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

**SUNDAY, 8TH OCTOBER 2023:**

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

**COMMENTATOR GUIDE**

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

In today’s Gospel we see how the Lord has given us grace in abundance. God has endowed us with natural life, bestowed on us spiritual life in Christ, and made available to us the means to maintain and nurture both lives. Let us pray that we may be worthy of the good things that the Lord has done for us.

The Celebrant for this Mass is

Please join in sing the entrance hymn.

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

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**First Reading (Is 5:1-7)**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Let me sing to my friend

the song of his love for his vineyard.

My friend had a vineyard

on a fertile hillside.

He dug the soil, cleared it of stones,

and planted choice vines in it.

In the middle he built a tower,

he dug a press there too.

He expected it to yield grapes,

but sour grapes were all that it gave.

And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem

and men of Judah,

I ask you to judge

between my vineyard and me.

What could I have done for my vineyard

that I have not done?

I expected it to yield grapes.

Why did it yield sour grapes instead?

Very well, I will tell you

what I am going to do to my vineyard:

I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on,

and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on.

I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug;

overgrown by the briar and the thorn.

I will command the clouds

to rain no rain on it.

Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts

is the House of Israel,

and the men of Judah

that chosen plant.

He expected justice, but found bloodshed,

integrity, but only a cry of distress.

*The Word of the Lord*

**Responsorial Psalm (Ps 79:9. 12-16. 19-20. R. Is 5:7)**

***(R.) The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.***

**1.** You brought a vine out of Egypt;

 to plant it you drove out the nations.

 It stretched out its branches to the sea,

 to the Great River it stretched out its shoots. **(R.)**

**2.** Then why have you broken down its walls?

 It is plucked by all who pass by.

 It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,

 devoured by the beasts of the field. **(R.)**

**3.** God of hosts, turn again, we implore,

 look down from heaven and see.

 Visit this vine and protect it,

 the vine your right hand has planted. **(R.)**

**4.** And we shall never forsake you again:

 give us life that we may call upon your name.

 God of hosts, bring us back;

 let your face shine on us and we shall be saved. **(R.)**

**Second Reading (Phil 4:6-9)**

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

*The Word of the Lord*

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

I call you friends, says the Lord,

because I have made known to you

everything I have learnt from my Father.

Alleluia!

**Gospel (Mt 21:33-43)**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, ‘Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. “They will respect my son,” he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, “This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance.” So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?’ They answered, ‘He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.’ Jesus said to them, ‘Have you never read in the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders

that became the keystone.

This was the Lord’s doing

and it is wonderful to see?

‘I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.’

*The Gospel of the Lord*

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

**GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Priest:** — We are the Lord’s cherished plant, nurtured by him to produce good fruits. Let us pray to the Father that we may lead fruitful lives and be witnesses of his mercy to others.

**Reader:** May our Church leaders be examples of living out poverty by turning from their luxurious lifestyle and responding creatively to the cries of the less fortunate.

We Pray:

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

**Reader:** That each of us will turn away from hate, bear no ill-will against others,

nor hold resentment or anger in our relationships.

We pray:

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

**Reader:** May we become responsible caretakers of the earth and share our material things to those who are in dire need.

We pray:

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

**Reader:** For our Diocesan Synod may the inspiration of the Holy Spirit guide our journey so that we experience renewal in our local Church today and for generations to come.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** May our parishioners preparing for their Year 12, University and TAFE exams do so with fortitude, patience and dedication.

We Pray:

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

**Reader:** That those who have gone before us may God receive them kindly, with generosity and forgiveness, and the rewards of their faith. For those who they have left behind who mourn. That they will receive strength to assist them in their sadness and grief.

We Pray:

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

**Reader:** Together we now pray for the succession of the Synod:

**All:** O God, who always walks with us on the journey of life, we call upon you to lead us forth united.

 Bless and guide our Diocesan Synod.

 Keep us anchored in your love.

 Open our hearts as we are called to go out into the deep.

 Give us the courage to pursue the mission with bold humility.

 May we experience renewal in our local Church today, and for generations to come.

 We ask this prayer through Jesus Christ, who in the power of the Holy Spirit continues to guide your Church, to the fullness of your Kingdom now, and forever. Amen

 Our Lady Help of Christians, Pray for us.

 St Mary Of the Cross Mackillop, Pray for us.

**Priest:** Fill us with your Spirit, Lord, so that we may overcome our weaknesses and offer you lives of faithfulness and service in the name of Jesus our Lord.

**All:** Amen.