

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21

Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things that have been accomplished among us, just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us, it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught.

And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country. And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all.

And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

Some things to think about...

What is the Good News that Jesus is talking about?

How can we spread the Good News?

Think about this quote: “Preach the Gospel at all times, and when necessary, use words.” What does this mean? How can we spread the Good News through our actions?

Activity

As Mini Vinnies, you spread the Good News through your mission. You also inspire others when you share all the great things you’ve been doing. Complete the **“Mini Vinnies’ Good News Stories” activity** on the Mini Vinnies’ website. You could display this in a classroom, share it in a school newsletter or present your good news in a school assembly.



Teacher’s Notes

In the first part of this Gospel reading, Luke is telling how he has put these stories together, explaining the compilation of eyewitness accounts. The second part, from Luke 4, describes Jesus returning to Nazareth and reading from the prophet Isaiah. It is an important moment because it is one of the first references to the prophets’ words being fulfilled by Jesus.

The phrase “He has anointed me to proclaim the good news to the poor” is significant for members of the SVP. By “poor”, Isaiah meant not only those without wealth but those who had not heard the message of God.

Similarly, the phrase “recovering of sight to the blind” is not just referring to Jesus’ miracles, but to opening people’s eyes to God. As Catholics, we are called to spread the Good News, which is the Gospel of the Lord.

Now think about the phrase: “Preach the Gospel at all times, and when necessary, use words.” You can prompt your Mini Vinnies to think about what this means – actions speak louder than words: living out Jesus’ teachings, sharing God’s love through our actions.

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