

ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 4 JULY 2021

14TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME



Year B

Take a moment to say "hello" to Jesus who has invited you here today!



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Your merciful love, O God,
we have received in the midst of your temple.
Your praise, O God, like your name,
reaches the ends of the earth;
your right hand is filled with saving justice.



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

COLLECT

O God, who in the abasement of your Son
have raised up a fallen world,
fill your faithful with holy joy,
for on those you have rescued from slavery to sin
you bestow eternal gladness...



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



FIRST READING

EZEKIEL 2:2-5

The Israelites have turned away from God. Like us, they haven't been listening properly to God. They think they know what's good for themselves and have forgotten they need God. God knows what we all need and doesn't forget

us though. God sends messengers to remind us all how to live. Prophets are given God's spirit and speak on God's behalf. Ezekiel is being sent to the Israelites. Even though they may not want to listen, the prophet will give God's message.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. God sends his prophet Ezekiel to speak to the people.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 122

Our eyes are on the Lord
till he show us his mercy.



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



SECOND READING

2 CORINTHIANS 12:7-10

Following Jesus wasn't straightforward for Paul. We are not sure what his "thorn in the flesh" is, but it meant that Paul struggled at times. Paul knows he isn't perfect, but he is happy to admit that to his friends in Corinth. Even

though he has asked God to take it away, his difficulty remains. However, Paul knows that God is with him in his struggle. When we are weak, we can rely on God. God is our strength in any times of challenge.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. In our weakness, we find our strength in God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Lord has sent me to bring the good news to the poor,
to proclaim liberty to captives.
Alleluia!



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



DO YOU KNOW?

Ezekiel was God's prophet at a time of real difficulty for the Israelites. The Israelites had been beaten by their enemies and taken away from their homeland. But God loved them. Ezekiel was sent by God to give a message of hope and let the Israelites know that God would give them their land and their lives back.



THINK

Prophets speak God's message to the people, even when the people don't want to hear. What do you think God's message for us today is? Are we listening?



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

Having been preaching and teaching in the local area, Jesus and his disciples go back to his home town. On Saturday, the Jewish sabbath, Jesus goes to the synagogue to teach. Everyone is astonished. They think they know this man. They have seen him grow up and know his family. How

can he have anything new or important to say? Jesus' neighbours cannot accept him. Jesus is amazed at their lack of faith. He is unable to help the majority of them, although he does heal a few sick people. Jesus knows that prophets are not accepted by those who know them.

STAND to LISTEN

to the priest or deacon as he prepares to read the Gospel. Before he reads the Gospel, what does the priest do to his forehead, his lips and his heart? Can you copy him?



PRAY

"...there is a prophet among them."

Draw or write what you think is God's vision for our world today. Ask God to help you to make it reality. Know that small actions make a big difference.



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I pray that we will all be open to hearing your message. Help us to respond to your challenging words, especially when they come from unexpected people. 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 any time this week when you were reluctant to listen and then think of a time when you paid attention and did what you needed to.

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

Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed the man who seeks refuge in 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

Loving Lord, thank you for being my strength. Help me to rely on you and remember I never have to struggle alone. 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)
- Υ (Uios/Son)
- Σ (Soter/Saviour)



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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 11 JULY 2021

15TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

Year B



Thank you, Jesus, for choosing me to be your friend!



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.



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

COLLECT

O God, who show the light of your truth to those who go astray, so that they may return to the right path, give all who for the faith they profess are accounted Christians the grace to reject whatever is contrary to the name of Christ and to strive after all that does it honour...



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



FIRST READING AMOS 7:12-15

Like most of us, Amaziah does not want to be told that he is not doing what's right. Amaziah is a priest and he thinks he is already doing what God wants. He tells Amos, God's messenger, to go away and get back to

his homeland. Amos, however, has no choice. He explains to Amaziah that he is just a shepherd and it isn't his idea to be prophesying. Amos has answered God's call and must give God's message to the people.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. Amaziah, the priest, objects to the prophet Amos.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 84

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help



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



SECOND READING EPHESIANS 1:3-14

Even before the world was made God knew each one of us. We are all chosen to be God's children. Each of us has a purpose, a special reason to be here. Each one of us gives praise and glory to

God by being the person God created us to be. Through Jesus, God the Father has shown us the meaning of our lives. We are all made to live in love and to share God's love with everyone we meet.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. In this blessing Paul explains that God has chosen each one of us.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.
Alleluia!



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



DO YOU KNOW?

Today is **Sea Sunday**, when we pray for **people who make their living on the sea** and their families. We rely on seafarers for many of the things we need every day like food and clothes.



THINK

This week we hear about **God's prophet Amos**. He was quite happy living as a **shepherd and a farmer**, until God called him. Amos was asked to give a difficult message to the people, telling them to **change their ways** or they would have to face consequences. The good news is that our **loving God** is always ready to **forgive anyone** who asks.



GOSPEL MARK 6:7-13

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

Jesus gathers his twelve special friends together and sends them out on an important job. They are to travel, in pairs, to spread the good news about God's love. Jesus gives his friends instructions for their journey – which are nothing like we'd expect. They are to take nothing with them; no

rucksack, no food, no spare clothes and no money. They can, however, wear sandals and carry a staff, or big stick. The apostles are to rely on the goodness of the people in the villages they will visit. If they are not welcomed anywhere they should just leave. Their trip is very successful!

STAND to LISTEN

to the priest or deacon as he prepares to read the Gospel.

Before he reads the Gospel, what does the priest do to his forehead, his lips and his heart? Can you copy him?



PRAY

“Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.”

Think about the things that you have done this week that you know are not right. Say “sorry” to God. Know that God has already forgiven you!



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I am thinking about all the people who work at sea. Thank you for their bravery and hard work. Please bless them and keep them safe. 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 about any time this week when you were slow to do what you knew was right and then think about a time when you did the right thing immediately.

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 sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, for ever singing your praise.

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 giving me your peace and for helping me to believe. Help me to share your peace with everyone I meet this week. 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)
- Υ (Uios/Son)
- Σ (Soter/Saviour)

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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.

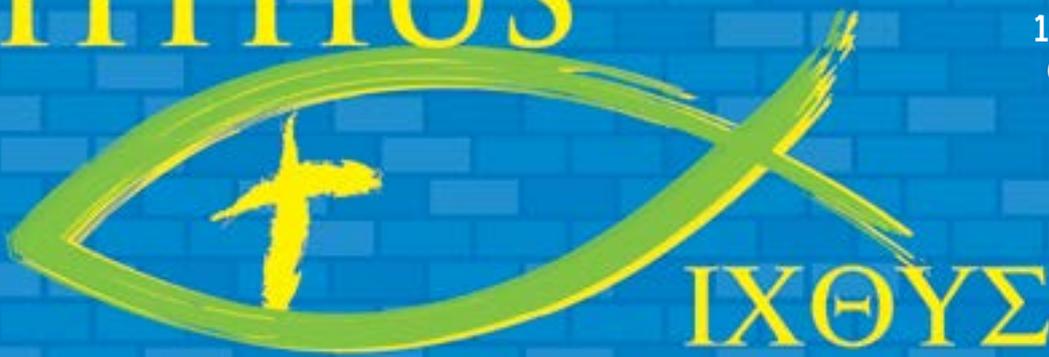


ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 18 JULY 2021

16TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

Year B



Take a moment to be still - so that you are ready to hear the voice of our shepherd.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

See, I have God for my help.
The Lord sustains my soul.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart,
and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

COLLECT

Show favour, O Lord, to your servants
and mercifully increase the gifts of your grace,
that, made fervent in hope, faith and charity,
they may be ever watchful in keeping your commands...



FIRST READING JEREMIAH 23:1-6

God knows that all is not well with the people of Israel. They are lost and have lost their way. So, God is taking charge. God is going to gather the scattered people back together and make sure that, just as

a shepherd takes care of the sheep, there will be leaders who will look after them. God promises to send one special shepherd who will be wise and honest. No one will be afraid anymore. No one will be lost.

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 will provide shepherds to look after and take care of 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.

Jesus is the peace between us.



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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 22

The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.



SECOND READING EPHESIANS 2:13-18

Jesus brings people together. He makes it possible for people to put their arguments to one side and make friends. In Ephesus there has been a disagreement between two groups of people who had different beliefs. Paul

is reminding them that Jesus is the way they will be united. If we remember that it is our faith in a loving God that is important, we will remember that our differences do not matter. Jesus brings us the good news of peace.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice,
says the Lord,
I know them and they follow me.
Alleluia!



DO YOU KNOW?

On **Thursday 22 July** we celebrate the feast of **St Mary Magdalene**. At a time when women were not allowed to be witnesses in a court of law, **Jesus chose Mary Magdalene to be the first witness to his resurrection**. She was a great friend of Jesus who stayed with him to the end.



THINK

Jesus knows that **we need to look after ourselves** if we are going to be able to look after other people. Jesus' friends are tired and hungry, so he takes them away to rest. But, just like Jesus and the apostles, we must also **be ready to help** when we can. Let's **keep our eyes and hearts open** so that we **notice anyone in need**.



GOSPEL MARK 6:30-34

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

The apostles have been really busy spreading the good news. They haven't even had time to eat. Jesus suggests they go somewhere quiet to find some peace. So they find a boat and go away to be by themselves. The crowds see Jesus and the disciples leave and, guessing where

they are heading, hurry around the lake so that they get there first. Rather than being frustrated or cross, Jesus is moved by these people. He knows that they are lost and need help. They are like sheep without a shepherd. Jesus, the good shepherd, settles down to teach the crowds.

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

"The Lord is my shepherd."

Use your imagination in your prayer. Imagine you are lost and alone. Listen to God calling your name. Know that you are loved and safe.



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I would like to pray for anyone who has fallen out with a friend or member of their family. Give them understanding so that they might sort out their differences and find peace. 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 about any time this week when you felt anxious or agitated and then think about a time when you felt calm and peaceful.

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

Behold, I stand at the door and knock, says the Lord. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door to me, I will enter his house and dine with him, and he with 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

Loving Lord, thank you for the peace that your love brings. Help me to share your peace this week by being loving and understanding. 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)
Υ (Uios/Son)
Σ (Soter/Saviour)



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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 25 JULY 2021

17TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

Year B



Thank God for all the good things in your life - like your food!



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

God is in his holy place,
God who unites those who dwell in his house;
he himself gives might and strength to his people.

COLLECT

O God, protector of those who hope in you,
without whom nothing has firm foundation, nothing is holy,
bestow in abundance your mercy upon us
and grant that, with you as our ruler and guide,
we may use the good things that pass
in such a way as to hold fast even now
to those that ever endure...



FIRST READING 2 KINGS 4:42-44

A man brings the prophet Elisha bread made from the first grain that has been harvested. Elisha asks that this food be given to the people. His servant is incredulous. He doesn't understand how so little food can feed

so many people. Elisha insists. God has promised that there will be enough for the people to eat - and that there will be food left over. The servant gives the bread to the people and, just as God has said, there is some left over.

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 miraculously feeds 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. We are all united in one body, in our one Lord.



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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 144

You open wide your hand, O Lord,
and grant our desires.



SECOND READING EPHESIANS 4:1-6

Paul was put in prison a number of times because of his faith. This letter, to his friends in Ephesus, is being written from jail - so we know it's saying something worth listening to. Paul wants his friends to live out their calling to

be good Christians. He knows that they will need to support each other to do this. Paul asks them to be patient and gentle with each other and to keep the peace between themselves. Jesus will keep us all united.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
A great prophet has appeared among us;
God has visited his people.
Alleluia!



DO YOU KNOW?

On Thursday 29 July we celebrate the feast of St Martha. Along with her sister Mary and brother Lazarus, she was a great friend of Jesus. Just like St Peter, Martha recognised Jesus as the Messiah and the Son of God. Martha is a role model in faith.



THINK

Baptism is the start of our lives as Christians. It doesn't matter which branch of Christianity we belong to, there is just one baptism. If someone wants to become a Catholic having been baptised in another Christian denomination, they will not be baptised again. Baptism brings us all together in Jesus and gives us the Holy Spirit to help us on our journey.



GOSPEL JOHN 6:1-15

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

Having heard about his miracles, crowds of people follow Jesus up the hillside. Jesus knows they will need food and asks Philip where they can buy bread. Philip's maths tells him that it will cost too much to feed everyone. Andrew sees a young boy who has five loaves and two fish

– but they won't go far. As always, Jesus knows what to do! He asks the disciples to get everyone to sit down. Then Jesus blesses the food and hands it out to everyone. Five thousand men and their families eat as much as they want – and there are twelve baskets of leftovers!

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

"All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord."

Think about all the gifts God has given you. Family, friends, a home, food, clothes – and all the things you most enjoy. Thank God for each and every one!



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I would like to pray for anyone who is hungry today. Inspire us all to work to make the world a fairer place so that everyone has enough to eat. 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 about any time this week when you felt alone and then think about all the people who have looked after you in some way this week.

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.

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

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see 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

Loving Lord, thank you for feeding me with the bread and wine of Holy Communion. Let it bring me closer to you and to all of your people. Amen.



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