

What Do You Want?

Do you remember the last time you were thirsty? How your mouth felt dry and brittle and ready to cry out? If you were near to a stream, maybe you buried your face in it and drank to your heart's desire.

And give a thought to hunger. Most people reading this will never have experienced true wrenching hunger, common in parts of Africa and Asia. We all know that our stomach cannot remain empty forever—our bodies demand energy. And guess what. They can go on just a short, short time before thirst must be assuaged.

There are other longings in us too, as the following poignant, anonymous poem from the 16th century illustrates:

Western wind when wilt thou blow
that the small rain down can rain
Christ if my love were in my arms
and I in my bed again.

How can four short lines express such complete, aching desire, deprivation and yearning? Spend just a few moments with this poem and you will feel it. Warmth, sleep, sun, rain, the seasons, and most of all, encircling love.

Fact is, we are small beings. We keep our equilibrium only by precarious balancing of need and fulfillment. Even our existence is given to us second by second, never all at once. What would it be like to have every moment of your whole life happen right now? Impossible to imagine, you say. That is why God portions out our lives into one day at a time, one minute, one nano-second.

What is my point?

Underneath all these hopes and wants and desires, mingling with them and undergirding all of them, there silently nestles the desire for God.

Every human being is blest with this longing. God is the only one who can quench our deepest thirst, the only one whose love can create us and keep us. We want the beloved one, whose arms hold us gently in safety throughout the dangers. We yearn for this as we trace our way through time.

Sometimes you and I employ substitutes as an escape from that desire. Fast living. Fast food, fast cars, convenience, comfort, unrestricted sexual fulfillment (without responsibility), and the "right" of complete freedom to do whatever we want to do, whenever we want to do it. If we can remember what it was we wanted.

Wisdom says in the First Reading, "Come, eat of my food, and drink of the wine I have mixed! Forsake foolishness that you may live." Stop thinking that your life will ever make sense if you fill it with piles of stuff and forget the one thing you need the most: closeness to God and closeness through God to everyone and everything else.

In the Gospel Jesus gives us ultimate food and drink. It is actually the most simple gift of all: bread that is his body and drink that is his blood, poured out for us.

We need to calm down and receive peacefully this body and blood of Christ into our own fleshly selves. That way we can allow our reallest hunger and thirst at Sunday Mass—not instead of the other needs, but undergirding them. We eat the bread which Christ calls "true food," the blood which he makes "true drink."

These nourish the moment-by-moment course of our lives.

If we let them.

John Foley, SJ

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time August 19, 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
Fr. Bryce Lungren.....Associate Pastor
Sr. Monica Suhayda, CSJ.....Past. Asst./ Gift Shop 856-4330
Patti McMahon.....Director of Religious Education

Blessed Sacrament & St. Joseph's Church

332-9090

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

.....
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!
.....

*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 August 20th through August 26th:

- Mon: Ez 24:15-24; (Ps) Dt 32:18-21; Mt 19:16-22
- Tue: Ez 28:1-10; (Ps) Dt 32:26-28, 30, 35-36; Mt 19:23-30
- Wed: Ez 34:1-11; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 20:1-16
- Thur: Ez 36:23-28; Ps 51:12-15, 18-19; Mt 22:1-14
- Fri: Rv 21:9b-14; Ps 145:10-13ab, 17-18; Jn 1:45-51
- Sat: Ez 43:1-7b; Ps 85:9-14; Mt 23:1-12
- Sun: Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b; Ps 34:2-3, 16-21; Eph 5:21-32; Jn 6:60-69

Sunday Ministry Schedule-St. Stephen's

8/26/18

9:00 Mass

Lector: Melissa Brown

Extraordinary Ministers: Tom Kasper, Carol Kellogg & Sister Monica

5:00 Mass

Lector: Volunteer Needed

Extraordinary Ministers: Volunteers needed

Mass Intentions/Communion Service & Schedule this week:

- 8/18: 4:30pm Blessed Sacrament Renee & Frank Budimer on their 62nd anniversary
- 8/19: 9am St. Stephen's Christyl Hanway on her birthday
11am St. Joseph's Nee nii teenitooni' (For the people)
5pm St. Stephen's Tyrel & Zettie Underwood
- 8/21: 7:15am St. Stephen's Poor Souls in purgatory
- 8/22: 5:00pm St. Stephen's Communion Service
5:15pm St. Joseph's
- 8/23: 7:15am St. Stephen's Keith Spoonhunter on his birthday
- 8/24: 5:00pm St. Stephen's Eddie Faherty
5:15pm St. Joseph's Communion Service
- 8/25: 4:30pm Blessed Sacrament
- 8/26: 9am St. Stephen's Bon Ridgely
11am St. Joseph's
5pm St. Stephen's Nee nii teenitooni' (For the people)

Parish Collection

8/12

\$1578.72

"Teach us to give and not count the cost." St. Ignatius de Loyola

Happenings:

- 8/19: Rosary @ 8:20am
Coffee and donuts after the 9am Mass
Tri-parish picnic at 11:30-2pm Lander
- 8/25: Music Practice 3pm
- 8/26: Soup Supper after 5pm Mass

St. Stephen's Religious Ed/Baptism

Please plan to attend three classes if you wish your child to be baptized. Next classes will be in September on 9/10, 9/17 and 9/24 @ 5:30pm.

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

Tri Parish Picnic

Holy Rosary in Lander is hosting this summer's tri-parish picnic TODAY!!! Everyone is invited to the picnic. The picnic will be from 11:30am--2pm. Parishioners from the three parishes and the mission churches are invited.

Parishioners from St. Stephen's are asked to bring a side dish; parishioners from St. Joseph's are asked to bring chips; and Blessed Sacrament parishioners are asked to bring drinks. Everyone is asked to bring their own chairs. Please plan on attending and joining in the fellowship!

Soup Supper

Please join us for the monthly soup supper after the 5pm Mass next Sunday. Bring a soup to share if you can but please join us for fellowship!

We will not be taking any donations for the thrift "store" and are planning a clothing giveaway in September.

Prayers to Begin a School Year

God of wisdom and might, we praise you for the wonder of our being, for mind, body and spirit.

Be with our children as they begin a new school year.

Bless them and their teachers and staff.

Give them strength and grace as their bodies grow;

wisdom and knowledge to their minds as they search for understanding; and peace and zeal to their hearts.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Bishop Steven invites Catholic high school students from the Diocese of Cheyenne who graduate in 2019, 2020, or 2021 and their parents to participate in a pilgrimage to Italy. The pilgrimage will be June 14-24, 2019 and the cost is \$4,895 per person. All details including trip inclusions, criteria for attending, itinerary, and the registration packet are available at <http://www.dioceseofcheyenne.org/youth.html>. Space is very limited, and registrations are being accepted on a first come first serve basis. For questions contact Maria at mward@dioceseofcheyenne.org.

Blessed Sacrament & St. Joseph's

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.

Praised be Jesus Christ.

Praise Him now and always!