

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2008

(Is 61:1-2, 10-11/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28)

Theme: Allow Christ to come in and share His life with you.

Today with joy in our hearts, we enter the third Sunday of Advent. As we prepare ourselves this season of Advent to welcome the Messiah, the prophet Isaiah, in the first reading of today, makes it clear to us the purpose of Christ coming into our lives. He states: "the Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

Three days ago I had a telephone discussion with some one. He said to me, "Fr. Mike, if one decides to live a good life, running away from evil deeds, living a life of prayer, praying for God's mercy and forgiveness and goes to confession and finally welcomes Christ in his or her life, what will he or she gain for welcoming Christ into his or her life?"

I told him to read the readings of this third Sunday of Advent for there is the answer. If you welcome Christ in your life He will bring you peace and joy. He will let the Holy Spirit dwell in you. If your heart is broken, he will console you and comfort you. He will release you from your sickness and forgive you your sins. Christ will fill you with His good news that will always nourish your life. His divine light will cast away the darkness in your life and your entire life will be full of joy and peace.

My dear friends in Christ, this is the time for us to say yes to Jesus Christ and open our hearts to Him. Jesus is standing at your door now, why not open the door for Him? Christ will come in and share His life with you.