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

**TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A**

**COMMENTATOR GUIDE**

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

Today, Jesus speaks about the right relationship between humanity and God. Just as the image of Caesar stamped on a Roman coin indicates that the coin belongs to Caesar, so the image of God stamped on every person means that everyone belongs to God.

The Celebrant for this Mass is

Please join in sing the entrance hymn.

**TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A**

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**First Reading (Is 45:1.4-6)**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,

whom he has taken by his right hand

to subdue nations before him

and strip the loins of kings,

to force gateways before him

that their gates be closed no more:

It is for the sake of my servant Jacob,

of Israel my chosen one,

that I have called you by your name,

conferring a title though you do not know me.

I am the Lord, unrivalled;

there is no other God besides me.

Though you do not know me, I arm you

that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun

that, apart from me, all is nothing.

*The Word of the Lord*

**Responsorial Psalm (Ps 95:1. 3-5. 7-10. R. v.7)**

***(R.) Give the Lord glory and honour.***

**1.** O sing a new song to the Lord,

sing to the Lord all the earth.

Tell among the nations his glory

and his wonders among all the peoples. **(R.)**

**2.** The Lord is great and worthy of praise,

to be feared above all gods;

the gods of the heathens are naught.

It was the Lord who made the heavens. **(R.)**

**3.** Give the Lord, you families of peoples,

give the Lord glory and power,

give the Lord the glory of his name.

Bring an offering and enter his courts. **(R.)**

**4.** Worship the Lord in his temple.

O earth, tremble before him.

Proclaim to the nations: ‘God is king.’

He will judge the peoples in fairness. **(R.)**

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

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

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

*The Word of the Lord*

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Shine on the world like bright stars;

you are offering it the word of life.

Alleluia!

**Gospel (Mt 22:15-21)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, ‘Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man’s rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?’ But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, ‘You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.’ They handed him a denarius, and he said, ‘Whose head is this? Whose name?’ ‘Caesar’s’ they replied. He then said to them, ‘Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.’

*The Gospel of the Lord*

**TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A**

**GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Celebrant:** — Let us turn in prayer to God our Father through our Lord Jesus Christ who promised us all we need, and much more, if we seek first the kingdom of heaven.

**Reader:** For our Holy Father Francis and all church leaders: may they seek new ways of proclaiming the Gospel and continue to speak out fearlessly for justice and peace, freedom, and responsibility.

We Pray:

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

**Reader:** For our civil leaders and politicians: may they recognize their dependence on God as the source of all authority and dedicate themselves wholeheartedly to the wellbeing of our people especially the poor, the weak, and the marginalized.

We pray:

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

**Reader:** For all the children in our parish receiving the sacrament of confirmation over the next two weeks. May they be strengthened in their faith and always remain open to the Holy Spirit to profess their faith despite all obstacles.

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 especially Glenda Lock and Leo Agius also whose death anniversaries occur at this time especially Joseph Sultana 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, we humbly ask you to hear our petitions and help us to live in accord with the truth that sets us free in your Son. Who lives and reigns forever.

**All:** Amen.