdays.



**You can sign up to receive news** from the Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham by visiting their website at [ordinariate.org.uk](http://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. Candles this week are given for Amaka Tina Obikwelu and Clarke Johnson 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, Vicky Ferrera, and baby Autumn.

**And we pray for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed**, especially Mick Smitherman RIP, 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.

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### **Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham in Eastbourne**

#### **FR NEIL CHATFIELD**

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neil.chatfield@eastbourneordinariate.org.uk

**Safeguarding matters** are dealt with through the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton, who can be contacted on 01293 651148. The Episcopal Vicar in the Ordinariate who liaises with local dioceses is Fr Simon Ellis. He can be emailed at [safeguarding@ordinariate.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@ordinariate.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://eastbourneordinariate.org.uk>

**Facebook page:** /eastbourneordinariate

#### **Banking**

Eastbourne Ordinariate Mission:  
40-04-09 82035758

### **Parish of Christ the King Langney with St Joachim Hampden Park**

#### **FR NEIL CHATFIELD**

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#### **Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator**

Revd Eugene Adams, 07917 276140  
Diocesan Safeguarding Team: 01293 651148

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.

# Week of the Sunday after Christmas

(Year A) (Year II)

Day	Location*			Intention
	Vigil Mass of Sunday <b>NO</b>	5:00 pm	CTK	Amaka Tina Obikwelu
Sunday 28 December <b>THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH</b>	Mass <b>NO</b>	9:30 am	St Jo	For our Community
	Sung Mass <b>DW</b>	11:30 am	CTK	Luke Roarty RIP
Monday 29 December <b>S Thomas of Canterbury B</b>	Mass <b>NO</b> Private Mass	11:00 am	OLR	As advertised Thanksgiving for favours received
Tuesday 30 December <i>Feria in Christmastide</i>	Mass <b>NO</b>	10:00 am	CTK	Eugenia Stanczak RIP
Wednesday 31 December <i>S Sylvester I Pp</i>	Mass <b>NO</b>	10:00 am	St Jo	Mr John RIP
Thursday 1 January <b>MARY MOTHER OF GOD</b>	Mass <b>DW</b> with solemn Veni Creator	10:00 am	CTK	Rose Hellyer
Friday 2 January SS Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen BBDD	Mass <b>NO</b> <i>No Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>	10:00 am	CTK	Obikwelu family
Saturday 3 January <i>Most Holy Name of Jesus</i>	First Saturday Mass <b>DW</b>	10:30 am	CTK	As announced
	Exposition; confession	4:00 pm	CTK	
	Vigil Mass of Sunday <b>NO</b>	5:00 pm	CTK	John Hollands RIP
Sunday 4 January <b>SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS</b>	Mass <b>NO</b>	9:30 am	St Jo	For our Community
	Sung Mass <b>DW</b>	11:30 am	CTK	Philomena Sio RIP

From 6 January, Mass on Tuesdays is celebrated at noon at CTK and Mass on Fridays is celebrated at 10am. Tuesday 6 January is the Epiphany and there will also be an evening Mass.

**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