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

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

**Introduction:**

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

Jesus tells us today that as God’s children we have to imitate his love which does not limit itself to good people. As believers, we should not remain passive to evil and injustice around us.

May this Eucharist be the source of our courage and strength.

The Celebrant for this Mass is

Please now stand and join in our Entrance Hymn.

#### SEventh Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

#### MASS READINGS

#### FIRST READING (Lv 19:1-2. 17-18)

*A reading from the book of Leviticus*

The Lord spoke to Moses; he said: ‘Speak to the whole community of the sons of Israel and say to them: “Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy.

“You must not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. You must openly tell him, your neighbour, of his offence; this way you will not take a sin upon yourself. You must not exact vengeance, nor must you bear a grudge against the children of your people. You must love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord.”’

*The Word of the Lord.*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 102:1-4. 8. 10. 12-13. R. v.8)**

***(R) The Lord is kind and merciful.***

#### 1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,

#### all my being, bless his holy name.

#### My soul, give thanks to the Lord

#### and never forget all his blessings. (R.)

#### 2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,

#### who heals every one of your ills,

#### who redeems your life from the grave,

#### who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)

#### 3. The Lord is compassion and love,

#### slow to anger and rich in mercy.

#### He does not treat us according to our sins

#### nor repay us according to our faults. (R.)

#### 4. As far as the east is from the west

#### so far does he remove our sins.

#### As a father has compassion on his sons,

#### the Lord has pity on those who fear him. (R.)

#### SECOND READING  (1 Cor 3:16-23)

*A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians*

Didn’t you realise that you were God’s temple and that the Spirit of God was living among you? If anybody should destroy the temple of God, God will destroy him, because the temple of God is sacred; and you are that temple.

Make no mistake about it: if any one of you thinks of himself as wise, in the ordinary sense of the word, then he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise. Why? Because the wisdom of this world is foolishness to God. As scripture says: The Lord knows wise men’s thoughts: he knows how useless they are, or again: God is not convinced by the arguments of the wise. So there is nothing to boast about in anything human: Paul, Apollos, Cephas, the world, life and death, the present and the future, are all your servants; but you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Whoever keeps the word of Christ,

grows perfect in the love of God.

Alleluia!

#### GOSPEL (Mt 5:38-48)

#### A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

#### Jesus said to his disciples: ‘You have learnt how it was said: Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I say this to you: offer the wicked man no resistance. On the contrary, if anyone hits you on the right cheek, offer him the other as well; if a man takes you to law and would have your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. And if anyone orders you to go one mile, go two miles with him. Give to anyone who asks, and if anyone wants to borrow, do not turn away.

#### ‘You have learnt how it was said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say this to you: love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you; in this way you will be sons of your Father in heaven, for he causes his sun to rise on bad men as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest men alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? And if you save your greetings for your brothers, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not? You must therefore be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect.’

#### The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Priest: Let us dedicate ourselves to mirror the Father’s holiness in our daily lives. Let us ask the Lord for the courage to live up to the challenge of the Gospel.**

**Reader:** That nations torn by war and violence may settle their conflicts through dialogue and peaceful negotiation.

*We Pray:*

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That the violent and the oppressors may open their eyes to see that the love of God is an invitation for them to reform their lives.

*We Pray:*

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That those who work for the cause of peace may be given strength and perseverance in their difficult mission.

*We Pray:*

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That Christians may realize that love is a potent force for the transformation of the heart and society

*We Pray:*

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For our beloved dead, especially those mentioned in our parish bulletin: may they receive the light, happiness, and peace in the. Lord, and rejoice in his glory forever.

*We Pray:*

**All: 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.

**Priest: Almighty Father, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, taught us that we should be holy as you are holy. Teach us always to do your will that we may offer you a fitting sacrifice now and for ever.**

**All: Amen.**