

# ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 1 NOVEMBER 2020

ALL SAINTS

Year A



Ask all the saints whose statues and pictures you can see in church to pray for you.



## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Let us all rejoice in the Lord,  
as we celebrate the feast day in honour of all the Saints,  
at whose festival the Angels rejoice  
and praise the Son of God.

## COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,  
by whose gift we venerate in one celebration  
the merits of all the Saints,  
bestow on us, we pray,  
through the prayers of so many intercessors,  
an abundance of the reconciliation with you  
for which we earnestly long...

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.



## DO YOU KNOW?

Today is the feast of **All Saints**. The Catholic Church celebrates lots of saints' days throughout the year, but today we think about them all, especially those we don't know by name. This feast reminds us that **we are all called to be saints**. With God's help we can live like Jesus and join all the saints in heaven.



## FIRST READING APOCALYPSE 7:2-4. 9-14

The writer's personal vision uses imagery and symbolism to tell us about heaven. Good has finally won over evil. There are so many people in heaven that it is impossible to count them. Anyone who has suffered for Jesus is there, dressed

in white and calling out praises to God. Just like when Jesus came into Jerusalem at the beginning of Holy Week, they are waving palm leaves. Jesus' death and resurrection has opened heaven for us all and it will be wonderful.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN.

The saints in heaven come from all nations, races and tribes.

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

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 23

Such are the men who seek your face, O Lord.



## SECOND READING 1 JOHN 3:1-3

God has poured out love on each one of us. We really are God's children and can enjoy a very special relationship with God our Father. Every day we can be happy because we know that we are loved and that God is

with us. Yet this happiness is nothing compared to the happiness that is waiting for us in heaven. Then we really will know what God's love is like. Knowing God's goodness even better is certainly something to look forward to!

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN.

We are all children of God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened,  
and I will give you rest, says the Lord.  
Alleluia!

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



## THINK

Jesus' friends must have been just as surprised as we might be today when they heard his list of **people who are happy**, or blessed. Often, however, it is when we are poor or sad that we understand how much **we need God**. Knowing we need God will make us **truly happy**.



## GOSPEL MATTHEW 5:1-12

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

Just as God speaks to Moses on Mount Sinai, Jesus goes up a hill to speak. He explains which people are truly happy, or blessed: people who are sad; peacemakers; those who forgive others or are working for justice; those who are gentle and kind; and people who are hurt because of

their faith. Unexpectedly, it is not rich or popular people who are on Jesus' list. Contrary to how the world usually works, Jesus says the weakest and poorest people are blessed. Not only will these people be rewarded in heaven, God is with them in a special way now.

### 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

Look at the Beatitudes carefully. Do any describe you? Which would you like to put into practice? Ask Jesus to help you.



## PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I would like to pray for anyone who finds it hard to believe they are loved. Let them feel your presence so they might understand just how special they are. 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 when you were fed up this week and then think of something good that happened.

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

Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God.  
Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they shall be called children of God.  
Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,  
for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

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, loving Lord, for loving me just as I am. Help me to grow in love for you and to put my love into action. 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.

ICHTHUS



IXΘΥΣ



# 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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