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

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

**COMMENTATOR GUIDE**

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

As Jesus taught us, we pray, “Thy will be done on earth as in heaven.” We want God to reign in our hearts and in the hearts of all men and women. Peace, love, joy, and justice are the values of God’s kingdom. God wants us to live and share these values.

The Celebrant for this Mass is

**Sat 5.30pm Vigil –**

**Sun 7.30am-**

**Sun 9am-**

**Sun 10.30am –**

**Sun 12.30pm-**

**Sun 5.30pm-**

Please join in signing the entrance Hymn

**Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A**

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

#### FIRST READING    1 Kgs 3:5.7-12

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

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, ‘Ask what you would like me to give you.’ Solomon replied, ‘Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?’ It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. ‘Since you have asked for this’ the Lord said ‘and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you.’

*The Word of the Lord.*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

**Ps 118:57. 72. 76-77. 127-130. R. v.97**

***(R) Lord, I love your commands.***

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord,

is to obey your word.

The law from your mouth means more to me

than silver and gold. (R.)

1. Let your love be ready to console me

by your promise to your servant.

Let your love come to me and I shall live

for your law is my delight. (R.)

1. That is why I love your commands

more than finest gold.

That is why I rule my life by your precepts:

I hate false ways. (R.)

1. Your will is wonderful indeed;

therefore I obey it.

The unfolding of your word gives light

and teaches the simple. (R.)

#### SECOND READING    Rom 8:28-30

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

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

*The Word of the Lord.*

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

#### Alleluia, alleluia!

#### Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth;

#### you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

#### Alleluia!

#### GOSPEL   Mt 13:44-52

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

Jesus said to the crowds, ‘The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.

‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

‘Have you understood all this?’ They said, ‘Yes.’ And he said to them, ‘Well, then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old.’

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

#### GOSPEL   Mt 13:44-46 (Shorter Form)

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

Jesus said to the crowds, ‘The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

‘Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it.’

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

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

**GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Priest:** — God our Father has given us the gift of faith as a treasure and a pearl of great price. Let us continue to cherish this gift and share it with people around us by living up to the demands of our faith.

**Reader:** That the Holy Father and Church leaders may work tirelessly toward making the kingdom of heaven permeate fully the life of humanity.

We Pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That God’s people may hold on to their faith and Christian values as true and lasting treasures, and not be seduced by the passing joys of power, prestige, and pleasure.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That the leaders of nations may work for prosperity and progress without forgetting their people and the deepest human values.

We Pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That all missionaries around the world may joyfully share their talents and possessions at the service of people, especially the poor, the sick, and the needy

We Pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That those who have died, especially missionaries, may at last find their “pearl of great price” in the heavenly kingdom and attain eternal peace with God

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 listen and discern.

 Reveal to us the way 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:** Most loving Father, hear the prayers of your people. Let your kingdom come to us and open our hearts to our brothers and sisters who hunger and thirst for your Word.

Grant this through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.