

## Deacon's Beacons

September 21, 2022

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me;  
He has sent me to bring good news to the afflicted,  
to bind up the brokenhearted,  
To proclaim liberty to the captives,  
release to the prisoners,  
To announce a year of favor from the LORD  
and a day of vindication by our God;  
To comfort all who mourn;  
to place on those who mourn in Zion  
a diadem instead of ashes,  
To give them oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
a glorious mantle instead of a faint spirit. Isaiah 61:1-3

This is Isaiah's promise of redemption. These are the words with which Jesus began His public ministry in Nazareth. This is what He read at the synagogue on that Sabbath. He then said, "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing." That is the mission of Jesus – to tend to those in need. That must be our mission as well. Today's Gospel from Matthew reminds us that it is mercy and not sacrifice that God desires. Are we doing that – while not neglecting our call to worship God?

Go raibh síocháin Chríost a bheith in éineacht leat.

Deacon Mike