

## Deacon's Beacons

October 24, 2019

And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. Matthew 22:37–39

Well, isn't that just a little spooky? I use randomly generated Scripture passages for this reflection. Looking back at yesterday, I mentioned this passage during the reflection. And now here it is today. It reinforces that we are required to love God and our neighbor. We cannot choose to do one and not the other. And sometimes we do not even like our neighbor. But love really has nothing to do with liking or preference. Love means that we must treat everyone with the respect and dignity that are inherently theirs. It means that we have to lay down our lives in service to them. That is not all that easy when we like someone. But it does not matter to God. Everyone is a child of God whether they recognize and accept it themselves. So if God loves them, so must we.

Go raibh síocháin Chríost a bheith in éineacht leat.

Deacon Mike