Deacon Tony's Homily for 8 am Mass on Christmas 2019

"Do not be afraid;
for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy
that will be for all the people.

For today in the city of David
a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord."

He came to save us from ourselves.

He came so that sin will no longer enslave us.

This was the precious message that the shepherds shared with Mary and Joseph and all around them were amazed.

That God would come to care for His children is truly amazing.

For God hates the thought of His children in slavery;

Especially a slavery that is so unnecessary.

At our baptism we are bathed in the waters of God's mercy.

And just as Paul said in the letter to Titus, it is a bath of REBIRTH and RENEWAL.

We are also anointed with the oil of salvation.

The oils are a symbol of a PROTECTED SEAL.

It is our protection from the devil. The devil has no power over a baptized Catholic. The only power that he has is what we allow him to have. So Geraldeen was wrong. Flip Wilson's.

While you visit with your children that are home from college, share with them the resources available to help them grow smarter in their faith. Seek the Lord where He may be found.

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We are called to live freely. And just like the shepherds, we are called to share the precious message with our loved ones.

“THE FAMILY THAT PRAYS TOGETHER STAYS TOGETHER”