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

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

**COMMENTATOR GUIDE**

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

The Lord is not an angry God whose justice must be appeased. He is a God who is close to his people. He is present amid life’s storms, as Jesus shows in rescuing Peter. He reveals himself also in unobtrusive and gentle moments, as the prophet Elijah experiences on Mount Horeb. May we become a people ever convinced of God’s presence in both the ordinary and the extraordinary moments of our life.

The Celebrant for this Mass is

Please join in sing the entrance hymn.

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

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**First Reading (1 Kgs 19:9.11-13)**

**A reading from the first book of the Kings**

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he went into the cave and spent the night in it. Then he was told, ‘Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord.’ Then the Lord himself went by.

There came a mighty wind, so strong it tore the mountains and shattered the rocks before the Lord.

But the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind came an earthquake.

But the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire.

But the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire there came the sound of a gentle breeze.

And when Elijah heard this, he covered his face with his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave.

*The Word of the Lord*

**Responsorial Psalm (Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8)**

***(R.) Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.***

**1.** I will hear what the Lord God has to say,

a voice that speaks of peace.

His help is near for those who fear him

and his glory will dwell in our land. **(R.)**

**2.** Mercy and faithfulness have met;

justice and peace have embraced.

Faithfulness shall spring from the earth

and justice look down from heaven. **(R.)**

**3.** The Lord will make us prosper

and our earth shall yield its fruit.

Justice shall march before him

and peace shall follow his steps. **(R.)**

**Second Reading (Rom 9:1-5)**

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

What I want to say is no pretence; I say it in union with Christ – it is the truth – my conscience in union with the Holy Spirit assures me of it too. What I want to say is this: my sorrow is so great, my mental anguish so endless, I would willingly be condemned and be cut off from Christ if it could help my brothers of Israel, my own flesh and blood.

They were adopted as sons, they were given the glory and the covenants; the Law and the ritual were drawn up for them, and the promises were made to them. They are descended from the patriarchs and from their flesh and blood came Christ who is above all, God for ever blessed! Amen.

*The Word of the Lord*

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I hope in the Lord,

I trust in his word.

Alleluia!

**Gospel (Mt 14:22-33)**

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

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side while he would send the crowds away. After sending the crowds away he went up into the hills by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, while the boat, by now far out on the lake, was battling with a heavy sea, for there was a head-wind.

In the fourth watch of the night he went towards them, walking on the lake, and when the disciples saw him walking on the lake they were terrified. ‘It is a ghost’ they said, and cried out in fear.

But at once Jesus called out to them, saying, ‘Courage! It is I! Do not be afraid.’ It was Peter who answered. ‘Lord,’ he said ‘if it is you, tell me to come to you across the water.’ ‘Come’ said Jesus. Then Peter got out of the boat and started walking towards Jesus across the water, but as soon as he felt the force of the wind, he took fright and began to sink. ‘Lord! Save me!’ he cried. Jesus put out his hand at once and held him. ‘Man of little faith,’ he said ‘why did you doubt?’

And as they got into the boat the wind dropped. The men in the boat bowed down before him and said, ‘Truly, you are the Son of God.’

*The Gospel of the Lord*

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

**GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Celebrant:** — God’s help is near for those who fear him. Let us draw near to God who seeks us with outstretched hands.

**Reader:** For Pope Francis: that he will feed and care for his people like as a good shepherd.

We Pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That those who are tossed about by misfortune and chaos will be calmed by Christ’s healing touch.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That those who sail the oceans and seas will be returned to land in safety.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For married couples: that they will live their vocation in faith, hope and love, and, by their example, share with their children the joy of being called by God.

We Pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For single people who consciously give their lives to God in the service of others: that they may be given the grace to persevere in the ways they witness to the Gospel.

We Pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For our Diocesan Synod may the inspiration of the Holy Spirit guide our journey so that we experience renewal in our local Church today and for generations to come.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For our beloved dead, especially those mentioned in our parish bulletin, Lord, give them a heavenly inheritance together with the angels and saints.

We Pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** Together we now pray for the succession of the Synod:

**All:** O God, who always walks with us on the journey of life, we call upon you to lead us forth united.

Bless and guide our Diocesan Synod.

Keep us anchored in your love.

Open our hearts as we are called to go out into the deep.

Give us the courage to pursue the mission with bold humility.

May we experience renewal in our local Church today, and for generations to come.

We ask this prayer through Jesus Christ, who in the power of the Holy Spirit continues to guide your Church, to the fullness of your Kingdom now, and forever. Amen

Our Lady Help of Christians, Pray for us.

St Mary Of the Cross Mackillop, Pray for us.

**Celebrant:** Father, touch our hearts and make us receptive to your grace. Reach out to us, help our unbelief, and make us your true disciples.

Through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.