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

**SUNDAY 17th MARCH**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR C**

**Introduction**

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

In today’s Gospel, as Jesus and his disciples travel to Jerusalem where suffering and death await, their journey is interrupted by an experience of Jesus’ transfiguration. Up on the mountain, the three disciples get a glimpse of the glory that their Master will have after his resurrection. The experience is only for a moment, but it is a source of fresh courage and new strength that will sustain them on the difficult way of the cross.

Our Mass will be celebrated today by:

Please stand and join in singing the Entrance Hymn.

**SUNDAY 17th MARCH**

**SECOND Sunday OF LENT - Year C**

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

#### FIRST READING   (Gen 15:5-12. 17-18)

*A reading from the book of Genesis*

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, ‘Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants’ he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified.

‘I am the Lord’ he said to him ‘who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldaeans to make you heir to this land.’ ‘My Lord, the Lord’ Abram replied, ‘how am I to know that I shall inherit it?’ He said to him, ‘Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.’ He brought him all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off.

Now as the sun was setting Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a Covenant with Abram in these terms:

‘To your descendants I give this land,

from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River.’

*The Word of the Lord.*

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 26:1. 7-9. 13-14. R. v.1)

***R- The Lord is my light and my salvation.***

#### 1. The Lord is my light and my help;

#### whom shall I fear?

#### The Lord is the stronghold of my life

#### before whom shall I shrink? (R.)

#### 2. O Lord, hear my voice when I call;

#### have mercy and answer.

#### Of you my heart has spoken:

#### ‘Seek his face.’ (R.)

#### 3. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek,

#### hide not your face.

#### Dismiss not your servant in anger;

#### you have been my help. (R.)

#### 4. I am sure I shall see the Lord’s goodness

#### in the land of the living.

#### Hope in him, hold firm and take heart.

#### Hope in the Lord! (R.)

#### SECOND READING  (Phil 3:17 – 4:1)

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians*

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe.

So then, my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**PLEASE STAND TO WELCOME THE GOSPEL**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

From the shining cloud the Father’s voice is heard:

this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

####  GOSPEL (Lk 9:28-36)

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke*

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, ‘Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.’ – He did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and when they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying, ‘This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.’ And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR C**

**GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Priest**: — In the Transfiguration, the Father revealed the glory of his Son. Let us pray to God our Father that he may show us the path of Christ’s eternal glory.

**Reader:** For Pope Francis, bishops, priests, and deacons: may they help us to understand that Christ’s glory is attained through carrying one’s cross.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For young people who doubt their worth and have lost hope: may the light of transfigured Christ free them from despair and make them see what God has planned for them.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For the sick, the elderly, the handicapped, the abandoned, and those who are undergoing difficulties in their vocation: may they be given consolation and grace as they carry their respective crosses.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For our Indigenous brothers and sisters in countries all over the world, that their traditional cultures are recognised and valued. May we support them to preserve and protect their cultures and our common home.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For those who have died. In particular those mention in our parish bulletin. May God’s merciful love shine on them and their loved ones left behind.

We Pray;

**R — Lord hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** **Together we now pray our parish community prayer for the season of Lent:**

**All:** **Loving God, during the sacred season of Lent, bring us closer to you.**

Prepare a place in our homes and hearts for silence and solitude, so that we may re-discover the grace of a prayer-full life.

Help us to fast from those things that threaten the well-being of body and soul remind us of the grace of simplicity.

Enlarge our hearts so that we give to those in need and, in doing so,

re-discover the grace of gratitude and generosity.

May this season be a grace-filled time to rekindle our love and faith in you.

**Priest:** Hear us, O heavenly Father and grant us a contrite heart and a steadfast spirit so that we may remain faithful to you and your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns forever and ever.

**All:** **Amen.**