

# ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 4 OCTOBER 2020

27TH SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME

Year A



Smile a welcome to everyone in church, especially people you've not seen before.



## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established,  
and there is none that can resist your will.  
For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth,  
and all that is held within the circle of heaven;  
you are the Lord of all.

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

## COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,  
who in the abundance of your kindness  
surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you,  
pour out your mercy upon us  
to pardon what conscience dreads  
and to give what prayer does not dare to ask...

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



## FIRST READING ISAIAH 5:1-7

God has planted a vineyard and put the people on the land to look after it but the grapes are not sweet and able to be used for wine. Through the prophet Isaiah's allegory God is asking what more could have

been done. Why have the people not been able to do as God had expected and grow a fruitful harvest? We have been given so much from God, and yet we do not respond positively and work hard for God.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN.

God has planted a vineyard but the tenants have not grown a good harvest.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 79

The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

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



## SECOND READING PHILIPPIANS 4:6-9

Life with God doesn't mean everything is going to perfect. But it does mean that whatever happens we can trust that God will be with us and will help us to cope. Paul's life wasn't easy, but here

he is telling the people of Philippi what he knows to be true; we don't need to worry because God is with us. Living as God asks will bring us peace and Jesus will help us, no matter what.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN.

There is no need to worry, God is with us.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
I call you friends, says the Lord,  
because I have made known to you  
everything I have learnt from my Father.  
Alleluia!

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



## DO YOU KNOW?

The priest will be wearing **green** today because it is **Ordinary Time** in the Church's year. The colours of the priest's vestments change with each feast or season. Green is the **colour of growth, new life and hope**, like in nature. It remind us how much Jesus loves us and how **love will grow** when we share it.



## THINK

Jesus tells lots of stories. What are your **favourite stories**? Is there one story which is special to you? Think about **why** you like it, and **what you can learn** about yourself from it. Perhaps **God is speaking to you** through your favourite story?



## GOSPEL MATTHEW 21:33-43

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

Listen to this story and see what you think: there was a landowner who planted a vineyard, prepared everything and then put tenants onto the land to work for him while he went travelling. When the time was right, the landowner sent his servants to collect the harvest. However, the

tenants beat up the servants, even killing one of them. They did the same thing to the next servants. Finally the landowner sent his son, thinking they would be sure to respect him. Sadly, he suffered the same fate. If we are the tenants in the story, how could we put it right?

### 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?



## PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I am thinking about workers who are not treated fairly. Help us to think about who grew our food and made our clothes so that we make good choices. 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 of a sad time this week and then think of the happiest time you spent this week.

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

The Lord is good to those who hope in him, to the soul that seeks 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

Thank you, Jesus, for sacrificing yourself to give me the bread of life. Help me to work for the harvest. Amen.



PRAY

"I chose you...to go out and bear fruit."

Draw a big bunch of grapes. In each grape, draw yourself doing something kind and loving this week. As you draw, ask God to help you to complete this loving action.



DO

Can you try to eat some more fruit every day this week?



# ΙΧΘΥΣ

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:

- # (Jesus)
- } (Christos)
- o (Theou/God's)
- { (Uios/Son)
- ψ (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.

