

ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2020

23RD SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

Year A



Can you help anyone in church, perhaps by handing them a book or leaflet?



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 EZEKIEL 33:7-9

It's not easy telling people they've done something wrong. We don't want to be seen as a "goody-goody". Yet God tells Ezekiel that's exactly what he must do. God asks Ezekiel to warn the people that the way

they are living is going against God and they will be punished unless they change their ways. If Ezekiel does what God asks he will be rewarded, even if no one listens to him. We are called to live as God asks too.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN.

Ezekiel has been called to speak on God's behalf.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 94

O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.

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



SECOND READING ROMANS 13:8-10

God gave his people the Ten Commandments as a way of helping them live together well. In this letter to some Christians who had grown up following God's commandments, Paul explains how simple these rules are. Love is

the answer to every one of the Commandments. We don't need to do anything else except to love God and to love other people. While it's easy to say that all we need to do is love, it can be harder in practice!

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN.

Love is the answer to all the commandments.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

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



DO YOU KNOW?

Tuesday 8 September is the **The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**. Mary's birthday is celebrated in September because this is the start of the new year in the Eastern Church. We remember how Mary began our Christian story by **trusting God** and bringing Jesus into the world.



THINK

It sounds easy when we say that **love is the answer**, but it's not that straightforward! Jesus says that if we **love God** and **love other people** we are keeping all the commandments. When we find loving people a challenge, we can always ask **Jesus to help us**. And he will!



GOSPEL MATTHEW 18:15-20

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

Jesus was a great teacher. He explains his message of love in simple ways and uses practical examples to show what he means. Even if we want to love other people, we can sometimes fall out with each other. Jesus suggests that if someone has upset us, we should go and talk to them about it. There's a good chance that will sort everything out. If it doesn't, then ask a couple of other people to come with you and talk to them. If that doesn't work, ask someone in authority to help. We don't need to worry because Jesus will be with us.

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

"...where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them."

Perhaps you can ask your family or friends to pray with you today? Know that God is there in a special way.



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I am thinking about anyone whose family has fallen out. Help them to sort out their differences and make friends again. 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 time this week when you had a disagreement with someone and then think of a time when you were being a good friend.

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 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 showing us by your sacrifice on the cross what real love means. Help me to put other people before myself. 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)
- Χ (Christos)
- Θ (Theou/God's)
- Υ (Uios/Son)
- Σ (Soter/Saviour)



redemptorist publications

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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.

