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

**TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A**

**MISSION SUNDAY**

**COMMENTATOR GUIDE**

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

Today’s Gospel speaks about a parable centred on the image of a banquet. God is the king who invites everyone to the feast of his kingdom. Many have been called to this feast and yet many also refuse to respond to the invitation. As Christians, are we dressed for the feast, clothed in the garment of righteousness? May our celebration of the Eucharist make us worthy of the invitation that we received and participate in God’s eternal banquet.

The Celebrant for this Mass is

Please join in sing the entrance hymn.

**TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A**

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**First Reading (Is 25:6-10)**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

On this mountain,

the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people

a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines,

of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.

On this mountain he will remove

the mourning veil covering all peoples,

and the shroud enwrapping all nations,

he will destroy Death for ever.

The Lord will wipe away

the tears from every cheek;

he will take away his people's shame

everywhere on earth,

for the Lord has said so.

That day, it will be said: See, this is our God

in whom we hoped for salvation;

the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.

We exult and we rejoice

that he has saved us;

for the hand of the Lord

rests on this mountain.

*The Word of the Lord*

**Responsorial Psalm (Ps 22. R. v.6)**

***(R.) I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.***

**1.** The Lord is my shepherd;

there is nothing I shall want.

Fresh and green are the pastures

where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me,

to revive my drooping spirit.  **(R.)**

**2.** He guides me along the right path;

he is true to his name.

If I should walk in the valley of darkness

no evil would I fear.

You are there with your crook and your staff;

with these you give me comfort. **(R.)**

**3.** You have prepared a banquet for me

in the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil;

my cup is overflowing. **(R.)**

**4.** Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me

all the days of my life.

In the Lord’s own house shall I dwell

for ever and ever. **(R.)**

**Second Reading (Phil 4:12-14. 19-20)**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for ever and ever. Amen.

*The Word of the Lord*

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ

enlighten the eyes of our heart

that we might see how great is the hope

to which we are called.

Alleluia!

**Gospel (Mt 22:1-14)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: ‘The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast for his son’s wedding. He sent his servants to call those who had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some more servants. “Tell those who have been invited” he said “that I have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding.” But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them and killed them. The king was furious. He dispatched his troops, destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to his servants, “The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite everyone you can find to the wedding.” So these servants went out onto the roads and collected together everyone they could find, bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, “How did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?” And the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.” For many are called, but few are chosen.’

*The Gospel of the Lord*

**TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR A**

**GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Celebrant:** — As we anticipate the coming of God’s kingdom and share in his holy and eternal banquet, let us pray to the Father that we may be filled with the spirit of patience and readiness to safeguard our Church and world.

**Reader:** For our Holy Father and Church leaders: may they seek new ways of proclaiming the Gospel and continue to speak out fearlessly for justice and peace, freedom and responsibility.

We Pray:

**R - Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For our civil leaders and politicians: may they recognize their dependence on God as the source of all authority and dedicate themselves wholeheartedly to the well-being of our people especially the poor, the weak, and the marginalized.

We pray:

**R - Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For all the faithful: may they take up their duty to assist the missionary work of the Church, especially the Pontifical Mission Societies, by their prayers, sacrifices, and financial aid.

We pray:

**R - Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For all Christian families: may they become effective agents of evangelization by being active in parish life, by being involved in service to others, and by being witnesses to the Gospel.

We Pray:

**R - Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For all of us: may we realize that we are pilgrims in this world. May we cherish and use the gifts of your creation to establish your reign of love, justice, and peace.

We Pray:

**R - Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That those who have died and who valued that life for them was Christ, may now live fully in him in heaven, especially remembering 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:** Father, we humbly ask you to hear our petitions and help us to live in accord with the truth that sets us free in your Son. Who lives and reigns forever.

**All:** Amen.