



Quadragesima: First Sunday in Lent

22 February 2026



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

Neil Taylor reflects on the start of Lent. Neil is to be ordained deacon this summer.

Brothers and Sisters, with Ash Wednesday behind us, we are drawn into Lent not only by words but also by action. We came forward. We received. We were marked. The ashes weren't abstract; they touched our skin.

Reflecting on this and my recent Diaconate study weekend, my thoughts have turned to how this simple gesture gently gathers both truth and promise: dust and grace, frailty and calling.

In today's Gospel, Jesus goes into the wilderness. He goes there not by accident, but led by the Spirit. Led into a place of hunger, silence, and testing. Lent begins not with clarity, but with wilderness. Not with strength, but with vulnerability.

And that matters. Because the temptations Jesus faces are not dramatic or distant. They are human. Immediate. Familiar. The temptation to turn stones into bread, to satisfy need quickly, on our own terms. The temptation to grasp power and certainty. The temptation to force God to prove Himself.

They are the same movements we know in our own hearts: the pull toward control, toward appearance, toward security without trust. On Ash Wednesday, we named our mortality. Today, we see what it means to live faithfully within it. Jesus does not escape the wilderness. He remains. He hungers. He trusts. He answers each temptation not with spectacle, but with the steady truth of God's word: "Man shall not live by bread alone." Lent is not about proving

our strength. It is about learning where our life truly comes from.

The ashes marked us with humility. The wilderness teaches us trust. And perhaps this is the deeper connection: Ash Wednesday told us who we are: dust, dependent, in need of grace. The First Sunday in Lent shows us how to live as those kinds of people: not grasping, not performing, but rooted in God.

Jesus walks the path we are only beginning. He enters the desert we often avoid. And because he does, the wilderness is no longer only a place of testing. It becomes a place of meeting, a place where false hungers are named, and true hunger for God can grow.

So Lent stretches before us now, not as a burden, but as a journey already walked by Christ. We began it marked with ashes. We continue following him 'step by step' through the wilderness toward the light.

Your Brother Neil Taylor

Fr Neil is engaged on business with the diocese and in London this week, and Mass will not be celebrated on Wednesday or Thursday. A Liturgy of the Word will be available on Wednesday, and other activities and liturgies continue as normal.

Two Lent courses start this week: *The Source of the Sacraments in Scripture* on Tuesdays at 10:30am at CTK, before Mass; and *We Dare to Believe* on Wednesdays after the liturgy at St Jo's and again at 7:30pm at CTK.

CTK Seniors meet on Thursday 10:30am–12:30 in the parish room. Come along and spend time with old friends and make new ones. Teas and coffees available.

CTK Lenten Lunch is on Friday after Mass at midday. There is a sign-up list at the back of the church: signing up helps us cater for the right number of people. Donations will be for Fr John Popoola's ministry with the youth in his parish in Nigeria.

Walk the Stations of the Cross at CTK on Fridays (starting this week) at 5pm and on Sunday mornings at 10:30am.

Those who serve at the altar at any service in either church (or who would like to) are encouraged to come to a training session at Christ the King on Saturday, 10:30–11:30am. If you cannot attend, please let Fr Neil know.

Catholic Women's League: the Eastbourne Section's AGM will be on Wednesday 4 March, starting with Mass at 6:30pm.

First Saturday Devotions will take place on Saturday 7 March, starting with Mass at 10:30am.

Men's Way of the Cross: Friday 20 March starting from OLR at 9pm. More details of this a little later on.

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 which was first advertised, although costs can change. The price is now £995pp sharing or £1200 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.

Notices for this leaflet or other churches' leaflets should be sent to Dominic via the

parish's current email address of priest.ctk@icloud.com. Please allow a couple of weeks. The monthly Deanery newsletter has been discontinued, but a quarterly magazine is in production.

CTK church cleaning rota for the next few months is available at the back of the church. Thanks to those who help at the moment — if you would like to join, please see Dominic. We currently clean once every six weeks.

Bible Alive for March and April is available at the back of the church. The booklet contains a reflection for each day based on the readings for Mass, and other articles about the Faith. Donations are welcome. Other booklets and magazines are also available; again donations are welcome.

A new Honesty Table at CTK is a fundraising venture with the Catholic Women's League to support various charities and our own Priest's Discretionary Fund. Do you have small items at home that you would like to donate to this cause? Bring new or nearly-new jigsaw puzzles, books, cards, new tea towels, mugs, wool, costume jewellery, small toys, boxed games, books, CDs, DVDs, gloves, scarves, vases, glassware, crockery and new cosmetics in to be re-sold from our Honesty Table. The Table will be in the church hall where these items will be displayed and sold for a voluntary donation. The charity for the months of March–April is Langney Community Centre/food bank.

Keeping in touch: within the next few weeks we will be distributing forms which will allow the clergy to maintain pastoral records of everyone in the communities at Christ the King and St Joachim's. Do look out for them.

Dream of Gerontius, a choral work by Edward Elgar based on a poem by St John Henry Newman about the soul's journey after death: Sunday 26 April at 7:30pm in St Saviour's Church, Eastbourne. With Eastbourne Symphony Orchestra and Hailsham Choral Society. See the notice at the back of the church.

You can sign up to receive news from the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton. Go to

<https://tinyurl.com/ABnewsletter> or point your smartphone at the QR code here. The email 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: enter your email address about halfway down the page. February's email contains a letter from Bishop David and news of this year's Ordinariate Festival.



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, although all the principal Sunday Masses are allocated until after Easter. Request forms for candles or Masses are available, which each include a card to give to

those being prayed for. A candle this week burns for Rose.

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, Sheila Hichisson and baby Autumn.

And we pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful recently departed, especially Margaret Chadderton RIP, Lexter D'Rozario RIP, Maria Betts RIP and Mick Smitherman RIP, and all who have no-one to pray for them.

Pope Leo's Prayer intention for February is that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

Ordinariate of Our Lady of Walsingham in Eastbourne

FR NEIL CHATFIELD

Tel 01323 760048; emergency 07718 123304
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.

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](https://www.facebook.com/eastbourneordinariate)

Banking

Eastbourne Ordinariate Mission:
40-04-09 82035758

Parish of Christ the King Langney with St Joachim Hampden Park

FR NEIL CHATFIELD

Tel 01323 760048; emergency 07718 123304
priest.ctlk@icloud.com

REVD EUGENE ADAMS, Parish Deacon
07917 276140
deaconctlk@hotmail.com

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.

First Week of Lent

(Year A) (Year II)

Day			Location*	Intention
	Vigil Mass of Sunday	NO 5:00 pm	CTK	Mary Fitzgerald RIP
Sunday 22 February	Mass	NO 9:30 am	St Jo	Svetlana Vlasova
QUADRAGESIMA	Stations of the Cross	10:30 am	CTK	
FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT	Sung Mass	DW 11:30 am	CTK	Michael Brady RIP
Monday 23 February	Private Mass			Amaka Tina Obikwelu
S Polycarp BM				
Tuesday 24 February	Lent course A	10:30 am	CTK †	
<i>Feria</i>	Mass	NO 12:00 noon	CTK	John Kimberley RIP
Wednesday 25 February	Liturgy of the Word	NO 10:00 am	St Jo	
Ember Day	Lent course B after the liturgy		St Jo	
	Requiem Mass	NO 11:00 am	OLR	Eileen Walsh RIP
	Lent course B	7:30 pm	CTK †	
	Private Mass			Roland de la Motte RIP
Thursday 26 February	Mass	NO 11:00 am	OLR	Seán Duggan's intention
<i>Feria</i>	Exposition; confession; Holy Hour	5:30 pm	CTK	For priests
	Private Mass			Lydia Horlina RIP
Friday 27 February	Exposition; Holy Hour	10:00 am	CTK	
Ember Day	Mass	NO 12:00 noon	CTK	Amaka Tina Obikwelu
	Lent Lunch after Mass		CTK	
	Stations of the Cross	5:00 pm	CTK	
Saturday 28 February	Servers' training	10:30 am	CTK	
Ember Day	Exposition; confession	4:00 pm	CTK	
	Vigil Mass of Sunday	NO 5:00 pm	CTK	Ryszard Stanczak RIP
Sunday 1 March	Mass	NO 9:30 am	St Jo	Birthday of George and Mary Prince
SECOND SUNDAY	Stations of the Cross	10:30 am	CTK	
IN LENT	Sung Mass	DW 11:30 am	CTK	Romaani de la Motte

Lent Course A, *The Source of the Sacraments in Scripture*, starts on Tuesday at 10:30am at CTK; course B, based on diocesan materials *We Dare to Believe*, will be held at St Joachim's after the Wednesday Mass, repeated in the evening at CTK.

Sign up for Friday's Lent lunch — Mass will be at noon.

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