

3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time C

About 8 years ago my oldest graduated from college, got his first job, and moved away
(Houston – No he can't get Super bowl tickets)

During the holidays he would come home - he would come here to St. Tim's

To his home parish

Everyone would come up – So Tall, how's work, ... We see it here all the time
We've seen kids grow up
Move out, get engaged

Matt came back with his bride – Fr. Lucy married them here

St. Tim's was his family – Fr. Lucy was HIS priest

Same with Jesus in today's gospel –

An extension of last Sunday

Jesus comes home to Nazareth, to the synagogue where he grew up

He reads Is. – All were Amazed – Isn't this Joseph's son?

They knew Him, He was one of them

Like my son coming home

But Jesus' mission wasn't limited to Nazareth

Jesus' mission wasn't limited to Israel

Jeremiah "A prophet to the nations I appointed you"

SAME IS TRUE OF JESUS

Jesus came for ALL – Salvation is Universal

Jesus brings Good News of Salvation thru forgiveness of sin – No matter what!

Love of God is for all people – 1Cor 13 – without Love I am nothing.

Cross is the ultimate expression of that love –

Look at the shape of the cross – both vertical and horizontal

Vertical – pointing from us to God

Horizontal – pointing out to each other

Jesus took our sin as His own

Jesus paid the penalty for our sin

Jesus invites us, forgiven, **to come home**

Remember the story of the prodigal son –

When he repents and decides to go home he doesn't say "I need to go home"

He says "I need to go to my father"

The Universal Salvation of Jesus calls us to come home, forgiven, to the Father.