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

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

**Introduction**

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

Jesus affirms that only by being compassionate, forgiving, and loving can Christians break the shackles of violence and revenge that imprison the soul. His challenge may seem to be beyond our human capacity.

But he reminds us that our model and strength is the heavenly Father who is compassionate not only to the just but to sinners as well. May the Spirit of mercy and compassion help us to live as sons and daughters of the Most High by following the teachings of our Lord Jesus.

Our Mass will be celebrated today by:

Please stand and join in singing the Entrance Hymn.

OVERVIEW

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

Entrance Antiphon

Ps 12:6

O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.

My heart will rejoice in your salvation.

I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

First Reading

1 Sm 26:2. 7-9. 12-13. 22-23

A reading from the first book of Samuel

The Lord has put you in my power, but I will not raise my hand against you.

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph.

So in the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him.

Then Abishai said to David, ‘Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice. David answered Abishai, Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord’s anointed and be without guilt?’ David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul’s head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. David then called out, ‘Here is the king’s spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord’s anointed.’

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 102:1-4. 8. 10. 12-13. R. v.8

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord,

all my being, bless his holy name.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord

and never forget all his blessings. (R.)

2. It is he who forgives all your guilt,

who heals every one of your ills,

who redeems your life from the grave,

who crowns you with love and compassion. (R.)

3. The Lord is compassion and love,

slow to anger and rich in mercy.

He does not treat us according to our sins

nor repay us according to our faults. (R.)

4. As far as the east is from the west

so far does he remove our sins.

As a father has compassion on his sons,

the Lord has pity on those who fear him. (R.)

Second Reading

1 Cor 15:45-49

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

Just as we have carried the earthly image, we must carry the heavenly image.

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

Gospel Acclamation

Jn 13:34

Alleluia, alleluia!

I give you a new commandment;

love one another as I have loved you.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Lk 6:27-38

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Be merciful as your Father is merciful.

Jesus said to his disciples: ‘I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

‘Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.’

Communion Antiphon

Ps 9:2-3

I will recount all your wonders,

I will rejoice in you and be glad,

and sing psalms to your name, O Most High.

or

Jn 11:27

Lord, I have come to believe that you are the Christ,

the Son of the living God, who is coming into this world.

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

**GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Priest**: — Let us pray to the Father that we may truly become sons and daughters of him, who are called to mirror his mercy and compassion to everyone. With confidence, we pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** May the Holy Father Francis, bishops, priests, and all Church leaders mirror the unconditional love of Jesus who seeks out the lost, the weak, and the stray among God’s flock.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** May our political and civil leaders work to fight against the culture of death and become instruments of healing where injury exists.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** May the sick, the handicapped, the depressed, the elderly, and those who are in great pain because of injustice find healing and support through their families and leaders of their communities.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** May we receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation often and believe in the power of forgiveness so that we in turn may become more compassionate and forgiving.

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:** Listen to the prayers of your children, Father. Grant us the capacity to forgive from our hearts so that we may be one with you who live and reign for ever and ever.

**All:** Amen.