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

**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) - YEAR A**

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

Like Thomas, may the Lord open our eyes today to the power of the resurrection

and transform our doubts and fears into confident faith and boundless joy.

Today, too, is Divine Mercy Sunday. Promoted by St.` Faustina Kowalska,

this devotion is a perennial invitation for us to face, with confidence in divine goodness, the difficulties and trials of the present and the future.

The Celebrant for this Mass is

Please stand and join in singing the entrance Hymn

#### Second Sunday of Easter – (Divine Mercy Sunday) - Year A

#### MASS READINGS

#### FIRST READING (Acts 2:42-47)

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles*

The whole community remained faithful to the teaching of the apostles, to the brotherhood, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers.

The many miracles and signs worked through the apostles made a deep impression on everyone.

The faithful all lived together and owned everything in common; they sold their goods and possessions and shared out the proceeds among themselves according to what each one needed.

They went as a body to the Temple every day but met in their houses for the breaking of bread; they shared their food gladly and generously; they praised God and were looked up to by everyone. Day by day the Lord added to their community those destined to be saved.

*The Word of the Lord.*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 117:2-4. 13-15. 22-24. R. v.1)**

***(R) Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love is everlasting.***

#### 1. Let the sons of Israel say:

#### ‘His love has no end.’

#### Let the sons of Aaron say:

#### ‘His love has no end.’

#### Let those who fear the Lord say:

#### 'His love has no end.' (R.)

#### 2. I was thrust, thrust down and falling

#### but the Lord was my helper.

#### The Lord is my strength and my song;

#### he was my saviour.

#### There are shouts of joy and victory

#### in the tents of the just. (R.)

#### 3. The stone which the builders rejected

#### has become the corner stone.

#### This is the work of the Lord,

#### a marvel in our eyes.

#### This day was made by the Lord;

#### we rejoice and are glad. (R.)

#### SECOND READING  (1 Pt 1:3-9)

A reading from the first letter of St Peter

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God’s power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of time.

This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold – only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire – and then you will have praise and glory and honour.

You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!

You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me;

happy those who have not seen me, but still believe!

Alleluia!

#### GOSPEL (Jn 20:19-31)

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

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, ‘Peace be with you,’ and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, ‘Peace be with you.

‘As the Father sent me,

so am I sending you.’

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

‘Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,

they are forgiven;

for those whose sins you retain,

they are retained.’

Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them

when Jesus came. When the disciples said, ‘We have seen the Lord’, he

answered, ‘Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can

put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his

side, I refuse to believe.’ Eight days later the disciples were in the house

again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in

and stood among them. ‘Peace be with you’ he said. Then he spoke to

Thomas, ‘Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand;

put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.’ Thomas replied, ‘My Lord

and my God!’ Jesus said to him:

‘You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.’

There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

 **The Gospel of the Lord.**

**2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) - YEAR A**

**GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Priest**: — Let us pray to our Father almighty for he is loving, merciful, and just. Through his Son Jesus, we have victory, salvation, and eternal life.

**Reader:** — That the leaders of the Church, believing in and experiencing the Lord’s infinite mercy, may always proclaim it to God’s people.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That our civil leaders, like the apostles, may attend to the needs of our communities and work for peace, unity, and progress

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That those who, like Thomas, live in doubt and fear, may be strengthened by the peace and forgiveness of the Risen Christ to face life’s challenges and difficulties.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That as Christians we may cherish Jesus’ gift of salvation, be continually renewed, and together build a community of prayer, fellowship, and service.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That all of us gathered here, immersed in the ocean of Divine Mercy, may live as ministers of the Lord’s peace and reconciliation.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That the faithful departed especially those mentioned in our parish bulletin, share in Christ’s glorious Resurrection.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** Together we now pray our parish community prayer for Easter:

**All:** God of power and might, by your holy will you raised Jesus from the dead so that we might share his life eternally. As we rejoice and give you thanks for your great goodness and mercy, help us to reach out to those who do not yet believe in the truth of the gospel.

Fill us with your compassion so that we may serve the weak and needy

for love of you.

Strengthen the faith of our families so that we may grow together in love. May your joy grow in us day by day.

**Priest:** God our Father, in Jesus you have shown us your boundless love and infinite mercy. Teach us to love you in return, to entrust our lives to your love and mercy, and to serve you in our brothers and sisters.

This we ask through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.