

ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 11 OCTOBER 2020

28TH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

Year A



Say a big "thank you" to God for inviting you here today!



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?
But with you is found forgiveness,
O God of Israel.

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

COLLECT

May your grace, O Lord, we pray,
at all times go before us and follow after
and make us always determined
to carry out good works...

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



FIRST READING ISAIAH 25:6-10

Isaiah paints such a beautiful picture. God is going to provide a wonderful feast. Not only that, no one will be sad anymore and no one will feel any shame or embarrassment. God will wipe away everyone's

tears and everyone will be happy. For people at the time, and for us, this picture of peace and joy might seem too good to be true. But we know it will happen, because this is God's promise – and God keeps promises.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. God will provide everything we could ever dream of.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 22

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell
for ever and ever.

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



SECOND READING PHILIPPIANS 4:12-14, 19-20

Paul has had to face real hardship and suffering. Although he knows what it is like to have more than enough to eat, he has also experienced real hunger and been in jail. Paul has been able to cope with everything

that has happened to him because he knows that God is with him. Nothing else matters. While he is grateful to the people who have helped him, Paul knows that it is God who has given him what he needs.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. Paul can handle any hardship or difficulty because God is with him.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
The Word was made flesh and lived among us;
to all who did accept him
he gave power to become children of God.
Alleluia!

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



DO YOU KNOW?

In England and Wales this week Christians are thinking especially about **all those affected by prisons**: prisoners and their families, victims of crime and their communities, those working in the criminal justice system and the people who are involved in caring for those affected by crime.



THINK

The invited wedding guests were too busy to come to the feast. Are we too busy to spend time with God? If, like Paul, we take time to remember that **God is with us** in everything we do, perhaps we will be able to really **enjoy our lives** without being anxious or worried.



GOSPEL MATTHEW 22:1-14

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

In explaining what the kingdom of heaven is like, Jesus tells a story. God can be compared to a king who wants to celebrate his son's wedding with a wonderful feast. The invited guests don't arrive, so the king sends his servants to tell them that everything is ready. The guests weren't

interested and continued with their own business. Some even mistreated the messengers. So the king sent his servants to town to invite everyone they could find to come to the feast, good and bad alike. Soon the wedding hall was full of guests enjoying the party and the king's feast!

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

Lord, you offer freedom to all people. Bless those who are in prison, their families and prison staff. Heal anyone who has been hurt because of crime. Help us all to forgive others. Amen.



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I would like to pray for everyone affected by prisons. Please bless them, so that they know your healing love. 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 something you did this week that you regret and then think about something you did that you're really proud of. 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 rich suffer want and go hungry, but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.

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 inviting me to your feast. Help me to take the time to party with you whenever I can! Amen.



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.

