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

**SUNDAY 2ND FEBRUARY**

**THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD - YEAR C**

**Introduction**

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

The presentation of Jesus in the temple shows him to be the firstborn Son who belongs to the Lord. With Simeon and Anna, all Israel awaits its encounter with the Savior-the name given to this event in the Byzantine tradition. Jesus is recognized as the long-expected Messiah, the “light to the nations” and the “glory of Israel,” but also “a sign that is spoken against.” The sword of sorrow predicted for Mary announces Christ's perfect and unique oblation on the cross that will impart the salvation God had “prepared in the presence of all peoples.

Our Mass will be celebrated today by:

Please stand and join in singing the Entrance Hymn.

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**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

#### FIRST READING   Malachi 3:1-4

#### A reading from the prophet Malachi

 The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner’s fire and the fuller’s alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

 *The Word of the Lord.*

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 23:7-10. R. v.10

#### (R.) Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

1. O gates, lift up your heads;

 grow higher, ancient doors.

 Let him enter, the king of glory! ***(R.)***

 2. Who is the king of glory?

 The Lord, the mighty, the valiant,

 the Lord, the valiant in war. ***(R.)***

3. O gates, lift high your heads;

 grow higher, ancient doors.

 Let him enter, the king of glory! ***(R.)***

 4. Who is he, the king of glory?

He, the Lord of armies,

he is the king of glory. ***(R.)***

#### SECOND READING  Hebrews 2:14-18

 **A reading from the letter to the Hebrews**

 Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Jesus too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God’s religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

 But Christ has in fact been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of all who have fallen asleep.

*The Word of the Lord.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

This is the light of revelation to the nations,

and the glory of your people Israel.

Alleluia!

####  GOSPEL (Luke 2:22-40)

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

 When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel’s comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God, and he said:

‘Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace,

just as you promised;

because my eyes have seen the salvation

which you have prepared for all the nations to see,

a light to enlighten the pagans

and the glory of your people Israel.’

As the child’s father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, ‘You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too – so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.’

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God’s favour was with him.

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

 **or**

**Shorter form**

**Luke 2:22-32**

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

My eyes have seen your saving power.

When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel’s comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:

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*The Gospel of the Lord.*

**SUNDAY 2nd FEBRUARY**

**THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD- YEAR C**

**GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Priest**: — Brothers and sisters, through the Child Jesus, let us bring our prayers before the Lord.

**Reader:** That priests and bishops will continue to enlighten and nourish us through the Word of God.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That Christians all over the world remain true to the teachings of the Church.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That our parish community will know the salvation that God has prepared for us through his Son, the Light of the world.

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** That those who hold public office and those who assist them in promoting the common good,

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For all of us: may we be committed in using respectful language, telling the truth, and upholding the dignity of human rights,

We pray:

**R — Lord, hear our prayer.**

**Reader:** For those who have died. In particular those mention 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 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:** May the petitions of your Church be pleasing in your sight, O Lord,

 so that we may receive from your mercy what we cannot ask out of

 confidence in our own merits

 Through Christ our Lord.

#### All: Amen.