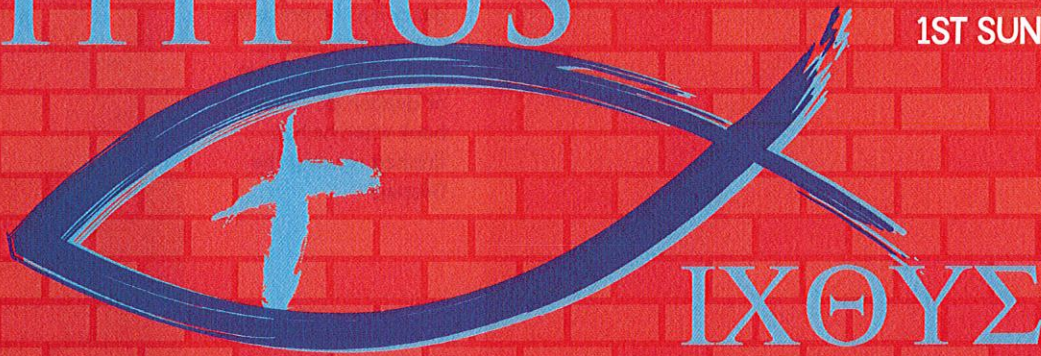


ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2020

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Year B



Look around church and see if there are any changes that show we are in 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 ISAIAH 63:16-17; 64:1. 3-8

God's people feel utterly lost and abandoned and now are pleading with God to come back to them. They know that they are far from perfect. They have gone against God and deserve the consequences of their

sins. But the God of Israel is not like any other gods. God will never leave them. Ultimately the people trust in God, their Father. Like a potter moulding a beautiful piece of art, through their suffering God is moulding the people of Israel.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN.

Isaiah has a message of hope for God's suffering people.

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 79

God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.



SECOND READING 1 CORINTHIANS 1:3-9

Paul begins his letter to his friends in Corinth with a blessing. He is grateful for all the good things these first Christians have received from God, and wants to remind them to be thankful too. The Corinthians have

received great teaching and have the help of the Holy Spirit to help them to stay faithful to Jesus. We too have been blessed to be called by God and have the gifts of the Holy Spirit to help us as we try to follow Jesus.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN.

We are all waiting for Jesus to come into our lives.

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?

Advent is the **start of the Church's year**. We are now in a season of waiting and preparation for the coming or **arrival of Jesus**. We are not only thinking about the coming of Jesus as a baby in Bethlehem. Jesus also comes to us when we receive Communion and we believe that Jesus will come again at the end of time.



THINK

On Monday we celebrate the feast of **St Andrew, Apostle**. Andrew was a fisherman and the older brother of St Peter. Like his brother, Andrew left his nets to become a **"fisher of men"** and bring people to Jesus. He is the **patron saint of Scotland**.



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

Jesus wants his friends to be ready to welcome God. He uses an analogy to help explain. A man who has left his servants in charge of the house would expect the doorkeeper to be ready to open the door when he gets back. If the

doorkeeper is going to be ready, he will have to stay awake watching and waiting. Jesus wants his friends to be ready to welcome God. If we are doing what is right, loving God and other people, we don't need to worry. We will be ready.

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

"We are the work of your hands"

Be still. Imagine being safe in God's hands. Thank God for making you so special. Thank God for being with you every day, helping you to become an even more beautiful person.



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, help us to be welcoming to people who come to our country. The doorman welcomed his master home, and when we welcome strangers we are welcoming you. 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 this week when you felt down and sad and then think about a time when you felt hopeful and knew things would get better.

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 will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.



MY PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Thank you, Jesus, for coming to me as bread and wine in Holy Communion. Help me to be ready to share your love with the people I meet. 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)

redemptorist publications

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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

