

whom she comforted and soothed by her blessed almsgiving throughout all the days of her earthly pilgrimage.

May I not with good reason apply to her these words of Holy Writ : « She shall reign in life eternal for she hath lived a life of mercy. » Yes! for well hath she complied with the command the Holy Spirit placed upon the lips of His prophet : « Break thy bread with the needy and despise not thine own flesh. » And now, let her hearken to that other word spoken in reward for deeds of mercy : « Come thou blessed of My Father, because thou hast been faithful to all His commands. »

After the devout Tabitha finally passed away to a better world, the Christians laid out her blessed remains in a large room, and there paid her the last honors. She, whom we mourn at this hour, likewise, rested in a large room made possible by her generosity. Therein she received, like another Tabitha, well-merited honors. This morning again, we are assembled in a temple erected at her expense.

The example she has left us in her sweet and humble virtue, the works of mercy she has accomplished, the concourse of the poor whom she has assisted, all inspire us to exclaim as did Saint Peter to the illustrious Roman lady :