

## Deacon's Beacons

January 30, 2024

And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. Colossians 1:17–18

This is part of an ancient hymn that Paul incorporates into his letter. It places Christ at the head of all which is His proper station. Being the firstborn from the dead, Jesus opens for us the gates of Heaven again. The earlier verses of the hymn passage state that Jesus is the image of the invisible God. He makes God tangible to us through His Incarnation. The first pages of Genesis remind us that we are created in the image and likeness of God. So we carry that same mark (albeit to a lesser degree) that Jesus did. But it also reminds us that we must see everyone else as being in the image and likeness of God. That requires us to treat them with the dignity and respect that is their due being of the image of the invisible God.

Go raibh síocháin Chríost a bheith in éineacht leat.

Deacon Mike