

The Deacon's Light

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Diocese of New Hampshire, November 2022*

On the coast, during a raging night storm, when the waves batter the rocks, a single light shines forth sweeping across the wild sea from a lighthouse. Each turn of the light illuminates a path to follow. Ships at sea seek the light and heed its message. It is assumed that the light is warning ships away from the deadly rocks but, it also guides the ships toward the safety of the harbor.

Today's world is the battered coast and the turmoil of misery washes over us like waves threatening to carry us down into its depths. The lighthouse, the Deacon's light sends forth the message of the way of Christ, a safe harbor in this realm. The light brightens and makes straight the path for the Lord. We seek the Deacon's light and listen to the message of Jesus in the wind while the rain baptizes our skin. This humble light stand stalwart in the face of the powerful storm while the soul of the light rests peacefully knowing full well that the call of God is far stronger than the gale. With an open heart and arms stretched wide, the Deacon's light draws in the darkness, and it dissipates in the warmth of the sacred embrace. Vincent Van Gogh once said that even in the storm there is peace. With each revolution of the light the world heals a little.

The Deacon's light is comprised of a compelling need to rescue humanity from its own drowning and save it from its meaningless self-destruction. The light is known for reaching down into the swirling waters and grasping the hand of someone who is lost or is in darkness. It searches the world for isolated and battered lives and restores the light of Christ to the soul, cleanses the suffering and raises up the dignity of those who feel invisible. It holds us gently until the fury of our storm passes.

The light leads its followers to a truer path, a path that will impact many in the world seeking change. It will be more than a simple embrace; it will carry with it the strength of a devout heart. In the face of conflict, it will send forth a greater love, that of kindness and friendship.

The subtle changes of mood decrease the energy and the storm lessens, the clouds break apart and the beauty of the moon shines through illuminating the lighthouse. Christ's hand rests upon the waves and soothes the conflict in our spirit. He provides comfort and gives our hurting soul rest. He speaks to us through the settling winds and strengthens our call to serve humankind.

In the morning when heaven brings forth dawn's grace, and the sea is calm, we remember God's covenant with his people. The covenant we proclaim at baptism and again as part of our deacon vows.