

ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2020

33RD SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

Year A



Thank God for all your gifts and talents!



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 PROVERBS 31:10-13. 19-20. 30-31

Although we might think this description of a good wife is old fashioned, there is good advice here. It is good for anyone to work hard, especially if they are providing for their family. Everyone should give to people who are poor or needing help in anyway. It is good to put other people first, and to try not to hurt anyone. Outward beauty is not important, and our actions say a lot about us. No one is perfect, but we can all try!

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. A perfect wife is hard to find!

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 127

O blessed are those who fear the Lord.

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



SECOND READING 1 THESSALONIANS 5:1-6

Jesus hadn't returned as the first Christians expected. Paul is reassuring the people of Thessalonica in this letter that they mustn't worry. God has everything under control. Jesus will come at the right time, and we don't need to know when that will be. As Christians, we don't need to worry because we are children of the light. If we are following Jesus and living as he asks, we will be ready to welcome Jesus whenever he returns.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN. Live in the light, doing as Jesus asks.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Even if you have to die, says the Lord, keep faithful, and I will give you the crown of life.
Alleluia!

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



DO YOU KNOW?

Today is **World Day of the Poor**. Pope Francis asks us to think how we can **stand up for people** who are living in poverty. Perhaps we can learn something from people who do not have all the things we do, but who still **know and love God**.



THINK

In Jesus' time a **"talent"** was a **type of currency**, or money. Jesus' story says that if **we can be trusted** to look after unimportant things like money, we can be trusted with things that really matter. Today we call our **skills and abilities** "talents". The more we use our gifts and talents, the better they will be.



GOSPEL MATTHEW 25:14-30

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

Preparing to go travelling, a man asks his servants to look after his things while he is gone. He trusts the first with five talents, the second gets two talents while the third receives three. The first two men use their talents and double their money. The third is lazy and hides his money

in the ground. When he returns, the master is delighted with the first two. In showing that they can be trusted with small things the first two servants show they can be trusted with more important things. They are rewarded with an invitation to enjoy their master's happiness.

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

What are your gifts and talents - music, sport, reading, listening, art, helping, or something else? When you use your gifts and talents today, make it in to a prayer by giving your time and effort to God.



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I would like to pray for all the people who are struggling to feed their families. Help us all to work to stop poverty and to share what we have with people in need. 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 a bit lazy this week and then think of a time when you worked hard to do something.

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

Thank you, Jesus, for trusting me with your love. Help me to treasure this gift of love and to help it to grow by sharing it with others this week. 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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FSC 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.

