

# ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2021

32ND SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME

Year B



Thank you, Lord, for all the good things in my life!



## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Let my prayer come into your presence.  
Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

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

## COLLECT

Almighty and merciful God,  
graciously keep from us all adversity,  
so that, unhindered in mind and body alike,  
we may pursue in freedom of heart  
the things that are yours...

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



## FIRST READING 1 KINGS 17:10-16

What a dreadful situation this poor widow is in. She is gathering wood for the fire to cook the last meal she can provide for herself and her son. They have nothing left and she sees no future for them. Yet, when the

prophet Elijah asks her for food, she shares what she has. Elijah knows that God will look after them, even though there seems no way out. All they need to do is trust in God – and everyone has all they need!

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. A generous widow is rewarded.

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

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 145

My soul, give praise to the Lord.  
Or Alleluia!



## SECOND READING HEBREWS 9:24-28

Jesus gave his life so that we all know that we are loved by God. Jesus showed us that real love will involve sacrifice. Although one of us, Jesus is not like other high priests who had to offer sacrifices every year on

behalf of the people. Jesus made one huge sacrifice, when he gave up his life. Now no one needs to worry about any other sacrifices. Everyone can enjoy life with God. All we need to do is to trust Jesus.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. Jesus' death and resurrection brings hope to us all.



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

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
How happy are the poor in spirit;  
theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Alleluia!



## DO YOU KNOW?

A **widow** is someone whose **husband has died**. Although all widows need support, in Jesus' time life was even harder for widows than today. Without a husband to go to work, widows usually had very little money to feed their families. We learn from the two widows in today's readings that **even when life is hard, we can all trust in God**.



## THINK

We might feel small and unimportant, but we can all be **generous**. Each of us can **give our time and love** to other people. Even if no one else notices, Jesus will!



## GOSPEL MARK 12:38-44

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

Even in Jesus' time people were interested in wearing fashionable clothes and looking important. Just like today, there were those who treated other people badly, while making a show of appearing to be good. Jesus contrasts their behaviour with a poor widow going to the Temple. She gives

everything she has to God, trusting that God will look after her. The poor widow does not pretend to be anything she is not. She is nothing like the rich men who are only concerned with image. External success is not important – a loving and generous heart is what matters.

#### STAND to LISTEN

to the priest or deacon as he prepares to read the Gospel.

Before he reads the Gospel, what does the priest do to his forehead, his lips and his heart? Can you copy him?

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.

Watch as the gifts are made ready and the priest washes his hands and prepares for the Eucharistic Prayer.

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

You are invited to sing a Communion song or say this verse, which has been especially chosen for today's celebration.



### PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I would like to pray for anyone who is struggling to feed their family. Help us all to be generous as we contribute to food banks and work to get rid of poverty. Lord, hear my prayer.



### OFFERTORY PROCESSION

As we take our gifts of bread, wine and money to the altar, think about any sad times this week and then think about a time when you were hopeful and happy.

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.

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

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose, near restful waters he leads me.



### MY PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Thank you, Jesus, for loving me. Help me to put all my trust in you and to love other people generously. Amen.



### PRAY

Mother Teresa said, "not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love." Help me, Lord, to do small things with love today. Amen.



### DO

Find out what you can do to help your local food bank, or another organisation helping people who are hungry.



### 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.



# ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2021

33RD SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME

Year B



Ask Jesus to help you listen carefully to his words today.



## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

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

## COLLECT

Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God, the constant gladness of being devoted to you, for it is full and lasting happiness to serve with constancy the author of all that is good...

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



## FIRST READING DANIEL 12:1-3

Belief in God doesn't mean an easy life. The prophet Daniel knows that there will be hard times ahead but he also gives us hope that everything will work out well in the end. God has sent the angel Michael to help and guard us. Good people, who have tried to do what is right will "shine brightly". God is fair and just. God will make sure that the people who have lived well, trying to follow God's ways, will be rewarded.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. The prophet Daniel tells how God will save us all.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 15

Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.

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



## SECOND READING HEBREWS 10:11-14, 18

We can try and try again to put everything right with God, but without Jesus it just can't be done. People used to try making sacrifices in the hope that God would forgive their sins. Although it is important that we do try to put things right with God, this letter is reminding us that Jesus has sorted everything out for us. All we need to do is to trust Jesus and let him be in charge of our lives.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. By sacrificing himself Jesus has put everything right for us with God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Stay awake, praying at all times for the strength to stand with confidence before the Son of Man.  
Alleluia!

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



## DO YOU KNOW?

Pope Francis asks us all to think about and pray for anyone in the world who is poor. Today is set aside as World Day of the Poor. Pope Francis knows that if we say we love God, we must give practical help and support to all the people in God's family, wherever they are.



## THINK

Jesus calls himself the "Son of Man" in the Gospel. This title has different meanings, but here it links to the first reading from Daniel. The son of man will bring God's glory at the end of time by bringing about God's kingdom. We can all help to make God's kingdom real by living as God asks, loving others and treating people fairly.



## GOSPEL MARK 13:24-32

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

No matter how difficult life gets, God will be with us. Jesus comforts us today with the reminder that his words will never pass away. He warns us to be ready for his coming, not because he wants us to be frightened, but because he wants us to

be confident that he loves us and is coming to be with us. The more we are alert and watching out for Jesus, the more aware we will be of his love in our lives. The buds on a fig tree tell us that summer is on the way and, just as certainly, Jesus is near.

### 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

“...but my words will not pass away.”

Take a moment to be quiet and still. Close your eyes and enjoy sitting with Jesus. Know that Jesus is always with you, loving you. Listen to him.



### PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I am thinking about all the people in the world who are poor, people in my town and those in other countries. Help me to share my good fortune. 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 a time this week when you were worried and then think about all the times you were confident and happy.

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

To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

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

Loving Lord, thank you for always being with me. I know that you will never leave me, no matter what. Thank you. 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)
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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.

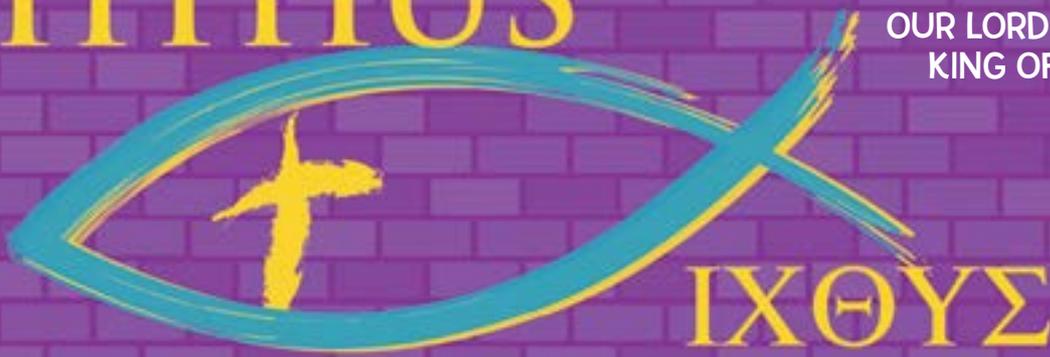


# ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 21 NOVEMBER 2021

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST,  
KING OF THE UNIVERSE

Year B



Jesus, you are king of the universe and king of my heart.



## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

How worthy is the Lamb who was slain,  
to receive power and divinity,  
and wisdom and strength and honour.  
To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

## COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,  
whose will is to restore all things  
in your beloved Son, the King of the universe,  
grant, we pray,  
that the whole creation, set free from slavery,  
may render your majesty service  
and ceaselessly proclaim your praise...

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

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



## DO YOU KNOW?

Our first and second readings are from **apocalyptic books**. The word "apocalypse" comes from a Greek word which means an "uncovering" or a "revelation". In fact, the **book of the Apocalypse** is also known as the **book of Revelation**. Both Daniel and Apocalypse were written for people who were **suffering for their faith**. They are **full of hope**, looking forward to the time when **God will overcome** all suffering.



## FIRST READING DANIEL 7:13-14

The Jewish people were living in difficult and dangerous times. King Antiochus Epiphanes had captured Jerusalem was forcing the people to give up their faith and worship other gods. The prophet Daniel uses a symbolic

vision to explain that God will overcome all the earthly problems that they face. The son of man will come on the clouds of heaven. God is a king like no other. When God comes in power to rule on earth, his reign will never end.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. The prophet Daniel gives a message of hope to the suffering people of God.

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

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 92

The Lord is King, with majesty enrobed.



## SECOND READING APOCALYPSE 1:5-8

As the Jews were suffering a time of persecution in the first reading, it is the Christians who are suffering when this book is written. It begins with a hymn of praise to Jesus, king of all kings who loves each

one of us. Jesus is the son of man who Daniel prophesied coming on the clouds of heaven in our first reading. For Christians, it is Jesus who is our hope and king, who makes God's power real in the world.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. By sacrificing himself Jesus has put everything right for us with God.



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

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David!  
Alleluia!



## THINK

If we say Jesus is our king, we are saying that we follow Jesus' rules. What do you think are Jesus' rules? If we all make Jesus our king and live as he asks, together we could make the world a much better place.



## GOSPEL JOHN 18:33-37

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

Jesus is on trial for his life. He has been brought to Pilate, the Roman governor who has the authority to sentence Jesus to death. Yet Jesus is shown as being confident and the one who is really in charge. Jesus has just the right words to say. He explains that he could

have asked his followers to fight for him, like any other king might have done. But Jesus is not like any other king. Jesus' kingdom is not like any other kingdom. Jesus was born for this, the time when he shows that love is the power that will overcome all evil.

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

"It is you who say it." Take a moment to sit quietly with Jesus. Ask Jesus to help you to really know and understand him. Ask him to be king of your heart. Amen.



### PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I am thinking about all the world leaders who have the power to rule. Give them wisdom and compassion as they make their decisions. 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 unhappy and then think about all the times you were happy and full of joy. 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.

You are invited to sing a Communion song or say this verse, which has been especially chosen for today's celebration.

### COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord sits as King for ever.  
The Lord will bless his people with peace.



### MY PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Loving Lord, king of my heart, thank you for loving me. Help me to trust in you and your rules for my life. 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)



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

Go in peace.



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# ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 28 NOVEMBER 2021

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Year C



Can you see any signs in church that we are now in the season of Advent?



## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.  
In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.  
Nor let my enemies exult over me;  
and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

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

## COLLECT

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God,  
the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ  
with righteous deeds at his coming,  
so that, gathered at his right hand,  
they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom...

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



## FIRST READING JEREMIAH 33:14-16

As the prophet Jeremiah writes this passage, he is in jail. In fact, things are looking pretty bad for the whole of Israel; neighbouring armies are invading the country. Yet Jeremiah has absolute confidence in God's promise. There will be a

good and positive future for God's people. A saviour from the family of King David will come and rescue Israel. This messiah will bring everyone back to God's ways of honesty and justice. Today we know that Jesus is God's promise come true!

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. The prophet Jeremiah gives a vision of hope to the people of Israel.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 24

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

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



## SECOND READING 1 THESSALONIANS 3:12-4:2

Paul supports the Christian communities around the world with his letters. Here he is giving the best help and advice he can to the people in Thessalonica as they try to follow Jesus. In the first place, Paul prays

for his friends. Then, he reminds them how to live as Jesus taught us. The same advice will help us too: it is by only by loving God and each other that we will live the kind of life we were meant to live.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. Love is the way that we will follow Jesus and live the life we are called to.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Let us see, O Lord, your mercy  
and give us your saving help.  
Alleluia!

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



## DO YOU KNOW?

Today is the **start of the new year!** Advent is the **beginning of the Church's year.** Advent is an exciting time of **preparation and waiting** as we get ready to celebrate Christmas, when **love** comes into the world bringing **light in the darkness.**



## THINK

**Friday 3 December** is when people in England and Wales celebrate **Migrants' Day.** We pray especially for people who have left their homeland and think about how we can offer them **practical help and support.** Perhaps you already offer a special welcome to people in your own parish because they have moved here from another country.



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

Jesus wants his friends to have hope and be confident. He knows that the world can be a frightening place at times. Disasters will happen and things that we can't influence will make us anxious. But we can trust that God has everything under

control. We can stand tall and hold our heads high, because we know that God is with us. Jesus wants us to make sure we keep on praying. Prayer is our link to the love that God has for us and the strength we will need. If we are alert, we will see God is with us always.

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

"Stay awake, praying at all times."

Jesus, I want to know you better. Help me to make space and time for you. Help me to find a moment of quiet with you every day. Amen.



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, please bless all the people who are overwhelmed by anxiety. Help them to find confidence and strength in your love and the care of the people around them. 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 a time this week when you were anxious and then think about all the times you were confident and full of hope. 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 will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

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. Knowing you love me so much gives me the confidence to stand tall and hold my head high. Amen.



IXΘΥΣ

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