

## Deacon's Beacons

April 1, 2025

“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.” Matthew 11:28–30

We have reflected on this before but it does bear repeating. We, as modern Americans, have only a vague sense of what a yoke is. So, in order to understand this passage more clearly, we need to delve deeper into what a yoke entails. First, a yoke would have been carved by a carpenter to fit the intended beast properly. If the beast stays on course, the yoke sits comfortably. If the beast wanders, the yoke begins to chafe. In a way, a yoke is a sign of submission to the will of another. So accepting the yoke of Jesus means that we are subjecting ourselves to His will. But the yoke is never carried by one beast; it is intended to be shared. So, when Jesus offers His yoke, He fully intends to carry it along with us.

Go raibh síocháin Chríost a bheith in éineacht leat.

Deacon Mike