

# ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 4 OCTOBER 2020

27TH SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME

Year A



Smile a welcome to everyone in church, especially people you've not seen before.



## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established,  
and there is none that can resist your will.  
For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth,  
and all that is held within the circle of heaven;  
you are the Lord of all.

We say these words or sing a hymn as the priest approaches the altar.

## COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,  
who in the abundance of your kindness  
surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you,  
pour out your mercy upon us  
to pardon what conscience dreads  
and to give what prayer does not dare to ask...

We ask for God's help. Listen now to the priest as he offers this prayer.



## FIRST READING ISAIAH 5:1-7

God has planted a vineyard and put the people on the land to look after it but the grapes are not sweet and able to be used for wine. Through the prophet Isaiah's allegory God is asking what more could have

been done. Why have the people not been able to do as God had expected and grow a fruitful harvest? We have been given so much from God, and yet we do not respond positively and work hard for God.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. God has planted a vineyard but the tenants have not grown a good harvest.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 79

The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

The cantor or psalmist sings or says the psalm. Listen to the verses, and then respond by using these words.



## SECOND READING PHILIPPIANS 4:6-9

Life with God doesn't mean everything is going to perfect. But it does mean that whatever happens we can trust that God will be with us and will help us to cope. Paul's life wasn't easy, but here

he is telling the people of Philippi what he knows to be true; we don't need to worry because God is with us. Living as God asks will bring us peace and Jesus will help us, no matter what.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. There is no need to worry, God is with us.



## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
I call you friends, says the Lord,  
because I have made known to you  
everything I have learnt from my Father.  
Alleluia!

We give a shout of praise to God, using these words taken from the Bible.



## DO YOU KNOW?

The priest will be wearing **green** today because it is **Ordinary Time** in the Church's year. The colours of the priest's vestments change with each feast or season. Green is the **colour of growth, new life and hope**, like in nature. It remind us how much Jesus loves us and how **love will grow** when we share it.



## THINK

Jesus tells lots of stories. What are your **favourite stories**? Is there one story which is special to you? Think about **why** you like it, and **what you can learn** about yourself from it. Perhaps **God is speaking to you** through your favourite story?



## GOSPEL MATTHEW 21:33-43

The Good News about Jesus is told to us by St Matthew.

Listen to this story and see what you think: there was a landowner who planted a vineyard, prepared everything and then put tenants onto the land to work for him while he went travelling. When the time was right, the landowner sent his servants to collect the harvest. However, the

tenants beat up the servants, even killing one of them. They did the same thing to the next servants. Finally the landowner sent his son, thinking they would be sure to respect him. Sadly, he suffered the same fate. If we are the tenants in the story, how could we put it right?

### STAND to LISTEN

to the priest or deacon as he prepares to read the Gospel. What does the priest or deacon do to the book when he has finished reading the Gospel?



## PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I am thinking about workers who are not treated fairly. Help us to think about who grew our food and made our clothes so that we make good choices. Lord, hear my prayer.

Listen to the reader as he or she encourages us to pray for situations and people in need. This is a prayer you could say privately.



## OFFERTORY PROCESSION

As we take our gifts of bread, wine and money to the altar, think of a sad time this week and then think of the happiest time you spent this week.

Say a little prayer offering these thoughts up to God.

Watch as the gifts are made ready and the priest washes his hands and prepares for the Eucharistic Prayer.



## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Today's special prayer thanks God for fulfilling all God's promises to us.

What can you give special thanks for today?

We listen to the prayer of praise and thanks to God.



## THE LORD'S PRAYER

As the priest extends his hands, we say the prayer that Jesus taught us.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks him.

You are invited to sing a Communion song or say this verse, which has been especially chosen for today's celebration.



## MY PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Thank you, Jesus, for sacrificing yourself to give me the bread of life. Help me to work for the harvest. Amen.



PRAY

"I chose you...to go out and bear fruit."

Draw a big bunch of grapes. In each grape, draw yourself doing something kind and loving this week. As you draw, ask God to help you to complete this loving action.



DO

Can you try to eat some more fruit every day this week?



# IXΘΥΣ

is the Greek word for "fish" and was used in the catacombs as a sign for early Christians. It is made up from the first letter of five Greek titles for the Lord:

- # (Jesus)
- } (Christos)
- o (Theou/God's)
- { (Uios/Son)
- ψ (Soter/Saviour)



## redemptorist publications

Ichthus. Edited by Rachel Thompson. Published by Redemptorist Publications Wolf's Lane, Chawton, Hampshire GU34 3HQ. Copyright © Redemptorist Publications. A registered charity limited by guarantee. Registered in England 03261721. www.rpbooks.co.uk. Excerpts from the English translation of The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. Concordat cum originali Ann Blackett. Imprimatur + Peter Doyle, Bishop of Northampton 13 July 2018. Permission granted for distribution in the dioceses of Scotland.

FSC  
logo



We take Jesus with us to carry on the work that he did on earth, until we meet again next Sunday.

Go in peace.



# ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 11 OCTOBER 2020

28TH SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME

Year A



Say a big "thank you" to God for inviting you here today!



## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,  
Lord, who could stand?  
But with you is found forgiveness,  
O God of Israel.

We say these words or sing a hymn as the priest approaches the altar.

## COLLECT

May your grace, O Lord, we pray,  
at all times go before us and follow after  
and make us always determined  
to carry out good works...

We ask for God's help. Listen now to the priest as he offers this prayer.



## FIRST READING ISAIAH 25:6-10

Isaiah paints such a beautiful picture. God is going to provide a wonderful feast. Not only that, no one will be sad anymore and no one will feel any shame or embarrassment. God will wipe away everyone's

tears and everyone will be happy. For people at the time, and for us, this picture of peace and joy might seem too good to be true. But we know it will happen, because this is God's promise – and God keeps promises.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. God will provide everything we could ever dream of.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 22

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever.

The cantor or psalmist sings or says the psalm. Listen to the verses, and then respond by using these words.



## SECOND READING PHILIPPIANS 4:12-14, 19-20

Paul has had to face real hardship and suffering. Although he knows what it is like to have more than enough to eat, he has also experienced real hunger and been in jail. Paul has been able to cope with everything

that has happened to him because he knows that God is with him. Nothing else matters. While he is grateful to the people who have helped him, Paul knows that it is God who has given him what he needs.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. Paul can handle any hardship or difficulty because God is with him.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
The Word was made flesh and lived among us;  
to all who did accept him  
he gave power to become children of God.  
Alleluia!

We give a shout of praise to God, using these words taken from the Bible.



## DO YOU KNOW?

In England and Wales this week Christians are thinking especially about **all those affected by prisons**: prisoners and their families, victims of crime and their communities, those working in the criminal justice system and the people who are involved in caring for those affected by crime.



## THINK

The invited wedding guests were too busy to come to the feast. Are we too busy to spend time with God? If, like Paul, we take time to remember that **God is with us** in everything we do, perhaps we will be able to really **enjoy our lives** without being anxious or worried.



## GOSPEL MATTHEW 22:1-14

The Good News about Jesus is told to us by St Matthew.

In explaining what the kingdom of heaven is like, Jesus tells a story. God can be compared to a king who wants to celebrate his son's wedding with a wonderful feast. The invited guests don't arrive, so the king sends his servants to tell them that everything is ready. The guests weren't

interested and continued with their own business. Some even mistreated the messengers. So the king sent his servants to town to invite everyone they could find to come to the feast, good and bad alike. Soon the wedding hall was full of guests enjoying the party and the king's feast!

### STAND to LISTEN

to the priest or deacon as he prepares to read the Gospel. What does the priest or deacon do to the book when he has finished reading the Gospel?



PRAY

Lord, you offer freedom to all people. Bless those who are in prison, their families and prison staff. Heal anyone who has been hurt because of crime. Help us all to forgive others. Amen.



### PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I would like to pray for everyone affected by prisons. Please bless them, so that they know your healing love. Lord, hear my prayer.

Listen to the reader as he or she encourages us to pray for situations and people in need. Here is a prayer you could say privately.



### OFFERTORY PROCESSION

As we take our gifts of bread, wine and money to the altar, think of something you did this week that you regret and then think about something you did that you're really proud of. Say a little prayer offering these thoughts up to God.

Watch as the gifts are made ready and the priest washes his hands and prepares for the Eucharistic Prayer.



### THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Today's special prayer thanks God for fulfilling all God's promises to us.

What can you give special thanks for today?

We listen to the prayer of praise and thanks to God.



### THE LORD'S PRAYER

As the priest extends his hands, we say the prayer that Jesus taught us.

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The rich suffer want and go hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

You are invited to sing a Communion song or say this verse, which has been especially chosen for today's celebration.



### MY PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Thank you, Jesus, for inviting me to your feast. Help me to take the time to party with you whenever I can! Amen.



**ΙΧΘΥΣ** is the Greek word for "fish" and was used in the catacombs as a sign for early Christians. It is made up from the first letter of five Greek titles for the Lord:  
# (Jesus)  
} (Christos)  
o (Theou/God's)  
{ (Uios/Son)  
ψ (Soter/Saviour)

redemptorist  
publications

Ichthus. Edited by Rachel Thompson. Published by Redemptorist Publications Wolf's Lane, Chawton, Hampshire GU34 3HQ. Copyright © Redemptorist Publications. A registered charity limited by guarantee. Registered in England 03261721. www.rpbooks.co.uk. Excerpts from the English translation of The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. Concordat cum originali Ann Blackett. Imprimatur + Peter Doyle, Bishop of Northampton 13 July 2018. Permission granted for distribution in the dioceses of Scotland.

FSC logo



We take Jesus with us to carry on the work that he did on earth, until we meet again next Sunday.

Go in peace.

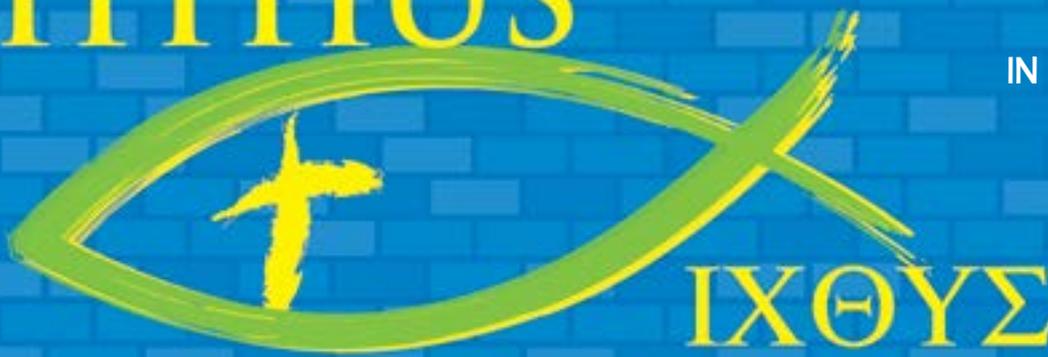


# ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 18 OCTOBER 2020

29TH SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME

Year A



Kneel down as you say "hello" to God today, to show how great you think God is.



## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God;  
turn your ear to me; hear my words.  
Guard me as the apple of your eye;  
in the shadow of your wings protect me.

We say these words or sing a hymn as the priest approaches the altar.

## COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,  
grant that we may always conform our will to yours  
and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart...

We ask for God's help. Listen now to the priest as he offers this prayer.



## FIRST READING ISAIAH 45:1.4-6

No one liked Cyrus. He was the king of Persia where the Israelites were living in exile after they had been forced out of their homeland. Yet here Isaiah tells us that it is Cyrus who will do God's work. Cyrus doesn't even know God's name, but

God chooses Cyrus. God is more powerful than Cyrus and his gods and the Persian army. God will work through the most unexpected people, in the most unexpected places. Maybe God will surprise us too.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN.

God works in ways we don't expect and through people we may not even like.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 95

Give the Lord glory and power.

The cantor or psalmist sings or says the psalm. Listen to the verses, and then respond by using these words.



## SECOND READING 1 THESSALONIANS 1:1-5

Thessalonica is one of the places where Paul had travelled, telling people about Jesus. He had left behind some good friends there. Now he is writing to them to encourage them as they try to follow Jesus

and put God's love into action. In a way, this is a "thank you" letter. Paul is thanking his friends for the way they have carried on believing and hoping in God, even when life has been really hard.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN.

Paul is writing to his friends in Thessalonica.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
You will shine in the world like bright stars  
because you are offering it the word of life.  
Alleluia!

We give a shout of praise to God, using these words taken from the Bible.



## DO YOU KNOW?

Today is **World Mission Day**. Catholics all over the world come together on this special day to support mission. Through our **prayers and fundraising** we help missionaries to **spread Jesus' message of love and hope** for everyone. **Missio** is the Pope's charity for world mission - you might like to look them up at the Mission Together website: [missiontogether.org.uk](http://missiontogether.org.uk).



## THINK

The religious leaders didn't like Jesus and what he was doing. They were worried, because he seemed to be going against everything they had been taught about God. Jesus had a **new way of looking at life**. Perhaps we should be ready to look at the world in **new ways** too.



## GOSPEL MATTHEW 22:15-21

The Good News about Jesus is told to us by St Matthew.

The religious leaders want to stop Jesus, so they come up with a plan and ask Jesus about taxes. They think that Jesus can't win, whatever he says will upset people. To many Jewish people, giving money to the Romans was like saying that the emperor is more important

than God. But refusing to pay taxes would get the Jews into real trouble with the Romans. Jesus is too clever for them. Showing them a coin with the emperor's head on it, Jesus tells the people to give back to Caesar what is his and to give to God what belongs to God.

### STAND to LISTEN

to the priest or deacon as he prepares to read the Gospel. What does the priest or deacon do to the book when he has finished reading the Gospel?



## PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I am would like to pray for missionaries who are spreading the Good News all over the world. Help us all to share Jesus' love by what we say and by what we do. Lord, hear my prayer.

Listen to the reader as he or she encourages us to pray for situations and people in need. Here is a prayer you could say privately.



## OFFERTORY PROCESSION

As we take our gifts of bread, wine and money to the altar, think of a time when you were struggling with something this week and then think of a time when everything fell into place and worked out well.

Say a little prayer offering these thoughts up to God.

Watch as the gifts are made ready and the priest washes his hands and prepares for the Eucharistic Prayer.



## THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Today's special prayer thanks God for fulfilling all God's promises to us.

What can you give special thanks for today?

We listen to the prayer of praise and thanks to God.



## THE LORD'S PRAYER

As the priest extends his hands, we say the prayer that Jesus taught us.

## COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Son of Man has come to give his life as a ransom for many.

You are invited to sing a Communion song or say this verse, which has been especially chosen for today's celebration.



## MY PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Thank you, Jesus, for getting involved in the world and my life. Thank you for keeping me going when I am struggling and for always being with me. Amen.



PRAY

### Mission Together

May all children  
In the world  
Share love  
Share friendship and live  
In the peace  
Of God's love  
Now and forever. Amen



DO

Write a "thank you" letter or card for someone who has done something kind for you.



# IXΘΥΣ

is the Greek word for "fish" and was used in the catacombs as a sign for early Christians. It is made up from the first letter of five Greek

titles for the Lord:  
# (Jesus)  
} (Christos)  
o (Theou/God's)  
{ (Uios/Son)  
ψ (Soter/Saviour)



redemptorist  
publications

Ichthus. Edited by Rachel Thompson.  
Published by Redemptorist Publications  
Wolf's Lane, Chawton, Hampshire GU34 3HQ.  
Copyright © Redemptorist Publications.  
A registered charity limited by guarantee.  
Registered in England 03261721. www.rpbooks.co.uk. Excerpts from the English translation of The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. Concordat cum originali Ann Blackett. Imprimatur + Peter Doyle, Bishop of Northampton 13 July 2018. Permission granted for distribution in the dioceses of Scotland.

FSC  
logo



We take Jesus with us to carry on the work that he did on earth, until we meet again next Sunday.

Go in peace.



# ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 25 OCTOBER 2020

30TH SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME

Year A



As you make the sign of the cross, think about how much you love God with all your mind and heart.



## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;  
turn to the Lord and his strength;  
constantly seek his face.



We say these words or sing a hymn as the priest approaches the altar.

## COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,  
increase our faith, hope and charity,  
and make us love what you command,  
so that we may merit what you promise...



We ask for God's help. Listen now to the priest as he offers this prayer.



## FIRST READING EXODUS 22:20-26

God's covenant with Moses and the people of Israel is a loving relationship. All loving relationships need some help, and God gives the people guidance by setting out rules for living. It is the weakest members of the group

who need the most care and kindness. If we are to walk in God's ways we must take care of the poorest members of society. God's people are strong because they look after each other, taking care of each other's practical needs.



LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. God gives the people practical rules for living well with each other and sharing God's love.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 17

I love you, Lord, my strength.



The cantor or psalmist sings or says the psalm. Listen to the verses, and then respond by using these words.



## SECOND READING 1 THESSALONIANS 1:5-10

The people of Thessalonica became Christians after seeing the example of Paul and his companions. It was not easy for them, but their joy in following Jesus has brought other people to faith. These first Christians have themselves become

examples for others to follow. This is how each of us can be missionaries. Our happiness will show others how good God is. Even if people make it difficult for us, we can be like the Thessalonians and keep on believing.



LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. The Christians in Thessalonica are examples of faith to everyone in the region.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Open our heart, O Lord,  
to accept the words of your Son.  
Alleluia!



We give a shout of praise to God, using these words taken from the Bible.



## DO YOU KNOW?

Wednesday 28 October is the feast of **Ss Simon and Jude, Apostles**. We know very little about these saints, but both are believed to have travelled, spreading the Good News, and both are thought to have died for their faith in Jesus.



## THINK

A long time ago a band called the Beatles sang a song called "All you need is love". Perhaps they had been talking to Jesus, because that's what he says in today's Gospel! If we can really put our **love for God** and our **love for other people into practice** we will be doing **everything Jesus asks**.





The Good News about Jesus is told to us by St Matthew.

Still plotting against him, the religious leaders ask Jesus, "Which is the greatest commandment?". They want to catch Jesus out and show that he is not really a man of God. Their faith is completely rooted in the special agreement, or covenant, God has made with the people. God has promised

he will look after them and they will keep God's laws. Each of God's laws is very important. Jesus cannot say that one is more important than another. Again, Jesus is clever and says that love is the answer. If we love God and other people we will be keeping all of the commandments.

STAND to LISTEN to the priest or deacon as he prepares to read the Gospel. What does the priest or deacon do to the book when he has finished reading the Gospel?



PRAY

"I love you, Lord, my strength."

Thank God for all the people who love you and who you love. Ask God to help you to love the people you don't like or find it hard to get on with.



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I would like to pray for anyone who has no one to love them. Help us to welcome everyone into our communities so that no one feels alone. Lord, hear my prayer.

Listen to the reader as he or she encourages us to pray for situations and people in need. Here is a prayer you could say privately.



OFFERTORY PROCESSION

As we take our gifts of bread, wine and money to the altar, think of a time when you were lonely this week and then think of someone who loves you.

Say a little prayer offering these thoughts up to God.

Watch as the gifts are made ready and the priest washes his hands and prepares for the Eucharistic Prayer.



THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Today's special prayer thanks God for fulfilling all God's promises to us.

What can you give special thanks for today?

We listen to the prayer of praise and thanks to God.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

As the priest extends his hands, we say the prayer that Jesus taught us.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.

You are invited to sing a Communion song or say this verse, which has been especially chosen for today's celebration.



MY PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Thank you, Jesus, for loving me so much and for showing me what real love is. Help me to share your love with other people this week as I try to put their needs before my own. Amen.



IXΘΥΣ

is the Greek word for "fish" and was used in the catacombs as a sign for early Christians. It is made up from the first letter of five Greek titles for the Lord:

- # (Jesus)
- } (Christos)
- o (Theou/God's)
- { (Uios/Son)
- ψ (Soter/Saviour)



redemptorist publications

Ichthus. Edited by Rachel Thompson. Published by Redemptorist Publications Wolf's Lane, Chawton, Hampshire GU34 3HQ. Copyright © Redemptorist Publications. A registered charity limited by guarantee. Registered in England 03261721. www.rpbooks.co.uk. Excerpts from the English translation of The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. Concordat cum originali Ann Blackett. Imprimatur + Peter Doyle, Bishop of Northampton 13 July 2018. Permission granted for distribution in the dioceses of Scotland.

FSF logo



We take Jesus with us to carry on the work that he did on earth, until we meet again next Sunday.

Go in peace.

