

Seriously

Do you believe in the Resurrection of Our Lord from the dead?? This is a good question to ask, at least so St. Paul says, because if the answer is “no,” then “our faith is in vain” (I Cor 15:14-19).

But sometimes it is hard to know what the “resurrection” is. Couldn’t it even be just bringing Jesus back to life so he could go on as before, just a limited ordinary life, as Kazantzakis and Dan Brown have portrayed it?

Here is a metaphor to suggest a better answer.

There is a spiritual soil that everything else sprouts from. In his death, Jesus plunged deep down into this soil. He had stumbled, fallen, and had lost the very thing we think is irreplaceable and to be guarded beyond all else:

life.

But think about it. Isn’t life just another garden plant, sprouting from some rich loam, one that we hardly notice. Yes? Well, that spiritual soil is called love: vast and quiet love.

“Doubting Thomas” from Sunday’s Gospel was broken-hearted because he thought that such love had died. He warded off his grief by simple denial. “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nailmarks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe”!

And in the gospel of Luke it was the women, not the men, who had seen the empty tomb and the angels, and they took it seriously. But “ . . . their words seemed an idle tale, and [the disciples] did not believe” (Lk 24:11). In Matthew, Jesus came first to the women, who told the men where he would meet them. They went and “worshipped him, but they doubted” (Mt 28:17). In Mark, Jesus appeared first to Mary Magdalene, but when she went to the apostles, you guessed it, they rejected her testimony (Mk 16:9). Nor did they listen to the men who had met Jesus walking to Emmaus (Mk 16:12-13).

Hard to miss the fact that women usually believed and men usually did not. The women dared to trust what they saw.

Dan Brown’s Da Vinci Code goes several steps further. For him, males have purposely repressed the essence of Christianity. His real truth, guarded through centuries, is that Mary Magdalene was Jesus’ secret wife! Moreover, a flesh and blood descendent from Jesus is alive today (a woman, living outside our “me too” times, and in fear for her life). Obviously if the gospels are just huge cover-ups, then the resurrection would be just one more spin of the glittering wheel of deception.

But what about the vast and quiet love we spoke about above?

Jesus’ life, death and resurrection aimed us toward the source of all life, the source of the universe, of worlds, of women and men, of marriage and offspring, and taking on the trials of others. Jesus is the river of love that God had poured into the world, now flowing back into the ocean of the Trinity and taking us along, whichever of us chooses to believe. So, can you live by this resurrection? If you can, then you can believe that love is the foundation of life.

Put your finger here and see my hands,
and bring your hand and put it into my side,
and do not be unbelieving, but believe (Gospel).

John Foley, SJ

**Second Sunday of Easter
April 8th, 2018**

St. Stephen’s Indian Mission

www.saintstephensmission.com

856-7806

33 St. Stephens Road

PO Box 250

St. Stephens, WY 82524

Fr. Jim Heiser.....Pastor
Dcn. Bryce Lungren.....Deacon
Sr. Monica Suhayda, CSJ.....Past. Asst./ Gift Shop 856-4330
Patti McMahon.....Director of Religious Education

Blessed Sacrament & St. Joseph’s Church

332-4415

Sr. Teresa Frawley, OSF.....Past. Asst./Director of Religious Education

St. Stephen’s Church

Friday: Adoration followed by benediction 3:45pm

Saturday: Confessions 2:00 PM to 2:30 PM

Sunday Masses: 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM

Tuesday & Thursday: Mass at 7:15am

Wednesday & Friday: Mass at 5:00pm

1st Saturday: Adoration at 8:00am; Mass at 9:00am;
Anointing for anyone wishing to be anointed

St. Joseph’s Church, Ethete

Sunday Mass: 11:00 AM

Confessions 15 minutes before Mass

Wednesday & Friday Communion Service at 5:15 PM

Blessed Sacrament, Ft. Washakie

Saturday Vigil Mass 4:30 PM

Confessions 15 minutes before Mass

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♦ Come in seeking; come in wondering; come in hurting. Come into this house of companionship and compassion. Come in. You are welcome here. Our faith Family opens its doors to you and in the name of Christ, bids you Welcome!
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The purpose of St. Stephen’s Indian Mission, the presence of the Roman Catholic Church among the Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapaho, is to grow into a strong community of believers, sharing our lives in the Holy Spirit, forming one welcoming People of God, who are committed to Jesus Christ, His gospel and mission.

Readings April 9th through April 15th:

Mon: Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38
 Tue: Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15
 Wed: Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21
 Thur: Acts 5:27-33; Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36
 Fri: Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15
 Sat: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; Jn 6:16-21
 Sun: Acts 3:13-15, 17-19; Ps 4:2, 4, 7-9; 1 Jn 2:1-5a; Lk 24:35-48

**Sunday Ministry Schedule-St. Stephen's
4/15/18**

9:00 Mass

Lector: Linda Bebout
 Extraordinary Ministers: Carol Kellogg & Sister Monica

5:00 Mass

Lector: Volunteer Needed
 Extraordinary Ministers: Volunteers needed

Parish Collection	
4/1	\$3555.95

Happenings:

4/8: Rosary @ 8:20am
 Coffee and Donuts
 after 9am Mass

 4/13: No Mass or Adoration

 4/18: Parish Finance Council
 Meeting 5:30pm

St. Stephen's Religious Ed/Baptism

Please plan to attend three classes if you wish your child to be baptized. April classes will be on 4/16, 4/23, & 4/30 at 5:30pm.

 Religious Ed classes are after the 9am Mass.

 If you have questions regarding baptism or religious education classes, please call the religious education office (856-7806 ext. 16).

AA Meetings

Circle of Healing at St. Stephen's
 Monday 8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
 Wednesday 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
 Saturday 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Gamblers Anonymous

39 Gas Hills Road (856-6861)

FORMED

Visit formed.org and use our parish code **6Y749F!**

Having Mass offered for an anniversary, marriage, special occasion, gift or in memory of someone is a special gift. Cards are available at the office. Diocesan guideline is \$10.00 for a Mass.

Christ Is Risen!

Indeed, He is Risen!

Mass Intentions/Communion Service & Schedule this week:

4/7: 4:30pm Blessed Sacrament For all families
 4/8: 9am St. Stephen's Missa Pro Populo
 11am St. Joseph's Norman Willow
 5pm St. Stephen's +Levi King
 4/10: 7:15am St. Stephen's Glenn G. Heiser
 4/11: 5:00pm St. Stephen's Brenda Squires
 5:15pm St. Joseph's Communion Service
 4/12: 7:15am St. Stephen's Tyler Brown
 4/13: 5:00pm St. Stephen's No Mass today
 5:15pm St. Joseph's Communion Service



Worldwide Marriage Encounter in Spanish

A Weekend of Discovery – A Lifetime of Love
 May 12-13, 2018
 Our Lady of the Mountains Catholic Church
 Jackson, WY
 Contact Silvino and Grace Nunez 509-331-4365

Encuentro Matrimonial Mundial en Español

Un fin de semana de descubrimientos. Una vida llena de amor.
 La Iglesia de Nuestra Señora de las Montañas
 Jackson, WY
 El 12-13 de Mayo
 Llama a Silvino y Grace Nuñez 509-331-4365

Thank you!

Thank you, thank you, thank you to all those who helped with the egg hunt after the 9am Mass. Thank you to those who brought eggs, donated candy, and to those who helped hide the eggs before Mass. All your work is appreciated.

Thanks again and God bless you for your generosity.

Blessed Sacrament & St. Joseph's

Religious Education Classes

Classes are during the 11am Mass.

Confirmation

Confirmation class begins promptly after the 11am Mass.

Baptism Classes

The last Sunday of each month will be Baptism Sunday at St. Joseph's. Three classes are required. Please call Sister Teresa at 332-4415 to schedule classes.