

Sunday 27 January 2019: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me



...The teaching of Jesus in the synagogue of Nazareth, concerning his fulfilment of Old Testament prophecies, and Luke's emphasis upon the traditions of the community, remind us that the world's great religious traditions venerate the writings and teachings that put them in touch with their past. A healthy community keeps alive the memory of what inspired its origins. The first reading from the chronicles of Nehemiah describes a moving moment in the reestablishment of the Jerusalem community, after return from the Exile. The common people, ignorant now of Israel's traditions, are overwhelmed with concern when Ezra, the scribe, reads and explains for them the long neglected Book of the Law. They are reassured, however, being told that the joy brought by renewed observance of old Israel's traditions will be their 'stronghold'. How much more grateful and responsive should we be, as today's renewal makes available to us the far superior treasures of the New Testament!

Extract by John Thornhill sm - read more at [The Emmaus Series](#) | Image courtesy of [pixabay.com](#)