

### 3rd Sunday of Easter Time - Year B

- When I was a boy I used to play dominoes
  - My grandfather visited and showed us how to play
  - Neighborhood kids around the picnic table
  - But I played differently – lining them up, complicated paths
    - Around candles, mantle clock, to the floor ...
  - Knock over Just 1 and boom! You'd get them all
  - Domino Day world record 4M & 2 hours

You may be wondering, "What does this have to do with our readings?"

In our Bible story today, Jesus appeared to his disciples after he had risen from the dead.

Then he told the disciples that they should spread his story to every nation of the world.

That's a big job, isn't it? How could they take the story of Jesus to the whole world?

Well, it is the same as it is with the dominoes. It starts with one person. One person tells another and he tells another, and another, and another until the whole world has heard that Jesus is risen from the dead and he is LORD.

- What's the message? What should each person tell the next person? Jesus tells them:
  - REPENTANCE and FORGIVENESS will be preached to ALL
    - Beginning in Jerusalem
      - Jerusalem – the home of His murderers (Forgiveness)
      - JESUS IS WILLING TO START WITH THEM!
      - JESUS IS WILLING TO CONTINUE WITH US!
    - Today – in Norwood, Westwood, Walpole, Wherever
- Listen - When you go fishing, to be successful, you need the right bait **/PREACH**
  - Jesus gives Peter, James, and John – fishermen, the best bait ever **/FORGIVENESS**
    - We GET to be forgiven – how great is our God!
  - Only God can forgive sins – until now.
    - Jesus gave His Apostles the ability to forgive sins. (Fr D, Fr S, Fr M, Fr C)
  - Now I want you to notice something – its important
    - When John the Baptist began his ministry, his msg – REPENT be Forgiven
    - When Jesus came out of the desert after 40 days, he preaches REPENT/For
    - Today, the Risen Christ tells the Apostles
      - REPENTANCE and FORGIVENESS will be preached to ALL
    - In our 1<sup>st</sup> Reading Peter preaches Christ Crucified, now Risen, & says
      - “Repent therefore & be converted that your sins may be forgiven”
    - *WHEN GOD REPEATS HIMSELF ITS IMPORTANT*

Jesus tells His Apostles

THIS IS THE GOOD NEWS – Sin is forgiven – Go tell everyone

If you have a sin – that recurring insidious sin – that secret sin

If you are in a situation you know is wrong

Jesus says **Whatever it is, REPENT, my forgiveness is for everyone**

Peter denied Christ, Repented, and was forgiven

There is freedom in being forgiven, there is JOY

– *and its ours for the asking*