

# ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2020

24TH SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME

Year A



Can you see any statues or pictures in church which show God's love for you?



## 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 ECCLESIASTICUS 27:30 – 28:7

No one was getting along well in this town. There were lots of groups who didn't trust each other and who were suspicious of each other. Instead of hating each other, the writer of Ecclesiasticus suggests that the people forgive each other. If we remember God and how we would like God to treat us, then perhaps we might be kind and loving to other people. If we love each other and show forgiveness, then we can be sure we will receive forgiveness from God.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. Forgiveness is the best possible way to deal with conflict.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 102

The Lord is compassion and love,  
slow to anger and rich in mercy.

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



## SECOND READING ROMANS 14:7-9

We are all connected. Each of us makes a difference to everyone else, so we need to think carefully about how we behave. As Christians we believe that we are all brothers and sisters and we want to take care of our family, united by the same Father. Even when we die we are part of one family. Jesus has brought us all together and he is the reason for everything we do. Being a Christian means that we want to live as Jesus asks.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. We are united with everyone on earth and those who are in heaven.

## 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?

Monday 14 September is the **The Exaltation of the Holy Cross**. We remember that it is because of Jesus' death on the cross that we can enjoy **life with him forever**. Out of bad situations, amazingly good things can happen.



## THINK

Although Jesus says we must **forgive seventy-seven times**, he doesn't really imagine we're going to keep count! Jesus is talking about an attitude to life. If we forgive, it doesn't mean that our hurt or upset doesn't matter. Someone might still need a consequence for doing wrong. But if we can forgive, **we will be happier** - and we know that **Jesus will be happy too**.



## GOSPEL MATTHEW 18:21-35

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

When Peter asks Jesus how often he needs to forgive someone who has hurt him, Jesus responds with a story to explain. In the story a generous king cancels the huge debt of a servant who has no way of paying back the money he owes. Later, however, the king hears

that this same servant has been very mean to someone who in turn owed him money. When the king hears this, he throws the servant in jail. Jesus says that God is like the king. God has forgiven each one of us and so we should always forgive others.

**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.



### PRAY

**"It is he who forgives all your guilt."**

Think of anything you've done wrong this week. Tell God how sorry you are. Say a big "thank you", because no matter what you've done, God has already forgiven you!



### DO

Make sure you say sorry to anyone you might have upset.



## PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I am thinking about anyone who is in debt because they have had to borrow money to buy food and clothes. Please let them find the help they need. Lord, hear my prayer.



## OFFERTORY PROCESSION

As we take our gifts of bread, wine and money to the altar, think of a time this week when you were bad tempered and then think of another time when you were patient and kind. 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 chalice of blessing that we bless is a communion in the Blood of Christ; and the bread that we break is a sharing in the Body of the Lord.

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 taking away our sins by dying on the cross. Help me to be generous with the people I meet this week. 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.**



## 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)
- Χ (Christos)
- Θ (Theou/God's)
- Υ (Uios/Son)
- Σ (Soter/Saviour)

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