

ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 29 MAY 2022

7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Year C



Jesus has specially invited you to be here today!



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you;
of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face;
hide not your face from me, alleluia.

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

COLLECT

Graciously hear our supplications, O Lord,
so that we, who believe that the Saviour of the human race
is with you in your glory,
may experience, as he promised,
until the end of the world,
his abiding presence among us...

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



FIRST READING ACTS 7:55-60

Stephen is filled with the Holy Spirit and shares his vision of Jesus in heaven with God the Father. This is too much for the religious leaders. As far as they're concerned, Stephen and the other Christians are leading

people away from the right path. They close their ears and chase him out of the city, where he is stoned to death. Even as he dies, Stephen follows Jesus' example, praying and asking God the Father to forgive his killers.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. Stephen is the first to die for his faith in Jesus.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 96

The Lord is king, most high above all the earth.
Or Alleluia!

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



SECOND READING APOCALYPSE 22:12-14, 16-17, 20

It's very exciting when we are invited to a wedding or a birthday party. We are reminded in these final verses of John's vision that we all have a special invitation to heaven. We can look forward to this party even more than the

most exciting invitation we have ever received! We don't know what heaven will be like, but John writes about the tree of life, the water of life and an amazing city to help us imagine how wonderful it will be.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. God makes all creation new!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord;
I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy.
Alleluia!

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



DO YOU KNOW?

Today is **World Communications Day** in the Catholic Church. We think about how amazing the media is and how we can **use it for good**, to spread Jesus' message of love. How do we use media to spread positive, caring messages?



THINK

In our first reading we meet **St Paul**. He is known as **Saul** then and is with those who stoned St Stephen, looking after the cloaks of the executioners. Saul **changes dramatically** when he meets Jesus. Known after his conversion as Paul, he becomes one of the most important **followers of Jesus**. Unlike the religious leaders, Paul was brave enough to **open his ears** to hear the truth and then **change his whole life**.



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

Jesus prays for his friends: not just the disciples there with him, but all of us. He wants us all to be as united as he is with God the Father. If we are united and show how much we love each other, the world will see God's love in action. Jesus has shown us how

to love other people, by putting other people first. Everything Jesus has done has been because he wants us all to understand how much God the Father loves us. We can continue Jesus' work by loving other people with what we do and what we say.

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



PRAY

"Come."

Thank you, Jesus, for your invitation. I am so happy to know that you love me and will always be my friend. I would love to come to your party and enjoy the rest of my life with you!



DO

Send a message to someone, telling them how much you appreciate them.



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I would like to pray for anyone who is making choices which will change their lives forever. Help them to listen carefully to the truth and to be brave enough to follow what is right. 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 fed up and then think about the times when you were excited and looking forward to something.

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

Father, I pray that they may be one as we also are one, alleluia.

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 inviting me to love. Help me to respond to your invitation with an open heart. 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)



redemptorist publications

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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.

