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

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

**MIGRANT AND REFUGEE SUNDAY**

**COMMENTATOR GUIDE**

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

God is generous and gives us more than we can ever deserve. In turn we have

to mirror this generosity to others, going beyond the limits of strict justice. When we see the “latecomers,” our brothers and sisters who turn to God after living a dissolute life, we must encourage them in their struggle to change their ways rather than wish that they be made to pay for their sinful past.

This Sunday we also celebrate Word Day of Migrant and Refugees.

Pope Francis has chosen “Free to choose whether to migrate or to stay” as the theme for the 109th World Day of Migrants and Refugees. We ask our parishioners to keep all Migrants and Refugees in their prayers.

The Celebrant for this Mass is

Please join in sing the entrance hymn.

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

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**First Reading (Is 55:6-9)**

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah**

Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,

call to him while he is still near.

Let the wicked man abandon his way,

the evil man his thoughts.

Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him,

to our God who is rich in forgiving;

for my thoughts are not your thoughts,

my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks.

Yes, the heavens are as high above earth

as my ways are above your ways,

my thoughts above your thoughts.

*The Word of the Lord*

**Responsorial Psalm (Ps 144:2-3. 8-9. 17-18. R. v.18)**

***(R.) The Lord is near to all who call him.***

**1.** I will bless you day after day and praise your name for ever.

 the Lord is great, highly to be praised,

 his greatness cannot be measured. **(R.)**

**2.** The Lord is kind and full of compassion,

 slow to anger, abounding in love.

 How good is the Lord to all,

 compassionate to all his creatures. **(R.)**

**3.** The Lord is just in all his ways

 and loving in all his deeds.

 He is close to all who call him,

 who call on him from their hearts. **(R.)**

**Second Reading (Phil 1:20-24. 27)**

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

Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.

*The Word of the Lord*

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

Open our hearts, O Lord,

to listen to the words of your Son.

Alleluia!

**Gospel (Mt 20:1-16)**

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

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard.

Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, “You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage.” So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same.

Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, “Why have you been standing here idle all day?” “Because no one has hired us” they answered.

He said to them, “You go into my vineyard too.” In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, “Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first.” So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each.

They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. “The men who came last” they said “have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day’s work in all the heat.” He answered one of them and said, “My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?” Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.’

*The Gospel of the Lord*

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

**REFUGEE AND MIGRANT SUNDAY**

**GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Celebrant:** — Jesus reveals to us the Father who is good to all his children and cannot be outdone in generosity. Full of confidence, we pray to the Father

**Reader:** That Church leaders may zealously work in the Lord’s vineyard and give courage to all who lost their jobs because of inequality and oppressive structures in society

We Pray:

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

**Reader:** That each of us will turn away from hate, bear no ill-will against others,

nor hold resentment or anger in our relationships.

We pray:

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

**Reader:** That child migrants and unaccompanied refugee children who are forced to leave their homes. May they find a new safe home and a brighter future. May we continue to become aware of their situation and bring about positive change in their lives.

We pray:

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

**Reader:** For migrants who call Australia home. May Australia, which is continually blessed and enriched with the diversity which migrants bring, become a home for migrants and their families. Also, for the families of migrants left behind, may we be attentive to their needs.

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:** That those who have died and who valued that life for them was Christ, may now live fully in him in heaven, especially remembering all those mentioned in our parish bulletin.

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, may your providence not lead us to self-righteousness and selfishness, but to selfless love for all. Make us generous like you, that we

may live fully and bring others to life. Through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.