

# ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 31 OCTOBER 2021

ALL SAINTS  
(England & Wales)

Year B



Remember by name anyone from your family or parish who is in heaven.



## ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Let us all rejoice in the Lord,  
as we celebrate the feast day in honour of all the Saints,  
at whose festival the Angels rejoice  
and praise the Son of God.

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

## COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,  
by whose gift we venerate in one celebration  
the merits of all the Saints,  
bestow on us, we pray,  
through the prayers of so many intercessors,  
an abundance of the reconciliation with you  
for which we earnestly long...

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



## FIRST READING APOCALYPSE 7:2-4, 9-14

No one knows what  
heaven is like, but this  
personal vision tells us  
a little with symbolic  
imagery. John sees a  
royal court with the Lamb,  
Jesus, on the throne. There  
are too many people  
to count, waving palms,  
praising God. Everyone is

wearing white, showing  
they are baptised  
Christians from every  
race and nation who are  
now happy, enjoying  
being close to God. What  
hope this joyful vision  
would have given to the  
suffering Christians at the  
time, and to us too!

LOOK at the reader  
and LISTEN.  
Heaven is full of  
people from every  
nation, race, tribe and  
language.

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 23

Such are the men who seek your face, O Lord.

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



## SECOND READING 1 JOHN 3:1-3

God loves each one of us  
all very, very much. We  
are all God's children. We  
don't need to do anything  
to deserve God's love.  
God loves us just as we  
are. Although we don't  
know what will happen

in the future, we do know  
that God is going to keep  
on loving us no matter  
what. The more we try to  
be like Jesus, the more  
we will understand God's  
love. God's love will bring  
us real happiness and joy!

LOOK at the reader  
and LISTEN.  
God really loves each  
one of us.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened,  
and I will give you rest, says the Lord.  
Alleluia!

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



## DO YOU KNOW?

In the **apostles' creed**  
when we talk about "**the  
communion of saints**" we  
are saying that we believe  
we are connected to **all  
God's family, on earth and  
in heaven.** We are united  
with everyone who has  
loved God and followed  
Jesus in all times and all  
places.



## THINK

There are **lots of people  
in heaven,** so many  
that we don't know all  
their names. **Today** we  
are celebrating them  
all in the feast of **All  
Saints.** During Mass, let's  
remember by name the  
**holy people** we know who  
have **died and gone to  
heaven** before us.



## GOSPEL MATTHEW 5:1-12

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

Going up a mountain, Jesus tells his friends who will be truly happy. How surprised they must all be when they hear what he says! People who are poor in spirit, who are not arrogant and people who are gentle or grieving are happy. People who work to make the world a

fairer place and to make peace are happy. Those who forgive others and who suffer for what is right are happy. Even people who are abused because of their faith are happy. Happiness is not just about fun and laughter; real and lasting happiness comes from trusting in God's love.

### 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

**"Come to me... and I will give you rest"**

Take a moment to be still. Breathe gently and close your eyes if you can. Relax your muscles and enjoy sitting quietly with Jesus. Ask Jesus to help you to be happy.



## PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I am thinking about \_\_\_\_\_ who has died and is with you in heaven. Help and comfort everyone who misses 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 times when you argued with someone this week and then think of the times when you were gentle and tried to help everyone to get on well together.

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

Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God.  
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.  
Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

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. Help me to practise loving you more and more each day by being kind and loving to the people I meet. 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.

