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

**THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS - YEAR C**

**Introduction:**

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

The gospel reveals that just as healing came to those in the wilderness who looked upon the bronze serpent, eternal life comes to those who believe in the Son of Man, raised up in both humiliation and glory. The "Son of Man" symbolizes the one who will usher in the last days. God's love is shown in two key ways: first, it extends to the entire world, and second, it is so great that He gave His only Son, sending Him with a mission for the world’s benefit.

The Celebrant for today’s Mass is:

Please now stand and join in our Entrance Hymn.

#### THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS - Year C

#### MASS READINGS

#### FIRST READING (Numbers 21:4-9)

*A reading from the book of Numbers*

On the way through the wilderness, the Israelites lost patience. They spoke against God and against Moses, ‘Why did you bring us out of Egypt to die in this wilderness? For there is neither bread nor water here; we are sick of this unsatisfying food.’

At this God sent fiery serpents among the people; their bite brought death to many in Israel. The people came and said to Moses, ‘We have sinned by speaking against the Lord and against you. Intercede for us with the Lord to save us from these serpents.’ Moses interceded for the people, and the Lord answered him, ‘Make a fiery serpent and put it on a standard. If anyone is bitten and looks at it, he shall live.’ So Moses fashioned a bronze serpent which he put on a standard, and if anyone was bitten by a serpent, he looked at the bronze serpent and lived.

*The Word of the Lord.*

#### RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 77:1-2. 34-38. R. v.7)

***R.) Do not forget the works of the Lord!***

**1.** Give heed, my people, to my teaching;

 turn your ear to the words of my mouth.

 I will open my mouth in a parable

 and reveal hidden lessons of the past. (R.)

**2.** When he slew them then they would seek him,

 return and seek him in earnest.

 They would remember that God was their rock,

 God the Most High their redeemer. (R.)

**3.** But the words they spoke were mere flattery;

 they lied to him with their lips.

 For their hearts were not truly with him;

 they were not faithful to his covenant. (R.)

**4.** Yet he who is full of compassion

 forgave their sin and spared them.

 So often he held back his anger

 when he might have stirred up his rage. (R.)

#### SECOND READING  (Philippians 2:6-11)

*A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians*

The state of Jesus was divine,

yet he did not cling

to his equality with God

but emptied himself

to assume the condition of a slave,

and became as men are;

and being as all men are,

he was humbler yet,

even to accepting death,

death on a cross.

But God raised him high

and gave him the name

which is above all other names

so that all beings

in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld,

should bend the knee at the name of Jesus

and that every tongue should acclaim

Jesus Christ as Lord,

to the glory of God the Father.

*The Word of the Lord.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

We adore you, O Christ, and we praise you,

because by your cross you have redeemed the world.

Alleluia!

#### GOSPEL (John 3:13-17)

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

#### Jesus said to Nicodemus:

#### ‘No one has gone up to heaven

#### except the one who came down from heaven,

#### the Son of Man who is in heaven;

#### and the Son of Man must be lifted up

#### as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,

#### so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.

#### Yes, God loved the world so much

#### that he gave his only Son,

#### so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost

#### but may have eternal life.

#### For God sent his Son into the world

#### not to condemn the world,

#### but so that through him the world might be saved.’

#### The Gospel of the Lord.

**THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS - YEAR C**

**GENERAL INTERCESSION**

**Priest:** Sisters and brothers, with hope in the Cross, let us bring our prayers before God.

**Reader:**  For Frances our Pope and Vincent our Bishop

and all the clergy, with the people entrusted to their charge,

We pray:

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

**Reader:** That all afflicted by poverty or suffering will be restored in their lives and lifted high through the Cross.

We Pray:

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

**Reader:** That our parish community will always profess Jesus as Lord.

We Pray:

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

**Reader:** That the sick and housebound will find compassion and healing in Christ,

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 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:** Loving Father, all our hope is in the Cross. Hear our prayers and help us to be steadfast in our faith as we journey to life with you on high. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**All:** Amen.