

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time – C

- Let me explain this reading from Isaiah
 - This is the last chapter of IS. – Israel was defeated and in exile
 - An entire generation has passed in exile and now they're going home
 - 'From a remnant' God will send messengers 'to the foreigners'
 - To announce that they too can share the GLORY OF GOD
 - After the exile Israel will be a sign to the nations
 - Enabling them all to come to the Lord
 - "Israel will proclaim my glory among the Gentiles"
 - NOTE:
 - Israel was destroyed
 - Carried off into exile
 - Because of their SIN
- If Israel becomes a sign of Lord's glory among Gentiles, God is bringing about a good result from the people's sin*

 - Forgiveness is possible with God – **RADICAL**
 - Israel is a sign for US in our sinful moments
 - Forgiveness is possible
- In the Gospel – Jesus is asked "will only a few be saved?"
 - Jesus presents Himself as the narrow gate
 - Entrance is not won, or achieved – but offered
 - We cannot win forgiveness, it is a gift – freely offered
 - When accepting an invitation you have to respond to the one that sent it
 - Jesus invites everyone – but you have to come thru the narrow gate – **JC**
 - Our actions reflect whether we've passed through HIM
 - Do we live by the world's rules
 - Do we live by our rules
 - Do we live as Jesus taught – Forgiven.
 - Listen - the only way to be saved is with the Savior
 - Pope Benedict wrote a document that said everyone can get to heaven – but the only reason they can get to heaven is Jesus
 - Irritated non-Christian groups, but it's the truth
 - Only Jesus rose from the dead
 - Only Jesus redeems us from our sin
 - Jesus offers everyone forgiveness
 - We can reject it or accept it
 - Confession is offered every Sat at 4:00
 - Call the rectory if that doesn't work for you

Our invitation to the banquet is real
Believers will come from N, S, E, W.
It is our choice whether we will be among them

