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

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

**GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Introduction:**

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

Today’s liturgy focuses on our vigilant faith. We must be like faithful servants who stay awake waiting for their master. We need to open our hearts and minds so that we shall be aware of the Lord’s coming into

our lives, be it in moments of prayer and recollection, in active service to our brothers and sisters, or in dramatic events. Our waiting must be an active waiting.

Vocations come from families, communities and parishes. Strong families and communities are the place where vocations are first nurtured.  In this National Vocations Awareness Week, let us pray for all families in our parish, and for those preparing for marriage.  Let us also pray that our parish community may always be welcoming and encouraging of vocations to marriage, priesthood and consecrated life. At our masses this weekend we will have sisters from the missionaries of God’s Love share their vocation story.

Our Mass will be celebrated today by:

Let us all stand and join in the singing the Entrance Hymn.

#### NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME- YEAR C

#### MASS READINGS

#### FIRST READING (Wis 18:6-9)

*A reading from the book of Wisdom*

That night had been foretold to our ancestors,

so that,

once they saw what kind of oaths they had put their trust in,

they would joyfully take courage.

This was the expectation of your people,

the saving of the virtuous and the ruin of their enemies;

for by the same act with which you took vengeance on our foes

you made us glorious by calling us to you.

The devout children of worthy men offered sacrifice in secret

and this divine pact they struck with one accord:

that the saints would share the same blessings and dangers alike;

and forthwith they had begun to chant the hymns of the fathers.

*The Word of the Lord.*

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 32:1. 12. 18-20. 22. R. v.12)

***R.) Happy the people the Lord has chosen to be his own.***

#### 1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;

#### for praise is fitting for loyal hearts.

#### They are happy, whose God is the Lord,

#### the people he has chosen as his own. (R.)

#### 2. The Lord looks on those who revere him,

#### on those who hope in his love,

#### to rescue their souls from death,

#### to keep them alive in famine. (R.)

#### 3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord.

#### The Lord is our help and our shield.

#### May your love be upon us, O Lord,

#### as we place all our hope in you. (R.)

#### SECOND READING  (Heb 11:1-2, 8-19)

***A reading from the letter to the Hebrews***

 Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended.

 It was by faith that Abraham obeyed the call to set out for a country that was the inheritance given to him and his descendants, and that he set out without knowing where he was going. By faith he arrived, as a foreigner, in the Promised Land, and lived there as if in a strange country, with Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. They lived there in tents while he looked forward to a city founded, designed and built by God.

 It was equally by faith that Sarah, in spite of being past the age, was made able to conceive, because she believed that he who had made the promise would be faithful to it. Because of this, there came from one man, and one who was already as good as dead himself, more descendants than could be counted, as many as the stars of heaven or the grains of sand on the seashore.

 All these died in faith, before receiving any of the things that had been promised, but they saw them in the far distance and welcomed them, recognising that they were only strangers and nomads on earth. People who use such terms about themselves make it quite plain that they are in search of their real homeland. They can hardly have meant the country they came from, since they had the opportunity to go back to it; but in fact they were longing for a better homeland, their heavenly homeland. That is why God is not ashamed to be called their God, since he has founded the city for them.

 It was by faith that Abraham, when put to the test, offered up Isaac. He offered to sacrifice his only son even though the promises had been made to him and he had been told: It is through Isaac that your name will be carried on. He was confident that God had the power even to raise the dead, and so, figuratively speaking, he was given back Isaac from the dead.

*The Word of the Lord.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Be watchful and ready:

You know not when the Son of Man is coming.

Alleluia!

#### GOSPEL  (Lk 12:35-40)

#### A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

#### Jesus said to his disciples: ‘See that you are dressed for action and have your lamps lit. Be like men waiting for their master to return from the wedding feast, ready to open the door as soon as he comes and knocks. Happy those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes. I tell you solemnly, he will put on an apron, sit them down at table and wait on them. It may be in the second watch he comes, or in the third, but happy those servants if he finds them ready. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what hour the burglar would come, he would not have let anyone break through the wall of his house. You too must stand ready, because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.’

#### The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Priest:** — The Father, through Jesus, has set us as faithful stewards over his people. May we remain ever vigilant and faithful.

**Reader:** May the community of God’s people set their hearts on never-failing treasures: faith, hope, love, peace, and life eternal.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** — May government leaders attend to the needs of the people with wisdom and gentleness, never lording over God’s flock but giving it a shepherd’s care.

We Pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** May the sick, the elderly, and the handicapped keep their faith alive and be attentive to God’s comforting presence through the care of their family and friends. We Pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** May young people not measure success solely in terms of worldly gains but instead see in it an opportunity to render service to their neighbours.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For Christians everywhere: that they may be guided by the Holy Spirit in responding to their baptismal call to holiness.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For all the children preparing for their confirmation in our parish. 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:** For those who have died. In particular those mention in our parish bulletin. May God’s merciful love shine on them and their loved ones left behind.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader: Together we now pray the Prayer for the Parish Community.**

**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.**

**Priest:** Father, as we await the fulfilment of your promise, we offer our prayers in the hope of arriving at your heavenly Kingdom where you live and reign forever and ever.

**All:** Amen.