January 12

Jesus' True Father

I have become a stranger to my brothers,
an alien to my mother's children.
For the zeal of your house consumes me. – Psalm 69:5-6

[Luke 2:41-52] His parents went every year to Jerusalem at the feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to the custom of the feast, and when they had fulfilled the days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. Joseph and his mother didn't know it, but supposing him to be in the company, they went a day's journey, and they looked for him among their relatives and acquaintances. When they didn't find him, they returned to Jerusalem, looking for him. It happened after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them, and asking them questions. All who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When they saw him, they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us this way? Behold, your father and I were anxiously looking for you."

Your father and I were anxiously looking for you…Didn't you know that I must be in my Father's house?

He said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Didn't you know that I must be in my Father's house?" They didn't understand the saying which he spoke to them. And he went down with them, and came to Nazareth. He was subject to them, and his mother kept all these sayings in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.

1. Once more, imagine being Mary. How would you feel when Jesus amazed the teachers?

2. Did Jesus sin by separating from his parents for over three days without telling them?

3. Jesus, at times you do things that make me so anxious, but please help me remember…