**Note: Please leave this on the ambo, thanks.**

**THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A**

**COMMENTATOR GUIDE**

Good morning/evening we welcome our parishioners and visitors to Mary Immaculate Quakers Hill/Schofields Parish.

Jesus reminds us today that his way is not simply fulfilling the detailed precepts of religious laws. Rather, it is a way of life; a way of loving God and neighbour through concrete acts of service.

The Celebrant for this Mass is

Please join in sing the entrance hymn.

 **THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A**

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**First Reading (Ex 22:20-26)**

A reading from the book of Exodus

The Lord said to Moses, ‘Tell the sons of Israel this, “You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

“If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

“If you take another’s cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity.”’

*The Word of the Lord*

**Responsorial Psalm (Ps 17:2-4. 47. 51. R. v.2)**

***(R.) I love you, Lord, my strength.***

**1.** I love you, Lord, my strength,

my rock, my fortress, my saviour.

My God is the rock where I take refuge;

my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.

The Lord is worthy of all praise:

when I call I am saved from my foes. **(R.)**

**2.** Long life to the Lord, my rock!

Praised be the God who saves me.

He has given great victories to his king

and shown his love for his anointed. **(R.)**

**Second Reading (1 Thes 1:5-10)**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

*The Word of the Lord*

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

All who love me will keep my words,

and my Father will love them and we will come to them.

Alleluia!

**Gospel (Mt 22:34-40)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, ‘Master, which is the greatest commandment of the law?’ Jesus said, ‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.’

*The Gospel of the Lord*

**THIRTIETH sunday in ordinary time**

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

**Priest:** Our Gospel teaches us the greatest commandments of love. Let us pray to the heavenly Father that we may love him with all our heart, soul, and mind, and love our neighbors as ourselves.

**Reader:** That Church leaders may become instrument of hope for all people as they zealously and faithfully live out the gospel value of mercy and compassion in the world embattled with selfishness and the absence of love,

 We Pray:

 **R - Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For each other, that we will strive to respect every person, and not be full of pride, placing ourselves above others.

*We pray.*

 **R- Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** May our parishioners preparing for their Year 12, University and

 TAFE exams do so with fortitude, patience and dedication.

 We Pray:

 **R - Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** May those who have died and who valued that life for them was Christ, may now live fully in him in heaven, we pray for who died recently also whose death anniversaries occur at this time and those mentioned in our parish bulletin.

We Pray:

 **R - Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** **Together we now pray our Parish Community prayer.**

**All:** God, our Father, bless this parish Mary Immaculate so that we may love you more.

Help the parents to be good examples to the children and our youth to grow in love and strength as good Christians.

Encircle our families with your loving care. To the sick grant health, to the aged bring serenity and to those in sorrow joy.

May we grow stronger in faith and may our love for one another become deeper in our daily living.

**Celebrant:** Loving Father, fill us with your Spirit of love, so that we may be able to give witness to our faith and fulfill your law of love. Through Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**