

ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 4 APRIL 2021

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE
RESURRECTION OF THE LORD



Year B

Jesus is alive! It's time to celebrate!



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

The Lord is truly risen, alleluia.
To him be glory and power
for all the ages of eternity, alleluia, alleluia.

COLLECT

O God, who on this day,
through your Only Begotten Son,
have conquered death
and unlocked for us the path to eternity,
grant, we pray, that we who keep
the solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection
may, through the renewal brought by your Spirit,
rise up in the light of life...



FIRST READING

ACTS 10:34. 37-43

Peter is sharing the Good News with Cornelius and his household. He starts off by saying how Jesus began his work in Galilee; doing good and healing people. Then Peter says how he and the other disciples saw Jesus die and that Jesus was raised to life again three days later. Peter and the disciples are the proof that this actually happened – they even ate and drank with Jesus after his resurrection. The disciples are witnesses to the truth: Jesus is alive!

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.

Peter has seen everything with his own eyes and he knows it's all true!

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 117

This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad.
Or Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!



SECOND READING

1 CORINTHIANS 5:6-8

When a Jewish family celebrate Passover they spend a long time cleaning their house to get rid of any chametz, food made with leaven. This big spring clean of the house is a bit like the way we have had a spring clean of our lives in Lent. We have practised becoming more like Jesus and now is the time for a fresh start. We're like a new loaf of bread. We all share in Jesus' life and can celebrate being made completely new.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN.

Now is the time for a fresh, new start.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
Christ, our passover, has been sacrificed;
let us celebrate the feast then, in the Lord.
Alleluia!

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



DO YOU KNOW?

Today is the start of a **whole season** in the Church's year. We all know that Lent lasts for six weeks, but **Easter tide lasts even longer – for fifty days** until Pentecost. We can do a lot of celebrating in all that time!



THINK

Without **Jesus' resurrection** there would be no Christianity and you would not be in church today! If Jesus had just died then people may have remembered him for a while, but he would have been like any other good man. **Jesus' resurrection proves that Jesus is God.**



GOSPEL JOHN 20:1-9

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

The disciples weren't expecting something as amazing as Jesus' resurrection. When Mary Magdalen went to Jesus' tomb and found the stone rolled away, she thought that someone had stolen Jesus' body. She certainly didn't imagine Jesus was alive. When Mary ran to Simon Peter and the

other disciple to tell them, they didn't imagine Jesus had risen either. They ran to see what was going on and found the tomb empty – as Mary had said. It was only when they saw the linen cloths that Jesus' body had been wrapped in lying on the ground that they began to understand. Jesus is alive!

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

"This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad."

Thank God for all the good things in your life! Praise God for the sunshine, flowers, the food you have to eat, your bed and all the love you have been given!



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I would like to pray for anyone who finds it hard to believe in Jesus' resurrection. Help them to experience the hope and love that knowing you brings. Lord, hear my prayer.

Listen to the reader as he or she encourages us to pray for situations and people in need. This 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 were sad and then think of a time when you were really happy and full of joy.

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

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, 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 the hope and joy that you give to me. Help me to spread the happiness that I enjoy because of your love and life. 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.



ICHTHUS

SUNDAY 11 APRIL 2021

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Year B



What can you see in church that tells you we are celebrating Eastertide?



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

COLLECT

God of everlasting mercy,
who, in the very recurrence of the paschal feast
kindle the faith of the people you have made your own,
increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed,
that all may grasp and rightly understand
in what font they have been washed,
by whose Spirit they have been reborn,
by whose Blood they have been redeemed...



FIRST READING ACTS 4:32-35

The first Christians are united, heart and soul. They share everything they have with each other. These first believers make sure that everyone is looked after. If someone is in need, people with property sell it and bring

the money to the apostles who share it out. The apostles continue to spread the Good News about Jesus' resurrection and are given great respect. They are witnesses to the truth about Jesus in their words and in their actions.

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.

The first Christians shared everything so no one was left in need.

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 117

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.

Or Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!



SECOND READING 1 JOHN 5:1-6

We are all God's children. God our Father loves us and we love Jesus, God the Son. Together we are one big loving family. It's not possible to say we love God and not love God's children. We love everyone in the world

because they are our brothers and sisters. The commandments are all helping us to love God and each other. Keeping the commandments and living as God asks is not hard to do because we have Jesus to help us.

LOOK at the reader and LISTEN.

We are all God's children!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus said: "You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe."
Alleluia!

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



DO YOU KNOW?

Today is **Divine Mercy Sunday**. Pope John Paul II asked us to celebrate on this day when **Faustina Kowalska** was made a saint in 2000. She was a Polish nun who had a special mission to help people think about **God's forgiveness**.



THINK

The first Christians **shared everything** they had. You may already share with other people too. We can share our **time and energy** as well as our **money and possessions**. Perhaps this week we could all keep our eyes open for ways to **help people in need**, and do what we can to help out.



GOSPEL JOHN 20:19-31

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

Having seen Jesus die, the disciples are scared. While they are hiding in a room together Jesus comes and stands among them, bringing his peace. The disciples are delighted to see Jesus! Jesus gives them the gift of the Holy Spirit and asks the disciples to go and spread the message

of God's love. Thomas wasn't with the disciples when all this happened and he finds it all very difficult to believe. Thomas wants proof. So, eight days later, Jesus comes and gives Thomas the help he needs to believe. If we can believe even without seeing Jesus, then we really are happy.

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?

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.



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, I want to pray for people who have really good reasons to be scared. Please help them find the help they need and give them your peace. Lord, hear my prayer.



OFFERTORY PROCESSION

As we take our gifts of bread, wine and money to the altar, think of a time when you were worried and then think about a time this week when you were calm, happy and confident.

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

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.



MY PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Thank you, Jesus, for giving me your peace and for helping me to believe. Help me to share your peace with everyone I meet this week. Amen.

You are invited to sing a Communion song or say this verse, which has been especially chosen for today's celebration.



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

"Peace be with you."

Spend a few moments enjoying some quiet time with Jesus. Close your eyes and let your body relax. Let Jesus' peace fill your heart.



DO

Spread peace at home this week by quickly saying sorry when you upset your family.



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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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.

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

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...

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



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.

LOOK at the reader
and LISTEN.

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 4

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

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



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.

LOOK at the reader
and LISTEN.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

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



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**.



GOSPEL LUKE 24:35-48

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:

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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

SUNDAY 25 APRIL 2021

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Year B



What is God going to say to you today? Are you ready to listen?



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

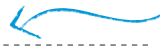
The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.



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

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
lead us to a share in the joys of heaven,
so that the humble flock may reach
where the brave Shepherd has gone before...



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



FIRST READING ACTS 4:8-12

People are questioning
Peter about a man he
has healed. They know
it was kind of Peter, but
don't know how he did it.
Filled with the Holy Spirit,
Peter has the courage
to tell everyone. It is all
through Jesus. Although

Jesus has been rejected
by lots of people, it is
through his death and
resurrection that we are
all saved. The healed man
shows that we can all look
forward to being made
whole and enjoying the
fullness of life.



LOOK at the reader
and LISTEN.
Jesus Christ the
Nazarene is the name
of our saviour.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM PSALM 117

The stone which the builders rejected has become the
corner stone.

Or Alleluia!



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



SECOND READING 1 JOHN 3:1-2

God loves each one of
us very much. We don't
have to work hard or prove
ourselves in any way to
earn God's love. We are
God's children and God
loves us no matter what.
We don't know what is

going to happen in the
future, but our life with God
is looking good! We are
growing to be even more
like Jesus as we put into
practice our love for other
people. God has great
things in store for us!



LOOK at the reader
and LISTEN.
We are all God's
children and we are
loved very much.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my own sheep and my own know me.
Alleluia!



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



DO YOU KNOW?

Today is the **World Day of Prayer for Vocations**.
God calls us to **love others**
in many different ways,
according to our gifts
and talents. We pray
that we are **all open to**
hearing God's call. In
particular, we pray today
that people will hear the
voice of Jesus the good
shepherd calling them
to the **priesthood and**
religious life.



THINK

Jesus is the **good**
shepherd, the ideal
shepherd. He doesn't just
tell us, his sheep, what
to do; Jesus **shows us**
by example how to put
other people first. Sheep
followed their shepherd
and we follow Jesus. We
trust Jesus because we
know just **how much he**
loves us.



GOSPEL JOHN 10:11-18

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

We belong to Jesus. Jesus says we are like the sheep who belong to the shepherd. The sheep matter so much to the shepherd that he lives out on the hillside with them, keeping them safe from wolves and every danger that threatens them. Jesus is the best

of shepherds, who will give his life to protect his sheep. Just as a shepherd knows each one of his sheep, Jesus knows each one of us. Every one of us is special to Jesus. We can't go wrong if we listen to Jesus and follow in his footsteps. Jesus will lead us to safety.

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?



PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

Dear Lord, please bless anyone who is listening to your call to become a priest, nun, sister or monk. Help us all to be generous in our response to 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 when you were felt lost and alone and then remember a time when you felt cared for and safe.

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 Good Shepherd has risen, who laid down his life for his sheep and willingly died for his flock, 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 me by your example what real love means. Help me to follow you more closely each day. Amen.



PRAY

"I am the good shepherd."

Think about the things that frighten you or that you feel are dangers in your life. Talk to a grown up and talk to God. Know that Jesus is always with you, giving you courage.



DO

Find out about the life of shepherds today and see how much has changed since Jesus' time.



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