

ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2021

25TH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

Year B



Jesus, I trust you and I love you.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress,
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

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

COLLECT

O God, who founded all the commands of your sacred Law upon love of you and of our neighbour, grant that, by keeping your precepts, we may merit to attain eternal life...

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



FIRST READING WISDOM 2:12. 17-20

Good people annoy those who don't do what is right. These "bad" people may have been brought up well and don't want to be reminded that they are letting their families down. They may behave even worse, to avoid having to face up to their own wrongdoing. Here, bad people are making plans to test a good man. They plot to hurt him and see if he will still do what is right. God will be with the good man.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. Bad people plot to test a good man's faith.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 53

The Lord upholds my life.

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



SECOND READING JAMES 3:16 - 4:3

Wars and battles are caused by the jealousies and ambition in human beings. We all have the tendency to fight for what we want and to be selfish. God's wisdom, however, brings peace and harmony into the world. When we pray, we allow God's peace to come into the world. The Holy Spirit will give us the strength to put other people first and to be selfless. God will help us all to be peacemakers, sowing the seeds of love and goodness.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. Peacemakers sow the seeds of holiness.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the light of the world, says the Lord,
anyone who follows me
will have the light of life.
Alleluia!

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



DO YOU KNOW?

Today in England and Wales the Church is celebrating **Home Mission Day**. We think about how can **share the Good News** in our own neighbourhood, our schools and country. How can we **tell people about God's love** today by **what we say** and by **what we do**?



THINK

Jesus asks us to **welcome others**. When we make someone welcome, we are making **God welcome**. How will we make people welcome in our homes and school? Find out how we can make **refugees and immigrants** welcome in our country.



GOSPEL MARK 9:30-37

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

Ironically, as Jesus is trying to share information about his mission of love with his friends, they are fighting among themselves. The disciples do not yet understand just how different Jesus' leadership is. Jesus is not going to lead them in the way they expect. He is trying to tell

them that he will be put to death and then rise again, but the disciples are caught up with arguments about who is more important. Jesus hugs a little child as he explains that real greatness is found in serving the least important people. In loving others, we will find life.

◀ **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

Think about the times when you have been irritated by people who are just too good. Ask yourself why you are annoyed. Ask Jesus to help you to have patience and to be kind and loving.



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, please help us to spread your message of love in our parish and local communities. Help us to sow the seeds of peace by what we say and do. 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 about a time this week when you were selfish and then think about another time when you put other people first and showed your love and care.

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

I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.

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. Thank you for showing me that pain and hardship will lead to new life and joy. 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:

- 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.

