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

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR B**

**Introduction:**

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

The Fourth Sunday of Easter is Good Shepherd Sunday. This image of Christ speaks of his love, care, and self-giving unto death. It also reminds us of his victory through which we are delivered from a futile way of life.

This Sunday is also World Day of Prayer for Vocations. We implore the Lord to send “shepherds of souls” who can lead us to him and who, like him, can give themselves for the good of the flock. In this month dedicated to Mary, we ask the Mother of Jesus the Good Shepherd to protect with her maternal care vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

Our Mass will be celebrated today by

Please stand and join in singing the Entrance Hymn.

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER & ANZAC DAY- YEAR B**

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**FIRST READING** **Acts 4:8-12**

**A reading from the Acts of the Apostles**

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: ‘Rulers of the people, and elders!

If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence, today.

This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.’

*The Word of the Lord.*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 117:1. 8-9. 21-23. 26. 28-29. R. v.22**

***(R.) The stone rejected by the builders has become the cornerstone.***

1. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end. It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in men: it is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in princes. ***(R.)***
2. I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour. The stone which the builders rejected has become the corner stone. This is the work of the Lord, a marvel in our eyes. ***(R.)***
3. Blessed in the name of the Lord is he who comes. We bless you from the house of the Lord; I will thank you for you have given answer and you are my saviour. Give thanks to the Lord for he is good; for his love has no end. (***R.)***

**SECOND READING  1 Jn 3:1-2**

***A reading from the first letter of St John***

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God’s children; and that is what we are.

Because the world refused to acknowledge him,

therefore it does not acknowledge us.

My dear people, we are already the children of God

but what we are to be in the future has not yet been revealed;

all we know is, that when it is revealed we shall be like him

because we shall see him as he really is.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION    Jn 20:29**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;

I know my sheep, and mine know me.

Alleluia!

**GOSPEL   Jn 10:11-18**

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

Jesus said:

‘I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep.

The hired man, since he is not the shepherd and the sheep do not belong to him, abandons the sheep and runs away as soon as he sees a wolf coming, and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep; this is because he is only a hired man and has no concern for the sheep.

I am the good shepherd;

I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me

and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for my sheep.

And there are other sheep I have that are not of this fold,

and these I have to lead as well.

They too will listen to my voice, and there will be only one flock

and one shepherd. The Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again.

No one takes it from me; I lay it down of my own free will,

and as it is in my power to lay it down, so it is in my power to take it

up again; and this is the command I have been given by my

Father.’

*The Gospel of the Lord*

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR B**

**GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Priest:** Let us pray to God the Father so that in following his Son Jesus, the Good Shepherd, we may become instruments of his love and care for his people.

**Reader:** Bless our Holy Father Pope Francis, all bishops, priests, deacons, and all Church ministers. Give them warm and caring hearts that they may be true shepherds of your people.

We Pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** We remember all families, parents and children who lost loved ones through war. May the light of God’s hope and strength comfort them.

We Pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** Inspire more young people to find meaning and happiness in a life that is offered to you and dedicated to the service of their brothers and sisters.

We Pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** Give priests the joy of seeing God’s flock grow in an ever greater love for God and for all people, and the conviction that the Lord who has begun the good work in them will bring it to completion.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** We pray for all men in seminaries around the world, that they receive the graces necessary to fulfill their vocation and become good Shepherds of our flock.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** We pray for those who have died, members of our families, our friends who have gone before us especially those mentioned in our parish bulletin.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** Together we now pray our parish community prayer for Easter:

**All:** God of power and might, by your holy will you raised Jesus from the dead so that we might share his life eternally. As we rejoice and give you thanks for your great goodness and mercy, help us to reach out to those who do not yet believe in the truth of the gospel. Fill us with your compassion so that we may serve the weak and needy for love of you.

Strengthen the faith of our families so that we may grow together in love. May your joy grow in us day by day.

**Priest:** God of mercy, send forth your Spirit of peace to our world as we ask you to grant our prayers for those who have fallen in war. We ask this prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.