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

**SUNDAY 16TH JUNE**

**ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME- YEAR B**

**Introduction:**

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

We know that if we plant a seed, in time, it will grow to be a big tree that bears abundant fruit and serves as a leafy home to birds. Yet nobody knows exactly how nature works. In today’s Gospel, Jesus tells us that this is how the reign of God works in our lives and in the world. Its beginning is rather small, but given time, it grows into something big.

Our Mass will be celebrated today by

Please stand and join in singing the Entrance Hymn.

**Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time- Year B**

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**FIRST READING**   **Ez 17:22-24**

**A reading from the prophet Ezekiel**

The Lord says this:

‘From the top of the cedar,

from the highest branch I will take a shoot

and plant it myself on a very high mountain.

I will plant it on the high mountain of Israel.

It will sprout branches and bear fruit,

and become a noble cedar.

Every kind of bird will live beneath it,

every winged creature rest in the shade of its branches.

And every tree of the field will learn that I, the Lord, am the one

who stunts tall trees and makes the low ones grow,

who withers green trees and makes the withered green.

I, the Lord, have spoken, and I will do it.’

*The Word of the Lord.*

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 91:2-3. 13-16. R. see v.2**

***(R.) Lord, it is good to give thanks to you.***

1. It is good to give thanks to the Lord

to make music to your name, O Most High,

to proclaim your love in the morning

and your truth in the watches of the night.. ***(R.)***

1. The just will flourish like the palm-tree

and grow like a Lebanon cedar. ***(R.)***

1. Planted in the house of the Lord

they will flourish in the courts of our God,

still bearing fruit when they are old,

still full of sap, still green,

to proclaim that the Lord is just.

In him, my rock, there is no wrong. (***R.)***

**SECOND READING  2 Cor 5:6-10**

***A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians***

We are always full of confidence when we remember that to live in the body means to be exiled from the Lord, going as we do by faith and not by sight – we are full of confidence, I say, and actually want to be exiled from the body and make our home with the Lord. Whether we are living in the body or exiled from it, we are intent on pleasing him. For all the truth about us will be brought out in the law court of Christ, and each of us will get what he deserves for the things he did in the body, good or bad.

*The Word of the Lord.*

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

The seed is the word of God, Christ is the sower;

all who come to him will live for ever.

Alleluia!

**GOSPEL: Mk 4:26-34**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark**

Jesus said to the crowds, ‘This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man throws seed on the land. Night and day, while he sleeps, when he is awake, the seed is sprouting and growing; how, he does not know. Of its own accord the land produces first the shoot, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the crop is ready, he loses no time; he starts to reap because the harvest has come.’

He also said, ‘What can we say the kingdom of God is like? What parable can we find for it? It is like a mustard seed which at the time of its sowing in the soil is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet once it is sown it grows into the biggest shrub of them all and puts out big branches so that the birds of the air can shelter in its shade.’

Using many parables like these, he spoke the word to them, so far as they were capable of understanding it. He would not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything to his disciples when they were alone.

*The Gospel of the Lord*

**SUNDAY 16TH JUNE**

**ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME- YEAR B**

**GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Priest:** Let us pray to the heavenly Father that his Kingdom may grow abundantly here on earth—a kingdom of love, peace, and joy.

**Reader:** That the Church, the community of God’s people, may be a leaven for the whole world through its proclamation of and witness to the love of God for all men and women.

We Pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That Church leaders and all those who work for the building of God’s kingdom may not be discouraged by the seeming lack of success of their efforts but continue to rely on God who alone gives growth.

We Pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That the Lord may provide those who labour in the land with food for body and spirit, make their work fruitful, and give them a rich harvest.

We Pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That those who suffer, especially the sick, the handicapped, and the elderly may join their pains with the sufferings of Jesus through which we are redeemed

We Pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** May our departed brothers and sisters especially those who died recently also those whose anniversary occurs at this time be welcomed into the Kingdom of eternal life, and we also remember those mentioned in our parish bulletin.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader: Together we now pray the Prayer for the Parish**

 **Community.**

**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:** Father, in your great love you cause the seed to grow even while the farmer is asleep. Look on our petitions for a peaceful and loving community.

Through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.