

3rd Week of Advent

- J the B was quite the sight!
 - Camel Hair – eating Locusts and Wild Honey
 - & He told the people things they may not have wanted to hear
 - (Remember last week) He called Pharisees a brood of vipers
 - He told everyone they needed to **repent** – He called people sinners
AND YET
 - The crowds flocked to him
 - They went out into the desert to hear him preach
 - His teachings spread throughout the Roman Empire
 - Paul at Ephesus found people who had heard of JN & his baptism, but not of JESUS
- **& Now John is in Jail** – because he proclaimed the truth – King Herod needed to repent as well
 - *From Jail* John sends his disciples to ask about Jesus
 - Jesus sends them back to John to report the signs of the Messiah were all around
 - Blind see, Deaf hear, Lame walk, Poor have Good News preached to them
 - **THEN** he turned to the crowd **“What did you go out to the desert to see?”**
 - So let me ask you **“What do YOU come out to Church to see?”**
 - Do we want to hear homilies that are sweet
 - Do we want to hear homilies that are intellectual
 - Are we willing to hear J the B speak to US?
 - We are sinners – SIN is real – We need REPENTANCE
 - I’m convinced we come to Church because **we are good people**
 - **AND we want to be better people**
 - Like the people that went to the desert to see J the B – we’re attracted to the truth.
 - We all want to be freed from darkness – We are children of light – and we want MORE
 - **The truth that sets us free is more than a concept.**
 - It is the Spirit of Christ dwelling in us
 - Jesus said “I am the way and the truth and the life”
 - In a world of darkness we have found light. That light is Jesus Christ
- J the B’s disciples asked: “Are you the messiah, or should we seek another?”
 - Jesus said “Look around, the signs of the Messiah are all around you”
 - The time of Light is upon US
 - REJOICE = it is Gaudete Sunday. REJOICE SUNDAY
 - The light of truth has destroyed the darkness of sin – and we have been drawn by the truth
 - & Jesus Christ is the truth