

ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2021

23RD SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

Year B



Ask Jesus to open your ears and help you to listen carefully to his words today.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

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

COLLECT

O God, by whom we are redeemed and receive adoption,
look graciously upon your beloved sons and daughters,
that those who believe in Christ may receive true freedom
and an everlasting inheritance...

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



FIRST READING

ISAIAH 35:4-7

Don't worry! Don't be afraid! God is coming to save us. Any challenges or problems we face will be sorted out. God is in charge and will heal us, making us all well. We will speak and hear properly and we will

all dance, as gracefully as deer. When God comes, everyone will sing for joy! Nothing is impossible for God. Our hope in God is like water in the desert. God will bring new life and fruitfulness to our lives.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. The prophet Isaiah brings hope to the people.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 145

My soul, give praise to the Lord.

Or Alleluia!

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



SECOND READING

JAMES 2:1-5

If we believe in God, we can't say that anyone is better than someone else. We must never judge people because of what they are wearing and treat them differently. We certainly can't treat people who are rich better than

people who are poor. Not having the distraction of money means that poor people can be rich in faith. Poor people have a special place in God's heart. In fact, God chose people who are poor to inherit the kingdom of God.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. Poor people have a special place in God's heart.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:
you have the message of eternal life.
Alleluia!

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



DO YOU KNOW?

In our first reading we hear that God promises to heal anyone who is suffering. In the Gospel, Jesus enables a man to hear and to speak clearly for the first time. God's promise is coming true in Jesus. Jesus can help us all to hear what matters and to speak about what is important.



THINK

On Wednesday we celebrate The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mary's birthday. We don't hear anything about Mary's birth in the Gospels, but other writings tell us that Mary's parents, Anna and Joachim, pray for a child and God answers their prayer. God was involved in Mary's life from the very start.



GOSPEL MARK 7:31-37

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

Having been preaching and teaching in Tyre, Jesus is on his way back home. Some people bring their deaf friend to Jesus and ask Jesus to lay his hands on him. Jesus takes the man away from the crowd, touches his ears and his tongue and prays for him. The deaf man's

ears are opened, his tongue is able to move and he can speak clearly. Jesus asks the crowd not to tell anyone, but they are unable to keep quiet. The more Jesus asks them not to say anything, the more they tell people. Everyone is just so amazed with Jesus' power.

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?

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.

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

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

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



PRAY

Go for a walk and listen carefully. What is God saying to you through the voices of the people you love, the sound of the wind, the noise of the city, the animal calls and the music you hear?



DO

Make a special effort to speak kindly to the people you meet this week - tell people how much you appreciate them!



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, please help us all to value and respect each other's differences. Help us to enable everyone, able-bodied and disabled, to take an active part in our community. Lord, hear my prayer.



OFFERTORY PROCESSION

As we take our gifts of bread, wine and money to the altar, think about a time this week when you didn't hear what you were asked and think about another time when you heard and did what you needed to straight away. Say a little prayer offering these thoughts up to God.



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?



THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.



MY PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Thank you, Jesus, for loving me and healing my hurts. Thank you for always being with me and helping me to understand that I can trust you. Amen.



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

Go in peace.



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:

- I (Jesus)
- X (Christos)
- Θ (Theou/God's)
- Υ (Uios/Son)
- Σ (Soter/Saviour)



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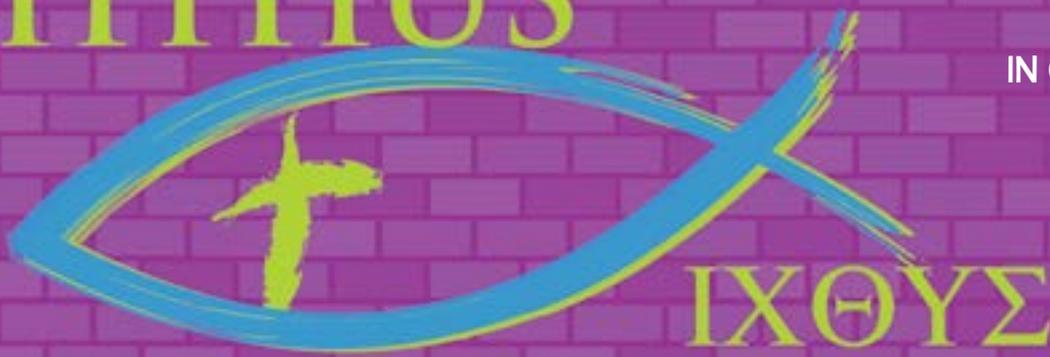


ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2021

24TH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

Year B



Ask Jesus to help you to get to know him even better today.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you,
that your prophets be found true.
Hear the prayers of your servant,
and of your people Israel.

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

COLLECT

Look upon us, O God,
Creator and ruler of all things,
and, that we may feel the working of your mercy,
grant that we may serve you with all our heart...

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



FIRST READING ISAIAH 50:5-9

It is not clear if this mysterious suffering servant is an actual person or an ideal faithful servant who represents all of God's people. Although innocent, he is mistreated and insulted. Yet the suffering servant does not despair

and give up. He does not retaliate and fight back. He trusts in God and waits. All through his unfair treatment the suffering servant is confident that God is with him and will rescue him. And we can enjoy that same hope in God.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. The suffering servant knows that God is on his side and is coming to help.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 114

I will walk in the presence of the Lord,
in the land of the living.

Or Alleluia!

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



SECOND READING JAMES 2:14-18

It is just not possible to say we believe in God, but do nothing to help the people around us. It is no use saying that we wish people had enough to eat and warm clothes to wear, but then do

nothing to provide food and clothes for people in need. James even goes as far as saying that faith without good deeds is useless. If we say we believe in God, we must put our faith into action.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. Faith without good works is dead.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, says the Lord;
no one can come to the Father except through me.
Alleluia!

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



DO YOU KNOW?

Today in England and Wales the Church is celebrating **Education Day**. Sometimes we really wish we didn't have to go to school... but today we thank God for our education! We remember that we are really **blessed to be able to learn** and that we have caring teachers, warm schools, books to read and to write in and friends who help us get **involved in school life**.



THINK

Jesus can always **surprise us**. Every time we hear a story about Jesus we can **grow in our understanding** of who he is. Jesus can help us to **learn more about ourselves** as we learn more about him too.





GOSPEL MARK 8:27-35

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

Jesus needs some feedback. What are people saying about him? What do his friends understand about who he is? It seems that the local people know that Jesus is a prophet, bringing us God's message. Peter has the deeper understanding that Jesus is the Messiah.

But Peter's idea of the promised Messiah is not Jesus' idea of leadership. God's ways are not our ways. Jesus is going have to suffer and die. If we follow Jesus, we will also have to give things up. However, we know that, just as Jesus rose from the dead, we too will have new life.

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

Take a moment to be quiet with Jesus. Hear him saying to you "Who do you say I am?" How will you respond? Give yourself time to have a conversation with Jesus in your heart.



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, please help us to value our education and make the most of the opportunities we are given. Help us to appreciate all the people who keep our schools running, enabling us to learn. 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 about a time this week when you were thoughtless and then think about another time when you showed your care for someone with a kind deed.

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

How precious is your mercy, O God!
The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

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 showing me a different way to live. Thank you for putting your love for me into action and for always being there for me. 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:

I (Jesus)
X (Christos)
Θ (Theou/God's)
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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 19 SEPTEMBER 2021

25TH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

Year B



Jesus, I trust you and I love you.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress,
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

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

COLLECT

O God, who founded all the commands of your sacred Law upon love of you and of our neighbour, grant that, by keeping your precepts, we may merit to attain eternal life...

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



FIRST READING WISDOM 2:12. 17-20

Good people annoy those who don't do what is right. These "bad" people may have been brought up well and don't want to be reminded that they are letting their families down. They may behave

even worse, to avoid having to face up to their own wrongdoing. Here, bad people are making plans to test a good man. They plot to hurt him and see if he will still do what is right. God will be with the good man.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. Bad people plot to test a good man's faith.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 53

The Lord upholds my life.

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



SECOND READING JAMES 3:16 - 4:3

Wars and battles are caused by the jealousies and ambition in human beings. We all have the tendency to fight for what we want and to be selfish. God's wisdom, however, brings peace and harmony into the world. When we

pray, we allow God's peace to come into the world. The Holy Spirit will give us the strength to put other people first and to be selfless. God will help us all to be peacemakers, sowing the seeds of love and goodness.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. Peacemakers sow the seeds of holiness.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord,
anyone who follows me
will have the light of life.
Alleluia!

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



DO YOU KNOW?

Today in England and Wales the Church is celebrating **Home Mission Day**. We think about how can **share the Good News** in our own neighbourhood, our schools and country. How can we **tell people about God's love** today by **what we say** and by **what we do**?



THINK

Jesus asks us to **welcome others**. When we make someone welcome, we are making **God welcome**. How will we make people welcome in our homes and school? Find out how we can make **refugees and immigrants** welcome in our country.



GOSPEL MARK 9:30-37

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

Ironically, as Jesus is trying to share information about his mission of love with his friends, they are fighting among themselves. The disciples do not yet understand just how different Jesus' leadership is. Jesus is not going to lead them in the way they expect. He is trying to tell

them that he will be put to death and then rise again, but the disciples are caught up with arguments about who is more important. Jesus hugs a little child as he explains that real greatness is found in serving the least important people. In loving others, we will find life.

◀ **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

Think about the times when you have been irritated by people who are just too good. Ask yourself why you are annoyed. Ask Jesus to help you to have patience and to be kind and loving.



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, please help us to spread your message of love in our parish and local communities. Help us to sow the seeds of peace by what we say and do. 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 about a time this week when you were selfish and then think about another time when you put other people first and showed your love and care.

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

Say a little prayer offering these thoughts up to God.



THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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

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

What can you give special thanks for today?



THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.

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. Thank you for showing me that pain and hardship will lead to new life and joy. 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:

- I (Jesus)
- X (Christos)
- Θ (Theou/God's)
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We take Jesus with us to carry on the work that he did on earth, until we meet again next Sunday.

Go in peace.

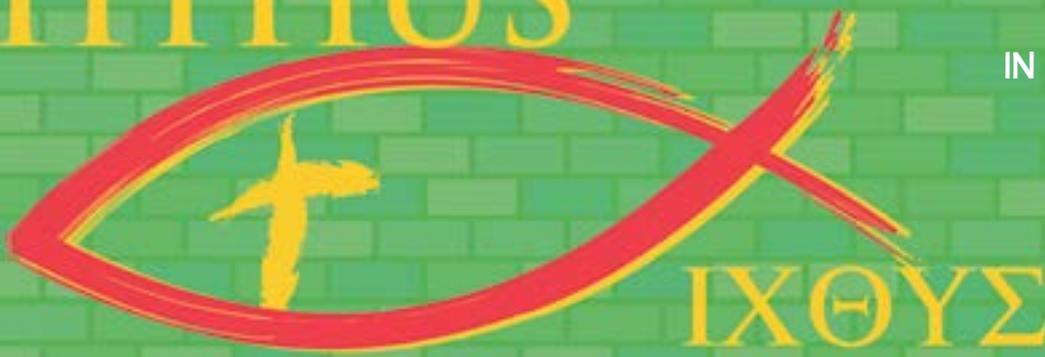


ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2021

26TH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

Year B



Thank you, Jesus, for inviting me here today.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

All that you have done to us, O Lord,
you have done with true judgement,
for we have sinned against you
and not obeyed your commandments.
But give glory to your name
and deal with us according to the bounty of your mercy.

COLLECT

O God, who manifest your almighty power
above all by pardoning and showing mercy,
bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us
and make those hastening to attain your promises
heirs to the treasures of heaven...



FIRST READING NUMBERS 11:25-29

Joshua, who has been Moses' helper since he was young, is very concerned. Two men, Eldad and Medad, have received God's spirit and are prophesying. Joshua is worried that they are speaking on behalf of God. Moses is the special

leader God has chosen and Joshua does not want anyone else taking his place. Moses reassures Joshua. He is not worried at all. In fact, Moses tells Joshua that he wishes everyone could receive God's spirit and speak for God as a prophet.

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

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

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. God's spirit inspires prophets to speak to the people.

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

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. Money and wealth on earth will not last.

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 18

The precepts of the Lord gladden the heart.



SECOND READING JAMES 5:1-6

James has a harsh message for people who are greedy and think too much about their money. They will be sorry that they focused too much on living a life of luxury. Their money could have been used to help people in need.

Instead, some people have become rich because of the way they have mistreated those who work for them, paying them badly and ignoring their terrible working conditions. Money and fine clothes will not last, but love will.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Your word is truth, O Lord,
consecrate us in the truth.
Alleluia!



DO YOU KNOW?

Wednesday 29 September is the feast of Ss Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels. Each of these angels tells us about God. Michael defends God and battles against evil, Gabriel brings the good news that God will become human as the baby Jesus and Raphael guides Tobit along the right path. Angels will help us all too.



THINK

God wants us to make sure that all workers are treated fairly. Cheap clothes are sometimes made by companies who don't pay their workers properly so that they can make more money. We can help by finding out where our clothes come from and by spending a little more, perhaps less often, on fashion items.





GOSPEL MARK 9:38-43. 45. 47-48

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

Jesus is not too worried about whether someone belongs to the "right" group of believers or not. As long as people are doing good and helping others, Jesus is happy. His disciples are concerned that someone who isn't part of their group is performing miracles in Jesus name. Jesus tells

them not to worry. Anyone who is helping others is doing what God wants. What should worry us is whether or not we are stopping someone from having faith. We need to encourage anyone who believes in God and work with them to live as God asks.

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?

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.

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

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

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



PRAY

Jesus, I am on your side. Thank you for always being on my side and standing with me, whether things are going well or not. Amen.



DO

Offer to bring or make someone else a drink at least once every day this week.



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, please help us to be open to other groups of believers. Help us all to work together to make the world a kinder, fairer place. Lord, hear my prayer.



OFFERTORY PROCESSION

As we take our gifts of bread, wine and money to the altar, think about a time this week when you were a bit mean and unkind and then think about some of the times when you were kind and thoughtful.

Say a little prayer offering these thoughts up to God.



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?



THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

By this we came to know the love of God: that Christ laid down his life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for one another.



MY PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Thank you, Jesus, for loving me so much. Help me to share your love with others in the small acts of kindness I will carry out today. Amen.



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

Go in peace.



ΙΧΘΥΣ

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