

## Deacon's Beacons

March 29, 2023

“Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.” Matthew 6:2–4

We give to those in need because it is the right thing to do. We do not do it to show off our wealth or our largesse. If one is donating for the purpose of being recognized, one is doing it for one's own esteem and not out of love for one's neighbor. Of course, there are times when such gestures may seem to be about the giver but that is not the true motivation – it is a byproduct of circumstance. We should not judge someone's motives either. While it is wrong to give for the wrong reason, it is probably even worse to judge the motives of another.

Go raibh síocháin Chríost a bheith in éineacht leat.

Deacon Mike