

ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 24 JANUARY 2021

3RD SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

Year B



Look at the lectern and think about how it shows that God's word is special.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

O sing a new song to the Lord;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
In his presence are majesty and splendour,
strength and honour in his holy place.

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

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
direct our actions according to your good pleasure,
that in the name of your beloved Son
we may abound in good works...

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



FIRST READING JONAH 3:1-5, 10

Sometimes it takes a threat to make us act. We might be offered treats if we tidy up, but in the end it is the idea of missing out on screen time that makes us do it. Today, God sends Jonah to the people of Nineveh with

a threat. If they don't change their ways their town will be destroyed. The townspeople are sorry and do what they know is right. God sees that they are trying to change and does not destroy Nineveh.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. The mighty town of Nineveh is threatened with destruction.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 24

Lord, make me know your ways.

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



SECOND READING 1 CORINTHIANS 7:29-31

When we are young death seems a long way away. However, the first Christians thought that after the resurrection Jesus would come back again very soon, and the world would end. Even though this didn't happen, we do

know that our life on earth is actually not very long. Being aware that life will end need not be sad; it can help us to make the most of every day. And as Christians we have the joy of knowing that we will live forever with Jesus!

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. Make each day count, as life on earth is short.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
The kingdom of God is close at hand;
believe the Good News.
Alleluia!

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



DO YOU KNOW?

Tomorrow we celebrate the feast of the **The Conversion of St Paul the Apostle**. From being an enemy of Jesus, intent on stopping the spread of Christianity, Paul became one of the **most important people in the Church**. God literally stopped Paul in his tracks as he travelled to Damascus and **Paul's life was completely changed**.



THINK

Today is the **Sunday of the Word of God** when Catholics will be thinking about making the Bible an even bigger part of our everyday lives. The **Holy Spirit inspired** the human writers of the Bible and will **help us to understand** what God wants to tell us. **Listen carefully** to the readings today, opening your heart to what **God is saying to you**.



GOSPEL MARK 1:14-20

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

Mark tells us the whole reason for writing about Jesus right at the beginning of his Gospel. Jesus brings the Good News of life with God. Jesus tells us that God's kingdom is here. We must repent; turn away from what we know is wrong, and turn to God. Following Jesus will give

us the fullness of life here and promises us life forever in heaven. The first disciples hear Jesus' message and immediately leave their lives as fishermen and follow Jesus. While we may not be asked to leave our families, acting on what Jesus says is just as important for us.

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?



PRAY

Think about the Gospel reading. If you can, read the story again. Did any words or phrases stand out to you? What is God saying to you? How will you respond today?



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I would like to pray especially for all the people who are studying and interpreting the Bible for us. Help us all to hear and respond to your message. 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 of a time this week when you were fed up and then think about how you made the most of your time later. 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 speaking to us today. Help me to listen to your voice in the words of the Bible and in the stillness of my 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)

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publications

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FSC 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.

