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

**THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR A**

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

The road to Emmaus travelled by the two disciples is the path taken by those of us whose hopes have been crushed and who are greatly discouraged in life.

Like the disciples, may we turn to the Lord and invite him: “Stay with us,

Lord.” May we recognize him in the Eucharist where he explains the Scriptures to us and breaks bread with us, setting our hearts on fire and making us witnesses

that indeed he is truly risen and is alive in our midst.

The Celebrant for this Mass is

Please join in singing the entrance hymn.

**THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR A**

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**First Reading (Acts 2:14, 22-33)**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

On the day of Pentecost, Peter stood up with the Eleven and addressed the crowd in a loud voice: ‘Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say: Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God by the miracles and portents and signs that God worked through him when he was among you, as you all know. This man, who was put into your power by the deliberate intention and foreknowledge of God, you took and had crucified by men outside the Law. You killed him, but God raised him to life, freeing him from the pangs of Hades; for it was impossible for him to be held in its power since, as David says of him:

I saw the Lord before me always,

for with him at my right hand nothing can shake me.

So my heart was glad

and my tongue cried out with joy:

my body, too, will rest in the hope

that you will not abandon my soul to Hades

nor allow your holy one to experience corruption.

You have made known the way of life to me,

you will fill me with gladness through your presence.

‘Brothers, no one can deny that the patriarch David himself is dead and buried: his tomb is still with us. But since he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn him an oath to make one of his descendants succeed him on the throne, what he foresaw and spoke about was the resurrection of the Christ: he is the one who was not abandoned to Hades, and whose body did not experience corruption. God raised this man Jesus to life, and all of us are witnesses to that. Now raised to the heights by God’s right hand, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit, who was promised, and what you see and hear is the outpouring of that Spirit.’

*The Word of the Lord*

**Responsorial Psalm (Ps 15:1-2. 5. 7-11. R. v.11)**

***(R.) Lord, you will show us the path of life.***

**1.** Preserve me, God, I take refuge in you.

I say to the Lord: ‘You are my God.

O Lord, it is you who are my portion and cup;

it is you yourself who are my prize.’ **(R.)**

**2.** I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel,

who even at night directs my heart.

I keep the Lord ever in my sight:

since he is at my right hand, I shall stand firm. **(R.)**

**3.** And so my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;

even my body shall rest in safety.

For you will not leave my soul among the dead,

nor let your beloved know decay. **(R.)**

**4.** You will show me the path of life,

the fullness of joy in your presence,

at your right hand happiness for ever. **(R.)**

**Second Reading (1 Pt 1:17-21)**

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

If you are acknowledging as your Father one who has no favourites and judges everyone according to what he has done, you must be scrupulously careful as long as you are living away from your home.

Remember, the ransom that was paid to free you from the useless way of life your ancestors handed down was not paid in anything corruptible, neither in silver nor gold, but in the precious blood of a lamb without spot or stain, namely Christ; who, though known since before the world was made, has been revealed only in our time, the end of the ages, for your sake.

Through him you now have faith in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory for that very reason – so that you would have faith and hope in God.

*The Word of the Lord*

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Lord Jesus, make your word plain to us:

make our hearts burn with love when you speak.

Alleluia!

**Gospel (Lk 24:13-35)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Two of the disciples of Jesus were on their way to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking together about all that had happened. Now as they talked this over, Jesus himself came up and walked by their side; but something prevented them from recognising him. He said to them, ‘What matters are you discussing as you walk along?’ They stopped short, their faces downcast.

Then one of them, called Cleopas, answered him, ‘You must be the only person staying in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have been happening there these last few days.’ ‘What things?’ he asked. ‘All about Jesus of Nazareth’ they answered ‘who proved he was a great prophet by the things he said and did in the sight of God and of the whole people; and how our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and had him crucified. Our own hope had been that he would be the one to set Israel free.

And this is not all: two whole days have gone by since it all happened; and some women from our group have astounded us: they went to the tomb in the early morning, and when they did not find the body, they came back to tell us they had seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our friends went to the tomb and found everything exactly as the women had reported, but of him they saw nothing.’

Then he said to them, ‘You foolish men! So slow to believe the full message of the prophets! Was it not ordained that the Christ should suffer and so enter into his glory?’ Then, starting with Moses and going through all the prophets, he explained to them the passages throughout the scriptures that were about himself.

When they drew near to the village to which they were going, he made as if to go on; but they pressed him to stay with them. ‘It is nearly evening’ they said ‘and the day is almost over.’ So he went in to stay with them. Now while he was with them at table, he took the bread and said the blessing; then he broke it and handed it to them.

And their eyes were opened and they recognised him; but he had vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, ‘Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us?’

They set out that instant and returned to Jerusalem. There they found the Eleven assembled together with their companions, who said to them, ‘Yes, it is true. The Lord has risen and has appeared to Simon.’ Then they told their story of what had happened on the road and how they had recognised him at the breaking of bread.

*The Gospel of the Lord*

**THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR A**

**GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Priest**: — Through Jesus who accompanies us in our journey, let us beseech our heavenly Father to fill us with his grace.

**Reader:** — That our Church and civil leaders may not tire of serving you in your people, especially the poor, the outcast, and those who have no voice in society

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That those working in our judicial system may speak in the name of life and affirm the dignity of every citizen.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That those who sow violence, hatred, indifference, and the likes may be led to conversion through the power of Christ’s resurrection

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** — That as we celebrate the Eucharist and read the Scriptures we may remain faithful and in turn proclaim God’s redemption to others.

We pray.

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** — That those who have died, especially those mentioned in our bulletin, that through Christ’s victory may they be numbered among the saints.

We pray.

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** Together we now pray our parish community prayer for Easter:

**All:** God of power and might, by your holy will you raised Jesus from the dead so that we might share his life eternally. As we rejoice and give you thanks for your great goodness and mercy, help us to reach out to those who do not yet believe in the truth of the gospel.

Fill us with your compassion so that we may serve the weak and needy

for love of you.

Strengthen the faith of our families so that we may grow together in love. May your joy grow in us day by day.

**Priest:** Almighty Father, hear our prayer and strengthen us in this table fellowship as Christ once did to his disciples at Emmaus.

This we ask through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.