Exercise B

Are there some places, people or issues that "we have shaken the dust from our feet"? How do we hear the call of the gospel in these areas?

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MARK OF MISSION 3

To respond to human need by loving service

TEND

Churches have a long tradition of care through pastoral ministry. Christians are called to respond to the needs of people locally and in the wider human community.

SCRIPTURAL REFLECTIONS

THE MISSION OF THE DISCIPLES

16 When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, 17and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:
18 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
   because he has anointed me
    to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
   and recovery of sight to the blind,
    to let the oppressed go free,
19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'
20And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. *Luke 4 v 16-20*

Then Jesus called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, 2and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal. 3He said to them, 'Take nothing for your journey, no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money—not even an extra tunic. 4Whatever house you enter, stay there, and leave from there. 5Wherever they do not welcome you, as you are leaving that town shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them.' 6They departed and went through the villages, bringing the good news and curing diseases everywhere. *Luke 9 v 1-6*

Exercise A

Reflect on how you personally have experienced Christ's healing mission in your own life.

The scripture reading uses the term – power over demons and curing diseases. What are the key "demons" and "diseases" that the Church is trying to deal with in Ireland to-day?

 The disciples were to travel light taking –
    neither staff,
    nor bag,
    nor bread,
    nor money and only
    one tunic.

Can you identify any "baggage" that the parish or diocese might be carrying that can hold it back from sharing faith and bringing loving service and healing to a broken world?
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