

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.



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.

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

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.

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



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!



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 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?



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.



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

Go in peace.



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.



DO

Can you give an item of clothing to a charity shop or donate a tin or two to the food bank?



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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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?



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.

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

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.



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.



DO

Make someone welcome this week by inviting them to play.



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:

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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.



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?

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

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.

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. 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.



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.



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:

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