

ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 23 JANUARY 2022

3RD SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

Year C



Be still for a moment and get ready to really listen to God's word today.



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 NEHEMIAH 8:2-6. 8-10

All the Jewish people are gathered together; men women and children who are old enough to understand. Then Ezra the priest brings out the Torah, the holiest books of the Jewish Bible. He stands on a platform, so that he is higher than everyone else and they can see and hear him. As Ezra opens the book of the Torah everyone stands and worships God. Ezra reads God's word for hours. Everyone listens and then celebrates – God's word brings them great joy!



LOOK at the reader
and LISTEN.
Everyone old enough
to understand listens
to God's word in the
Torah.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 18

Your words are spirit, Lord,
and they are life.



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



SECOND READING 1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-30

It's quite obvious really. A foot is not the same as a hand and an ear is not an eye, but we need them all for a fully functioning body. One is not better than the other, each different part is important. St Paul uses this analogy to explain that each one of us is invaluable too. We are all completely different, but we each have a vital job to do. When we work together for God we can do great things.



LOOK at the reader
and LISTEN.
We are all one
body, each of us is
important and we are
all doing God's work.

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?

"Torah" means "the Law".
The Torah was given to the Jewish people by God and is the name given to the five holiest books of the Jewish bible. As Christians, we share the Torah with the Jewish people and it makes up the first part of what we call the Old Testament.



THINK

Today is Sunday of the Word of God. We've heard how Ezra proclaims God's word in the Torah and Jesus proclaims God's word from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. How do we proclaim God's word today? Notice how we show our respect and draw attention to God's word in the Bible. Listen carefully to what God is saying to you today in the words of scripture.



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

Luke wants to make sure that we hear a reliable account of what Jesus said and did. He wants us to know that right from the start Jesus is doing something remarkable. As he travels throughout Galilee, Jesus' preaching and teaching impresses everyone. Now he has arrived back in his hometown. Going into

the synagogue as usual, Jesus is handed the scroll. Jesus proclaims God's promise in Isaiah: the Messiah will bring freedom and good news for everyone, especially those who are suffering. Everyone looks at Jesus expectantly. Then Jesus tells them, this promise is being fulfilled by him - today!

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

"Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life."

Help me, Lord, to listen to your words with my heart. Open my ears and my mind and help me to hear what you are saying to me today. Amen.



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I am thinking about anyone who is in slavery of any sort today. Help us all to bring lasting freedom to those in 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 might have been lacking in confidence and then think of a time when you knew you were doing a good job well.

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.

We listen to the prayer of praise and thanks to God.

What can you give special thanks for today?



THE LORD'S PRAYER

As the priest extends his hands, we say the prayer that Jesus taught us.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Look toward the Lord and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.

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 sharing the good news of your love with me. Help me to share your love with everyone I meet, especially anyone who is suffering in any way. 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.

