

# ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 25 OCTOBER 2020

30TH SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME

Year A



As you make the sign of the cross, think about how much you love God with all your mind and heart.



## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;  
turn to the Lord and his strength;  
constantly seek his face.



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

## COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,  
increase our faith, hope and charity,  
and make us love what you command,  
so that we may merit what you promise...



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



## FIRST READING EXODUS 22:20-26

God's covenant with Moses and the people of Israel is a loving relationship. All loving relationships need some help, and God gives the people guidance by setting out rules for living. It is the weakest members of the group

who need the most care and kindness. If we are to walk in God's ways we must take care of the poorest members of society. God's people are strong because they look after each other, taking care of each other's practical needs.



LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. God gives the people practical rules for living well with each other and sharing God's love.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 17

I love you, Lord, my strength.



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



## SECOND READING 1 THESSALONIANS 1:5-10

The people of Thessalonica became Christians after seeing the example of Paul and his companions. It was not easy for them, but their joy in following Jesus has brought other people to faith. These first Christians have themselves become

examples for others to follow. This is how each of us can be missionaries. Our happiness will show others how good God is. Even if people make it difficult for us, we can be like the Thessalonians and keep on believing.



LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. The Christians in Thessalonica are examples of faith to everyone in the region.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Open our heart, O Lord,  
to accept the words of your Son.  
Alleluia!



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



## DO YOU KNOW?

Wednesday 28 October is the feast of **Ss Simon and Jude, Apostles**. We know very little about these saints, but both are believed to have travelled, spreading the Good News, and both are thought to have died for their faith in Jesus.



## THINK

A long time ago a band called the Beatles sang a song called "All you need is love". Perhaps they had been talking to Jesus, because that's what he says in today's Gospel! If we can really put our **love for God** and our **love for other people into practice** we will be doing **everything Jesus asks**.





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

Still plotting against him, the religious leaders ask Jesus, "Which is the greatest commandment?". They want to catch Jesus out and show that he is not really a man of God. Their faith is completely rooted in the special agreement, or covenant, God has made with the people. God has promised

he will look after them and they will keep God's laws. Each of God's laws is very important. Jesus cannot say that one is more important than another. Again, Jesus is clever and says that love is the answer. If we love God and other people we will be keeping all of the commandments.

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

"I love you, Lord, my strength."

Thank God for all the people who love you and who you love. Ask God to help you to love the people you don't like or find it hard to get on with.



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I would like to pray for anyone who has no one to love them. Help us to welcome everyone into our communities so that no one feels alone. 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 lonely this week and then think of someone who loves you.

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

We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.

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 loving me so much and for showing me what real love is. Help me to share your love with other people this week as I try to put their needs before my own. 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:

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



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Ichthus. Edited by Rachel Thompson. Published by Redemptorist Publications Wolf's Lane, Chawton, Hampshire GU34 3HQ. Copyright © Redemptorist Publications. A registered charity limited by guarantee. Registered in England 03261721. www.rpbooks.co.uk. Excerpts from the English translation of The Roman Missal © 2010, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. Concordat cum originali Ann Blackett. Imprimatur + Peter Doyle, Bishop of Northampton 13 July 2018. Permission granted for distribution in the dioceses of Scotland.

FSF logo



We take Jesus with us to carry on the work that he did on earth, until we meet again next Sunday.

Go in peace.

