

ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 18 JULY 2021

16TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

Year B



Take a moment to be still - so that you are ready to hear the voice of our shepherd.



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

See, I have God for my help.
The Lord sustains my soul.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart,
and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.

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

COLLECT

Show favour, O Lord, to your servants and mercifully increase the gifts of your grace, that, made fervent in hope, faith and charity, they may be ever watchful in keeping your commands...

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



FIRST READING JEREMIAH 23:1-6

God knows that all is not well with the people of Israel. They are lost and have lost their way. So, God is taking charge. God is going to gather the scattered people back together and make sure that, just as

a shepherd takes care of the sheep, there will be leaders who will look after them. God promises to send one special shepherd who will be wise and honest. No one will be afraid anymore. No one will be lost.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. God will provide shepherds to look after and take care of the people.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 22

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

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



SECOND READING EPHESIANS 2:13-18

Jesus brings people together. He makes it possible for people to put their arguments to one side and make friends. In Ephesus there has been a disagreement between two groups of people who had different beliefs. Paul

is reminding them that Jesus is the way they will be united. If we remember that it is our faith in a loving God that is important, we will remember that our differences do not matter. Jesus brings us the good news of peace.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. Jesus is the peace between us.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice, says the Lord,
I know them and they follow me.
Alleluia!

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



DO YOU KNOW?

On **Thursday 22 July** we celebrate the feast of **St Mary Magdalene**. At a time when women were not allowed to be witnesses in a court of law, **Jesus chose Mary Magdalene to be the first witness to his resurrection**. She was a great friend of Jesus who stayed with him to the end.



THINK

Jesus knows that **we need to look after ourselves** if we are going to be able to look after other people. Jesus' friends are tired and hungry, so he takes them away to rest. But, just like Jesus and the apostles, we must also **be ready to help** when we can. Let's **keep our eyes and hearts open** so that we **notice anyone in need**.



GOSPEL MARK 6:30-34

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

The apostles have been really busy spreading the good news. They haven't even had time to eat. Jesus suggests they go somewhere quiet to find some peace. So they find a boat and go away to be by themselves. The crowds see Jesus and the disciples leave and, guessing where

they are heading, hurry around the lake so that they get there first. Rather than being frustrated or cross, Jesus is moved by these people. He knows that they are lost and need help. They are like sheep without a shepherd. Jesus, the good shepherd, settles down to teach the crowds.

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?

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.

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 has fallen out with a friend or member of their family. Give them understanding so that they might sort out their differences and find peace. Lord, hear my prayer.



OFFERTORY PROCESSION

As we take our gifts of bread, wine and money to the altar, think about any time this week when you felt anxious or agitated and then think about a time when you felt calm and peaceful.

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.

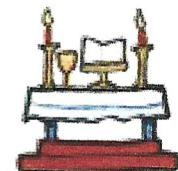
COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Behold, I stand at the door and knock, says the Lord. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door to me, I will enter his house and dine with him, and he with me.



MY PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Loving Lord, thank you for the peace that your love brings. Help me to share your peace this week by being loving and understanding. Amen.



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

Go in peace.



PRAY

"The Lord is my shepherd."

Use your imagination in your prayer. Imagine you are lost and alone. Listen to God calling your name. Know that you are loved and safe.



DO

Find out about "ecumenism"; how different Christian groups work together to develop closer relationships eg. the organisation Churches Together.



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)

redemptorist
publications

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.

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