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

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

**Introduction:**

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

In today’s Gospel, Jesus calls his disciples “the salt of the earth” and “the light of the world.” By these images, Jesus points to our dignity as well as our mission.

Let us pray that we may be strengthened in our mission to be witnesses of Jesus who is the light of the world.

The Celebrant for this Mass is

Please now stand and join in our Entrance Hymn.

#### Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A

#### MASS READINGS

#### FIRST READING (Is 58:7-10)

*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*

Thus says the Lord:

Share your bread with the hungry,

and shelter the homeless poor,

clothe the man you see to be naked

and turn not from your own kin.

Then will your light shine like the dawn

and your wound be quickly healed over.

Your integrity will go before you

and the glory of the Lord behind you.

Cry, and the Lord will answer;

call, and he will say, ‘I am here.’

If you do away with the yoke,

the clenched fist, the wicked word,

if you give your bread to the hungry,

and relief to the oppressed,

your light will rise in the darkness,

and your shadows become like noon.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 111:4-9. R. v.4)**

***(R) A light rises in the darkness for the upright.***

#### 1. He is a light in the darkness for the upright:

#### he is generous, merciful and just.

#### The good man takes pity and lends,

#### he conducts his affairs with honour. (R.)

#### 2. The just man will never waver:

#### he will be remembered for ever.

#### He has no fear of evil news;

#### with a firm heart he trusts in the Lord. (R.)

#### 3. With a steadfast heart he will not fear;

#### open-handed, he gives to the poor;

#### his justice stands firm for ever.

#### His head will be raised in glory. (R.)

#### SECOND READING  (1 Cor 2:1-5)

*A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians*

When I came to you, brothers, it was not with any show of oratory or philosophy, but simply to tell you what God had guaranteed. During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus, and only about him as the crucified Christ. Far from relying on any power of my own, I came among you in great ‘fear and trembling’ and in my speeches and the sermons that I gave, there were none of the arguments that belong to philosophy; only a demonstration of the power of the Spirit. And I did this so that your faith should not depend on human philosophy but on the power of God.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the light of the world, says the Lord;

the man who follows me

will have the light of life.

Alleluia!

#### GOSPEL (Mt 5:13-16)

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

#### Jesus said to his disciples: ‘You are the salt of the earth. But if salt becomes tasteless, what can make it salty again? It is good for nothing, and can only be thrown out to be trampled underfoot by men.

#### ‘You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill-top cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp to put it under a tub; they put it on the lamp-stand where it shines for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.’

#### The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Priest:** Let us raise our hearts to our heavenly Father who listens to the humble petitions of his children. May his love empower us to live as salt of the earth and light of the world.

**Reader:** For the Church: may she become the light of Christ to the world and remain faithful to the Gospel.

*We Pray:*

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For our government leaders: may they continue to fight corruption, oppression, and discrimination particularly against the least, the lost, and the last.

*We Pray:*

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For our respective communities: may they continue to bear the light of Christ to the lonely, the downtrodden, and those who are suffering in soul and in body, and become the salt that satisfies their longing for healing

*We Pray:*

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That members of our Christian community continue to be inspired by the Word of God and enjoy one another’s presence and support and know that as disciples of Jesus we are never alone when we work for God’s kingdom.

*We Pray:*

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For the sick and the infirm: may they find healing and comfort in those who take care of them.

*We Pray:*

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For our beloved dead, especially those mentioned in our parish bulletin: may they receive the light, happiness, and peace in the. Lord, and rejoice in his glory forever.

*We Pray:*

**All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** **Together we now pray our Parish Community prayer.**

**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: Heavenly Father, let the light of your salvation shine upon us. Help us to become your true light of love in our service to others.**

**We ask this through Christ our Lord.**

**All: Amen.**