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

**THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C**

**Introduction:**

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

The Lord Jesus repeatedly warns us of the danger of riches, how they can blind us to the pitiful condition of the poor. The Gospel presents to us the right attitude in the example of Zacchaeus. This tax collector declares he is ready to share half of his wealth with the poor and to repay four times whatever he may have extorted from anyone.

Though short of stature, Zacchaeus has a big heart, thus winning Jesus’ praise for him as a true descendant of Abraham. As we worship God today, may we realize that we store up treasures for ourselves in heaven by being “rich in what matters to God” and helping our poor brothers and sisters

The Celebrant for today’s Mass is:

Please now stand and join in our Entrance Hymn.

#### Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year C

#### MASS READINGS

#### FIRST READING (Wis 11:22 – 12:2)

*A reading from the book of Wisdom*

In your sight, Lord, the whole world is like a grain of dust that tips the scales,

like a drop of morning dew falling on the ground.

Yet you are merciful to all, because you can do all things

and overlook men’s sins so that they can repent.

Yes, you love all that exists, you hold nothing of what you have made in abhorrence, for had you hated anything, you would not have formed it.

And how, had you not willed it, could a thing persist,

how be conserved if not called forth by you?

You spare all things because all things are yours, Lord, lover of life,

you whose imperishable spirit is in all.

Little by little, therefore, you correct those who offend,

you admonish and remind them of how they have sinned,

so that they may abstain from evil and trust in you, Lord.

*The Word of the Lord.*

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 144:1-2. 8-11. 13-14. R. see v.1)

***(R) I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.***

#### 1. I will give you glory, O God my King,

#### I will bless your name for ever.

#### I will bless you day after day

#### and praise your name for ever. (R.)

#### 2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,

#### slow to anger, abounding in love.

#### How good is the Lord to all,

#### compassionate to all his creatures. (R.)

#### 3. All your creatures shall thank you, O Lord,

#### and your friends shall repeat their blessing.

#### They shall speak of the glory of your reign

#### and declare your might, O God. (R.)

#### 4. The Lord is faithful in all his words

#### and loving in all his deeds.

#### The Lord supports all who fall

#### and raises all who are bowed down. (R.)

#### SECOND READING  (2 Thes 1:11 – 2:2)

*A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians*

We pray continually that our God will make you worthy of his call, and by his power fulfil all your desires for goodness and complete all that you have been doing through faith; because in this way the name of our Lord Jesus Christ will be glorified in you and you in him, by the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

To turn now, brothers, to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and how we shall all be gathered round him: please do not get excited too soon or alarmed by any prediction or rumour or any letter claiming to come from us, implying that the Day of the Lord has already arrived.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**PLEASE STAND TO WELCOME THE GOSPEL**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son,

that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

Alleluia

#### GOSPEL (Lk 19:1-10)

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

#### Jesus entered Jericho and was going through the town when a man whose name was Zacchaeus made his appearance; he was one of the senior tax collectors and a wealthy man. He was anxious to see what kind of man Jesus was, but he was too short and could not see him for the crowd; so he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to catch a glimpse of Jesus who was to pass that way. When Jesus reached the spot he looked up and spoke to him: ‘Zacchaeus, come down. Hurry, because I must stay at your house today.’ And he hurried down and welcomed him joyfully.

#### They all complained when they saw what was happening. ‘He has gone to stay at a sinner’s house’ they said. But Zacchaeus stood his ground and said to the Lord, ‘Look, sir, I am going to give half my property to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody I will pay him back four times the amount.’ And Jesus said to him, ‘Today salvation has come to this house, because this man too is a son of Abraham; for the Son of Man has come to seek out and save what was lost.’

#### The Gospel of the Lord.

**THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C**

**GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Priest:** Let us raise our hearts to God and pray for the good things he has in store for us. Full of confidence, we pray.

**Reader:**  That our religious and civil leaders may put their trust in the Lord who strengthens those who serve his people with integrity,

We pray:

**R – Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That the rich, the powerful, and the satisfied may learn to use the goods of the earth responsibly and in a spirit of sharing,

We Pray:

**R – Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That those in government and other institutions may have the wisdom, the courage, and the honesty to use their gifts and resources in the service of the country, the poor, and the powerless,

We Pray:

**R – Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For those who have died. In particular those mentioned in our parish bulletin and the names written on our memorial wall. 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:** Loving Father, you love us and protect us always. Hear our prayers and make us your torch bearers who shine the light of your love everywhere we go. Through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.