

## Deacon's Beacons

June 21, 2019

Finally, all of you, have unity of mind, sympathy, brotherly love, a tender heart, and a humble mind. Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing. 1 Peter 3:8-9

It can be very hard for us not to respond to evil with evil. But that is what we are supposed to do. The only way to break the grip of violence is to break the cycle of violence. Retaliation only leads to more retaliation. It is not easy to turn the other cheek, as Jesus tells us to do in St. Matthew's Gospel account of the Sermon on the Mount. But Christianity is intended to be counter cultural. If you cannot love someone who injures you, you need to spend time in prayer. Just spend an hour looking at the Crucifix and then try again.

Go raibh síocháin Chríost a bheith in éineacht leat.

Deacon Mike