

ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 4 JULY 2021

14TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME



Year B

Take a moment to say "hello" to Jesus who has invited you here today!



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Your merciful love, O God,
we have received in the midst of your temple.
Your praise, O God, like your name,
reaches the ends of the earth;
your right hand is filled with saving justice.



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

COLLECT

O God, who in the abasement of your Son
have raised up a fallen world,
fill your faithful with holy joy,
for on those you have rescued from slavery to sin
you bestow eternal gladness...



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



FIRST READING

EZEKIEL 2:2-5

The Israelites have turned away from God. Like us, they haven't been listening properly to God. They think they know what's good for themselves and have forgotten they need God. God knows what we all need and doesn't forget

us though. God sends messengers to remind us all how to live. Prophets are given God's spirit and speak on God's behalf. Ezekiel is being sent to the Israelites. Even though they may not want to listen, the prophet will give God's message.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. God sends his prophet Ezekiel to speak to the people.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 122

Our eyes are on the Lord
till he show us his mercy.



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



SECOND READING

2 CORINTHIANS 12:7-10

Following Jesus wasn't straightforward for Paul. We are not sure what his "thorn in the flesh" is, but it meant that Paul struggled at times. Paul knows he isn't perfect, but he is happy to admit that to his friends in Corinth. Even

though he has asked God to take it away, his difficulty remains. However, Paul knows that God is with him in his struggle. When we are weak, we can rely on God. God is our strength in any times of challenge.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. In our weakness, we find our strength in God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Lord has sent me to bring the good news to the poor,
to proclaim liberty to captives.
Alleluia!



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



DO YOU KNOW?

Ezekiel was God's prophet at a time of real difficulty for the Israelites. The Israelites had been beaten by their enemies and taken away from their homeland. But God loved them. Ezekiel was sent by God to give a message of hope and let the Israelites know that God would give them their land and their lives back.



THINK

Prophets speak God's message to the people, even when the people don't want to hear. What do you think God's message for us today is? Are we listening?



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

Having been preaching and teaching in the local area, Jesus and his disciples go back to his home town. On Saturday, the Jewish sabbath, Jesus goes to the synagogue to teach. Everyone is astonished. They think they know this man. They have seen him grow up and know his family. How

can he have anything new or important to say? Jesus' neighbours cannot accept him. Jesus is amazed at their lack of faith. He is unable to help the majority of them, although he does heal a few sick people. Jesus knows that prophets are not accepted by those who know them.

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? Can you copy him?



PRAY

"...there is a prophet among them."

Draw or write what you think is God's vision for our world today. Ask God to help you to make it reality. Know that small actions make a big difference.



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I pray that we will all be open to hearing your message. Help us to respond to your challenging words, especially when they come from unexpected people. 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 any time this week when you were reluctant to listen and then think of a time when you paid attention and did what you needed to.

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

Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.

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

Loving Lord, thank you for being my strength. Help me to rely on you and remember I never have to struggle alone. 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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We take Jesus with us to carry on the work that he did on earth, until we meet again next Sunday.

Go in peace.

