**FOR THE WEEKEND OF JAN 22-23, 2022**

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Gospel reading (Lectionary 69)**

Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Since many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the events
that have been fulfilled among us,
just as those who were eyewitnesses from the beginning
and ministers of the word have handed them down to us,
I too have decided,
after investigating everything accurately anew,
to write it down in an orderly sequence for you,
most excellent Theophilus,
so that you may realize the certainty of the teachings
you have received.

Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit,
and news of him spread throughout the whole region.
He taught in their synagogues and was praised by all.

He came to Nazareth, where he had grown up,
and went according to his custom
into the synagogue on the sabbath day.
He stood up to read and was handed a scroll of the prophet Isaiah.
He unrolled the scroll and found the passage where it was written:
 *The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
 because he has anointed me
 to bring glad tidings to the poor.
 He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives
 and recovery of sight to the blind
 to let the oppressed go free,
 and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.*Rolling up the scroll, he handed it back to the attendant and sat
down,
and the eyes of all in the synagogue looked intently at him.
He said to them,
“Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.”

**Intercession**

For our parish community, that we might be more deeply convinced that Christ is the fulfilment of all human desires and may more generously support His saving work in our parish community by contributing to the *Catholic Ministry Appeal*.

**Copy for bulletin announcement**

Today’s Gospel is a transformational moment for Jesus. After standing up in the synagogue and reading Isaiah’s prophecy about the coming of one who will free the captives, heal the blind, and bring glad tidings to the poor, Jesus tells those gathered: “Today the Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.” Jesus gives his listeners any other interpretation: He is the Messiah. He is the one who fulfills all the Old Testament prophecies.

Do we believe this? Do we believe that Jesus really can bring freedom and healing and spiritual richness, to us and to the world? If so, then how important is His Church? How important is the liturgy, the sacraments, acts of Christian service, learning the Church’s teachings, and all the other good things we do at our parish?

Our parish activity is an essential way that Christ continues to fulfill these ancient prophecies, pouring His love out into the world. Help this essential work continue by supporting our diocese’s *Catholic Ministry* Appeal today.

**Copy for pulpit announcement**

Jesus brings glad tidings to a world in need, and He does it in part through our parish community! Support our parish by discerning how you can contribute to our *Catholic Ministry Appeal*.

**Social media post/content**

Photo: Two women engaging with one another

Text: Share what is meaningful to you

Copy: Jesus brings glad tidings to a world in need—and He does so through our parish community. Support our good work by contributing to the annual appeal today!