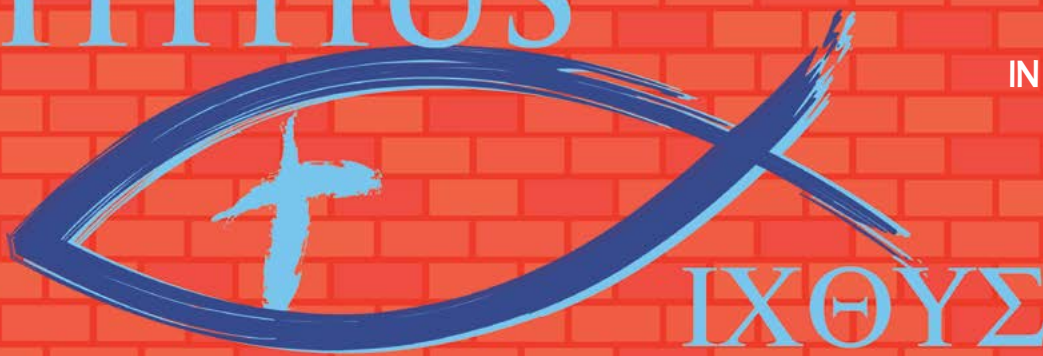


ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2022

8TH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

Year C



Thank you, Jesus, for filling my heart with love today.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The Lord became my protector.
He brought me out to a place of freedom;
he saved me because he delighted in me.

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

COLLECT

Grant us, O Lord, we pray,
that the course of our world
may be directed by your peaceful rule
and that your Church may rejoice,
untroubled in her devotion...

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



FIRST READING ECCLESIASTICUS 27:4-7

Pottery is tested when it is fired in the kiln. Some clay breaks in the intense heat and comes out in pieces. Our reading today says that people are tested by conversation. What someone says tells us what they are like. Sieves separate the rubbish from what is worth keeping. In the same way, what we say separates the good from the bad, with our faults being shown up in what we say. Our words say a lot about what we are like.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. What we say, and the words we use, matter.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 91

It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.

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



SECOND READING 1 CORINTHIANS 15:54-58

While it is true that our physical bodies will die, Paul's letter today has some very good news. We can all live forever! Because Jesus died and rose again, we don't ever need to be afraid of dying. Jesus has made it possible for us all to live forever. Death is not the end for us anymore. Jesus' love is stronger than anything bad. We all have the hope of the resurrection and know that with God on our side anything is possible.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. Jesus' resurrection has given us life forever!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
You will shine in the world like bright stars
because you are offering it the word of life.
Alleluia!



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



DO YOU KNOW?

Wednesday 2 March is Ash Wednesday. Last year's palm leaves will be burnt and the ashes put on our foreheads in the sign of a cross. As we start Lent, we will think about how we can grow to be more like Jesus. How will we be more loving, giving and prayerful?



THINK

Let's fill our hearts with love and goodness, then we can share goodness and kindness with everyone else. If we store up nastiness and bitterness, we will only be able to be mean to other people. God will help us to let go of the hurt which can make it hard to love others.



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

If you've ever played trust games, you will know that if one person is blindfolded someone else needs to guide them around the room. If both people are blindfolded disasters can happen! Jesus says that we all need to listen to help from others. We can all see what's wrong with

other people, but unless we sort ourselves out we can't help anyone else. It's a bit like trying to take a splinter out of someone else's eye when we have a great piece of wood in our own eye. If we want to change the world, we need to start with ourselves.

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

"Love one another, just as I have loved you."

Thank you, Jesus, for loving me so much. Please help me to love myself too, so that I can share your love with others. Amen.



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I would like to pray for anyone who is unable to find work. Help them to know that they matter more than what they do and help them to find the resources they need. 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 mean to someone and then think about all the times you were kind and loving.

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

Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age, says the Lord.

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 filling my heart with love. Help me to share your love with everyone I meet. 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.

