

# ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 18 APRIL 2021

3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Year B



Spend a moment getting ready to listen to Jesus speaking to you today in Mass.



## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;  
O sing to the glory of his name.  
O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

## COLLECT

May your people exult for ever, O God,  
in renewed youthfulness of spirit,  
so that, rejoicing now in the restored glory of our adoption,  
we may look forward in confident hope  
to the rejoicing of the day of resurrection...



## FIRST READING ACTS 3:13-15. 17-19

God has been working through history to bring life and hope to us all. Jesus and his resurrection is the fulfilment of everything God has promised. Even though Jesus, the prince of life, was crucified, God is in

charge. The scriptures say that the Messiah would have to suffer. Nothing has happened that is outside of God's love and care for us. We can all enjoy life with God. All we have to do is to turn to Jesus and follow him.

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.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN.

Jesus is the fulfilment of all God's promises of life.

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

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN.

Jesus helps us keep God's commandments and will speak up for us.



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

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 4

Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.  
Or Alleluia!



## SECOND READING 1 JOHN 2:1-5

Jesus is on our side. We don't need to worry about being judged, Jesus will speak up for us. We will grow in our relationship with God by keeping God's commandments. It makes no sense to say

we love God and then to ignore what God tells us. If we try to live as God asks, however, our love of God will grow and we will become more loving people. Jesus is going to be with us, helping us every step of the way.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Lord Jesus, explain the scriptures to us.  
Make our hearts burn within us as you talk to us.  
Alleluia!



## DO YOU KNOW?

Friday 23 April is the feast day of **St George**. He was born in Turkey and was a soldier. The legend about his battle with a dragon tells us that St George is celebrated for **fighting against evil**. As well as being a Christian saint, St George is remembered in Islam as a prophet.



## THINK

"**Scripture**" is just another word for "**holy writings**". As Christians we share some of our scriptures in the Bible with the Jewish people. The most important Jewish scriptures are the **Torah**, the **first five books of our Old Testament**.



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

The disciples are not sure what is going on. Some of the disciples share a story about meeting the risen Jesus. They are still discussing this when Jesus himself comes and stands among them, bringing his peace. Even with Jesus there in front of them, the disciples don't understand and think Jesus must be

a ghost. Jesus helps them by showing them his wounds and explaining how the scriptures foretell his death and resurrection. He asks them for some food and proves he is not a ghost by eating grilled fish with them. The disciples are delighted it really is Jesus, alive again!

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?



PRAY

"YES, it is I indeed."

Use your imagination to pray. Imagine you are with the disciples. See Jesus appear before you. Hear him say the words from the Gospel. Let Jesus show you that he is with you.



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, please bless anyone who is fighting against injustice and unfairness. Give them your strength and courage as they stand up for what is right. 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 scared and think about a joyful time when you felt really 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

The disciples recognised the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

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 showing yourself to me in the breaking of bread. Thank you for always being with me. 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)



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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.

