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

**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

**Introduction**

Good Morning / Evening and welcome to the parish of Mary Immaculate Quakers Hill – Schofields.

Today we celebrate the feast of the Lord’s Baptism. The baptism of the Lord inaugurates his mission as Messiah. But Jesus reveals himself not as a

glorious figure but one who is obedient to the Father and close to the poor and to sinners. Today’s feast reminds us of our own baptism, which entails

dying to our own sinful ways to rise up as beloved children of the Father.

Our Mass with be celebrate today by

Please stand and join in singing the Entrance Hymn.

**The Baptism of the Lord**

**YEAR A**

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

#### FIRST READING:    Is 42:1-4. 6-7

*A reading from the prophet Isaiah*

Thus says the Lord:

Here is my servant whom I uphold,

my chosen one in whom my soul delights.

I have endowed him with my spirit

that he may bring true justice to the nations.

He does not cry out or shout aloud,

or make his voice heard in the streets.

He does not break the crushed reed,

nor quench the wavering flame.

Faithfully he brings true justice;

he will neither waver, nor be crushed

until true justice is established on earth,

for the islands are awaiting his law.

I, the Lord, have called you to serve the cause of right;

I have taken you by the hand and formed you;

I have appointed you as covenant of the people and light of the nations,

to open the eyes of the blind,

to free captives from prison,

and those who live in darkness from the dungeon..

*The Word of the Lord.*

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

***R.) The Lord will bless his people with peace.***

1. O give the Lord you sons of God,

 give the Lord glory and power;

 give the Lord the glory of his name.

 Adore the Lord in his holy court. ***(R.)***

2. The Lord’s voice resounding on the waters,

 the Lord on the immensity of waters;

 the voice of the Lord, full of power,

 the voice of the Lord, full of splendour ***(R.)***

3. The God of glory thunders.

 In his temple they all cry: ‘Glory!’

 The Lord sat enthroned over the flood;

 the Lord sits as king for ever ***(R.)***

#### SECOND READING:   Acts 10:34-38

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles*

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: ‘The truth I have now come to realise’ he said ‘is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him.

‘It is true, God sent his word to the people of Israel, and it was to them that the good news of peace was brought by Jesus Christ – but Jesus Christ is Lord of all men. You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil.’

*The Word of the Lord.*

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The heavens were opened and the Father’s voice was heard:

this is my beloved Son, hear him.

Alleluia!

#### GOSPEL:   Mt 3:13-17

*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew*

Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. John tried to dissuade him. ‘It is I who need baptism from you,’ he said ‘and yet you come to me!’ But Jesus replied, ‘Leave it like this for the time being; it is fitting that we should, in this way, do all that righteousness demands.’ At this, John gave in to him.

As soon as Jesus was baptised he came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. A voice spoke from heaven, ‘This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him.’.

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

**THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

**YEAR A**

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

**Priest:** Jesus came to be baptised in the Jordan so that through the cleansing waters of baptism he might heal our sinful nature. Let us now pray to the Father that we may live up to our dignity as children of God.

**Reader:** May the People of God have a renewed appreciation of the sacrament of Baptism, which constitutes the foundation of communion among all Christians.

*We pray.*

 **R – Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** May we be faithful to our baptismal calling to be “other Christs” who continue his mission of doing good to people around us.

 *We pray.*

 **R – Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** May parents and godparents be faithful to their duty to help bring up children in the knowledge of faith and in obedience to God’s commandments.

 *We pray.*

 **R – Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** May those who exercise authority learn from the example of Christ who followed God’s demands in humility and service.

*We pray.*

 **R – Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For those who have died. In particular 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 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.

**Priest:** Heavenly Father, grant that we may be faithful to Jesus to whom we belong by our baptism in water and the Spirit.

We ask this through the same Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**