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

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

**Introduction**

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

As Jesus inaugurates his mission in Nazareth, the people in his town, though amazed at his gracious words, question his claim because he is just one of them, being the son of Joseph. They are furious when Jesus cites two examples of how God sent great prophets to non-Israelites. True acceptance and following of Jesus involve openness to the Spirit’s call to search our hearts. In Jesus, the love of God is offered to all, not only to a few people.

Our Mass will be celebrated today by:

Please stand and join in singing the Entrance Hymn.

OVERVIEW

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

Entrance Antiphon

Ps 105:47

Save us, O Lord our God!

And gather us from the nations,

to give thanks to your holy name,

and make it our glory to praise you.

First Reading

Jer 1:4-5. 17-19

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah

I have appointed you as prophet to the nations.

In the days of Josiah, the word of the Lord was addressed to me, saying,

‘Before I formed you in the womb I knew you;

before you came to birth I consecrated you;

I have appointed you as prophet to the nations.

So now brace yourself for action.

Stand up and tell them

all I command you.

Do not be dismayed at their presence,

or in their presence I will make you dismayed.

I, for my part, today will make you

into a fortified city,

a pillar of iron,

and a wall of bronze

to confront all this land:

the kings of Judah, its princes,

its priests and the country people.

They will fight against you

but shall not overcome you,

for I am with you to deliver you –

it is the Lord who speaks.’

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 70:1-6. 15. 17. R. v.15

(R.) I will sing of your salvation.

1. In you, O Lord, I take refuge;

let me never be put to shame.

In your justice rescue me, free me:

pay heed to me and save me. (R.)

2. Be a rock where I can take refuge,

a mighty stronghold to save me;

for you are my rock, my stronghold.

Free me from the hand of the wicked. (R.)

3. It is you, O Lord, who are my hope,

my trust, O Lord, since my youth.

On you I have leaned from my birth,

from my mother’s womb you have been my help. (R.)

4. My lips will tell of your justice

and day by day of your help.

O God, you have taught me from my youth

and I proclaim your wonders still. (R.)

Second Reading

1 Cor 12:31 – 13:13

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

There are three things that last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.

Be ambitious for the higher gifts. And I am going to show you a way that is better than any of them.

If I have all the eloquence of men or of angels, but speak without love, I am simply a gong booming or a cymbal clashing. If I have the gift of prophecy, understanding all the mysteries there are, and knowing everything, and if I have faith in all its fullness, to move mountains, but without love, then I am nothing at all. If I give away all that I possess, piece by piece, and if I even let them take my body to burn it, but am without love, it will do me no good whatever.

Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous; love is never boastful or conceited; it is never rude or selfish; it does not take offence, and is not resentful. Love takes no pleasure in other people’s sins but delights in the truth; it is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes.

Love does not come to an end. But if there are gifts of prophecy, the time will come when they must fail; or the gift of languages, it will not continue for ever; and knowledge – for this, too, the time will come when it must fail. For our knowledge is imperfect and our prophesying is imperfect; but once perfection comes, all imperfect things will disappear. When I was a child, I used to talk like a child, and think like a child, and argue like a child, but now I am a man, all childish ways are put behind me. Now we are seeing a dim reflection in a mirror; but then we shall be seeing face to face. The knowledge that I have now is imperfect; but then I shall know as fully as I am known.

In short, there are three things that last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.

or

Shorter form

1 Cor 13:4-13

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

Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous; love is never boastful or conceited; it is never rude or selfish; it does not take offence, and is not resentful. Love takes no pleasure in other people’s sins but delights in the truth; it is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope, and to endure whatever comes.

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In short, there are three things that last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.

Gospel Acclamation

Lk 4:18

Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor

and freedom to prisoners.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Lk 4:21-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus, like Elijah and Elisha, was not sent only to the Jews.

Jesus began to speak in the synagogue, ‘This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.’ And he won the approval of all, and they were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips.

They said, ‘This is Joseph’s son, surely?’ But he replied, ‘No doubt you will quote me the saying, “Physician, heal yourself” and tell me, “We have heard all that happened in Capernaum, do the same here in your own countryside.”’ And he went on, ‘I tell you solemnly, no prophet is ever accepted in his own country.

‘There were many widows in Israel, I can assure you, in Elijah’s day, when heaven remained shut for three years and six months and a great famine raged throughout the land, but Elijah was not sent to any one of these: he was sent to a widow at Zarephath, a Sidonian town. And in the prophet Elisha’s time there were many lepers in Israel, but none of these was cured, except the Syrian, Naaman.’

When they heard this everyone in the synagogue was enraged. They sprang to their feet and hustled him out of the town; and they took him up to the brow of the hill their town was built on, intending to throw him down the cliff, but he slipped through the crowd and walked away.

Communion Antiphon

Cf. Ps 30:17-18

Let your face shine on your servant.

Save me in your merciful love.

O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

or

Mt 5:3-4

Blessed are the poor in spirit,

for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall possess the land.

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

**GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Priest**: — Let us pray to the Father to guide us as we bear witness to our Christian calling. May the celebration of Pro-Life Sunday, strengthen our resolve to defend the dignity of the human person. Let our prayer be:

**Reader:** That we may come to realize that God’s command to love our neighbour extends to all people especially the weak, the sick, and the most vulnerable in

our midst

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That all people may come to see the unborn child as a gift to be welcomed in God’s name

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That the celebration of the Eucharist may strengthen all families, to welcome the gift of new life, sealed by virtue of Holy Matrimony

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That when making choices involving another’s life or death, we may always be aware that we will be held accountable for our choices

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For all those who struggle with the handicapped and the old, may the people of God reach out to them in love.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For those who have died especially those mentioned 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 to Our Lady, to implore her protection,**

 **health of the sick, during the Covid-19 pandemic.**

**All:** O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

 We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.

 At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus’ pain, with steadfast faith.

 You, Salvation of the People, know what we need.

 We are certain that you will provide, so that joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

 Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father’s will and to do what Jesus tell us:

 He who took our sufferings upon Himself, bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross and to the joy of the Resurrection.

 We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.

 Do not despise our pleas - we who are put to the test-and deliver us from

 every danger; O glorious and blessed Virgin, Pray for us.

**Priest:** Loving Father, you love us and protect us always. Hear our prayers and make us your prophets who sow the seeds of your love everywhere we go.

Make us truly cherish and embrace every gift of life that comes from you who lives and reigns now and for ever.

**All:** Amen.