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

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

**COMMENTATOR GUIDE**

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

Great faith conquers difficulties and sorrows: Jesus heals a Canaanite woman’s daughter who is tormented by a demon. Great faith overcomes racial and social barriers: though “sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel,” Jesus ministers to the pagan woman. Let us pray for the gift of faith, so that we can approach the Lord with confidence.

The Celebrant for this Mass is

Please join in sing the entrance hymn.

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

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**First Reading (Is 56:1.6-7)**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: Have a care for justice, act with integrity, for soon my salvation will come and my integrity be manifest.

Foreigners who have attached themselves to the Lord to serve him and to love his name and be his servants – all who observe the sabbath, not profaning it, and cling to my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain. I will make them joyful in my house of prayer. Their holocausts and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar, for my house will be called a house of prayer for all the peoples.

*The Word of the Lord*

**Responsorial Psalm (Ps 66:2-3 5-6. 8. R. v.4)**

***(R.) O God, let all the nations praise you!***

**1.** O God, be gracious and bless us

and let your face shed its light upon us.

So will your ways be known upon earth

and all nations learn your saving help. **(R.)**

**2.** Let the nations be glad and exult

for you rule the world with justice.

With fairness you rule the peoples,

you guide the nations on earth. **(R.)**

**3.** Let the peoples praise you, O God;

let all the peoples praise you.

May God still give us his blessing

till the ends of the earth revere him. **(R.)**

**Second Reading (Rom 11:13-15. 29-32)**

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

Let me tell you pagans this: I have been sent to the pagans as their apostle, and I am proud of being sent, but the purpose of it is to make my own people envious of you, and in this way save some of them. Since their rejection meant the reconciliation of the world, do you know what their admission will mean? Nothing less than a resurrection from the dead! God never takes back his gifts or revokes his choice.

Just as you changed from being disobedient to God, and now enjoy mercy because of their disobedience, so those who are disobedient now – and only because of the mercy shown to you – will also enjoy mercy eventually. God has imprisoned all men in their own disobedience only to show mercy to all mankind.

*The Word of the Lord*

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Good News of the kingdom

and healed all who were sick.

Alleluia!

**Gospel (Mt 15:21-28)**

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

Jesus left Gennesaret and withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. Then out came a Canaanite woman from that district and started shouting, ‘Sir, Son of David, take pity on me. My daughter is tormented by a devil.’ But he answered her not a word. And his disciples went and pleaded with him. ‘Give her what she wants,’ they said ‘because she is shouting after us.’ He said in reply, ‘I was sent only to the lost sheep of the House of Israel.’ But the woman had come up and was kneeling at his feet. ‘Lord,’ she said ‘help me.’ He replied, ‘It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the house-dogs.’ She retorted, ‘Ah yes, sir; but even house-dogs can eat the scraps that fall from their master’s table.’ Then Jesus answered her, ‘Woman, you have great faith. Let your wish be granted.’ And from that moment her daughter was well again.

*The Gospel of the Lord*

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

**GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Priest:** — God is a merciful and loving Father who cares for all his children. No one is beyond the reach of God’s loving embrace. We therefore turn to God, the Father.

**Reader:** May the Pope, bishops, priests, and deacons continue to accompany the poor, the weak, the marginalized, and the victims of injustice in their struggle to achieve justice and peace.

We Pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** May the Church, the People of God, seek God’s healing love through the sacrament of reconciliation and the Church’s works of mercy.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** May social workers, government and civil leaders heed the cries of those who suffer because of war, violence, drug addiction, and disease.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** May those who are tempted of losing hope because of sickness and death of their loved ones experience your mercy and compassion through the care of others.

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.

**Priest:** With the Canaanite woman, we raise our voices to you, Lord, in supplication. Grant, O heavenly Father, what we ask for in great faith and confidence through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.