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

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

**COMMENTATOR GUIDE**

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

We live in a world of pain. We undergo physical, emotional, and moral suffering. There are times when, like Job, we are greatly overwhelmed and ask: “Is not man’s life on earth a drudgery?”

The Gospel presents Jesus attending to the sick and the suffering. In him who is God-made-man, God shows himself close to people who are broken in soul and body. Through him, God comes into this “valley of tears” and begins the transformation of despair into hope, of death into life.

The Celebrant for this Mass is

**Please stand and join in singing the entrance hymn:**

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

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**First Reading (Jb 7:1-4. 6-7)**

A reading from the book of Job

Job began to speak:

Is not man’s life on earth nothing more than pressed service,

his time no better than hired drudgery?

Like the slave, sighing for the shade,

or the workman with no thought but his wages,

months of delusion I have assigned to me,

nothing for my own but nights of grief.

Lying in bed I wonder, ‘When will it be day?’

Risen I think, ‘How slowly evening comes!’

Restlessly I fret till twilight falls.

Swifter than a weaver’s shuttle my days have passed,

and vanished, leaving no hope behind.

Remember that my life is but a breath,

and that my eyes will never again see joy.

*The Word of the Lord*

**Responsorial Psalm (Ps 146:1-6. R. v.3)**

**(R.) Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted.**

**1.** Praise the Lord for he is good;

sing to our God for he is loving:

to him our praise is due. **(R.)**

**2.** The Lord builds up Jerusalem

and brings back Israel’s exiles,

he heals the broken-hearted,

he binds up all their wounds.

He fixes the number of the stars;

he calls each one by its name. **(R.)**

**3.** Our Lord is great and almighty;

his wisdom can never be measured.

The Lord raises the lowly;

he humbles the wicked to the dust. **(R.)**

**Second Reading (1 Cor 9:16-19. 22-23)**

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

I do not boast of preaching the gospel, since it is a duty which has been laid on me; I should be punished if I did not preach it! If I had chosen this work myself, I might have been paid for it, but as I have not, it is a responsibility which has been put into my hands. Do you know what my reward is? It is this: in my preaching, to be able to offer the Good News free, and not insist on the rights which the gospel gives me.

So though I am not a slave of any man I have made myself the slave of everyone so as to win as many as I could. For the weak I made myself weak. I made myself all things to all men in order to save some at any cost; and I still do this, for the sake of the gospel, to have a share in its blessings.

*The Word of the Lord*

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

He bore our sickness,

and endured our suffering.

Alleluia!

**Gospel (Mk 1:29-39)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

On leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Now Simon’s mother-in-law had gone to bed with fever, and they told him about her straightaway. He went to her, took her by the hand and helped her up. And the fever left her and she began to wait on them.

That evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were sick and those who were possessed by devils. The whole town came crowding round the door, and he cured many who were suffering from diseases of one kind or another; he also cast out many devils, but he would not allow them to speak, because they knew who he was.

In the morning, long before dawn, he got up and left the house, and went off to a lonely place and prayed there. Simon and his companions set out in search of him, and when they found him they said, ‘Everybody is looking for you.’ He answered, ‘Let us go elsewhere, to the neighbouring country towns, so that I can preach there too, because that is why I came.’ And he went all through Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out devils.

*The Gospel of the Lord*

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

**GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Celebrant:** — Let us pray to the Father who has given us new life in Christ Jesus, who came to heal, to forgive, and to offer his life for us.

**Reader:** May Pope Francis, bishops, priests, and deacons continue to become instruments of healing to the sick, the lonely, and the abandoned, and help them to unite their sufferings with Christ.

We Pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** May government officials remember their duty to serve the people, especially the poor and the marginalised, without extra recompense or recognition for their efforts.

We Pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** May all the sick, the elderly, and handicapped be filled with hope and faith, and experience the comforting presence of Jesus through the care of their friends and loved ones.

We Pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** May consecrated men and women desire to seek ever more of Christ not only in the silence of their hearts but also in compassion for those in need.

We Pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** May our family members, relatives, and friends who have died experience everlasting joy in the company of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, and all those mentioned in our parish bulletin.

We Pray:

**R — 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.

**Celebrant:** Listen to our prayers, Lord. Make us aware of the needs of many of your people and teach us to strengthen one another and carry one another’s burden. This we ask through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.