

Keep On Asking

One summer evening, ducks, in a thicket, quacked their way across a lake and dropped into trees near the screened-in porch, where I sat making retreat. Their loud, non-stop, ever-increasing racket shocked me. Each and every citizen, it seemed, felt a duty to squawk in full voice and all at once! They were having a rollicking good time, I suppose, but what did they achieve with their babble?

I assumed they came for an evening's rest. But could anyone rest with this earsplitting quack-talk?

There began a subtle change in the clatter, very gradual, as when applause at a concert reaches a peak and then, almost unnoticeably, crests and trails off. Each bird began to give a bit of quiet to the next until every duck-person was comfortable and calm.

Except one.

That one went on and on, cawing, absurdly, all by itself. Imagine it. Then at last a duck-mate nudged it and said, "Hey, buddy we're all around you and we're all safe. Zip up your beak." And it did. There ensued the sleepy silence I thought they wanted.

I had an insight. I saw that this was teamwork.

I have always loved to be included in a team. Nobody perfect, yet everyone having a special place, keeping the rules, moving along together, and someone comforting the one who can't take a hint. Community, I suppose we would call it today. Or family.

God confirms this in the First Reading.

I will gather the blind and the lame, ... the mothers and those with child; they shall return as an immense throng. They departed in tears, but I will console them and guide them; I will lead them to brooks of water, on a level road, so that none shall stumble.

The Responsorial Psalm tells us that mouths will be filled with laughter! "Every tear will be wiped away"!

My duck friends seemed to be symbols of these readings. Their alarums, and finally their trusting slumber maybe weren't so different from what we ourselves do. Our loud-longing is heard by God, who is saying, "Hush, the whole flock is here. Settle down."

Like the last duck, Blind Bartimaeus in Sunday's Gospel couldn't stop calling out to Jesus. "Son of David have pity on me!" The rest of the flock tried to shush him, but he kept right on, over and over.

"Son of David have pity on me!"

This blind man waded through the crowd to Jesus, who asked him the very question the squawking ducks needed: "What do you want?" But his was obvious. A blind man would want his sight back. Did Jesus miss it?

"Master, I want to see."

Just getting his sight back would not have done it, any more than just landing in the trees did the ducks. He already had the incarnate God standing before him, and maybe this was the fullness of what he wanted to "see."

"Your faith has saved you," Jesus said. The man saw. And "followed him on the way."

If Jesus asked you or me, "What do you want," how would we answer? Is the faith that saves us hiding deep inside? Are we calling for help?

Such a call could be fulfilled this day, you know, if we let it.

What do you want?

John Foley, SJ

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time October 28, 2018

St. Stephen's Indian Mission

www.saintstephensmission.com

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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 October 29th through November 4th:

- Mon: Eph 4:32-5:8; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 13:10-17
- Tue: Eph 5:21-22; Ps 128:1-5; Lk 13:18-21
- Wed: Eph 6:1-9; Ps 145:140-14; Lk 13:22-30
- Thur: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14; Ps 24:1-4ab, 5-6; 1 Jn 3:1-3; Mt 5:1-12a
- Fri: Wis 3:1-9; Ps 23:1-6; Rom 5:5-11
- Sat: Phil 1:18b-26; Ps 42:2-3, 5cdef; Lk 14:1, 7-11
- Sun: Dt 6:2-6; Ps 18:2-4, 47, 51; Heb 7:23-28; Mk 12:28b-34

Sunday Ministry Schedule-St. Stephen's

11/4/18

9:00 Mass

Lector: Carol Kellogg
 Extraordinary Ministers: Jim & Theresa Cunningham and Linda Bebout

5:00 Mass

Lector: Volunteer Needed
 Extraordinary Ministers: Volunteers needed

Parish Collection	
10/21	TBA
<i>"Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." Corinthians 9"7</i>	

Happenings:

- 10/28: Rosary @ 8:20am
 Coffee and donuts after the 9am Mass
 RelEd classes
 Soup Supper after 5pm Mass
 - 10/31: Vigil Mass for All Saints Day-5pm St. Stephen's
 - 11/1: All Saints Day:
 7:15am - St. Stephen's
 5:15pm - St. Joseph's
- All Saints Day is a Holy Day of Obligation**

St. Stephen's Religious Ed/Baptism

Please plan to attend three classes if you wish your child to be baptized. Classes for November are on 11/5, 11/12 and 11/19.

**Mass of reparation: Over the next six months (October to March), I am asking every priest in the Diocese to offer a monthly Mass of reparation for the sins of bishops who failed to protect the little ones, for the sins of sexual abuse in the church and society, and for the healing of victims of sexual abuse. Please publish the times of these Masses in the bulletin so that people may participate.*

During November, we are called in a special way to remember our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection. There will be a book at the entrance of the church for parishioners to write the names of their beloved dead who will be remembered at a special Mass on 11/28.

Mass Intentions/Communion Service & Schedule this week:

- 10/27: 4:30pm Blessed Sacrament Jerome Underwood for his birthday
- 10/28: 9am St. Stephen's Parishioners of SSIM
 11am St. Joseph's Blanch Ridgley
 5pm St. Stephen's Living & deceased members of the Dilger family
- 10/30: 7:15am St. Stephen's Souls in purgatory
- 10/31: 5:00pm St. Stephen's Vigil Mass for All Saints Day
 5:15pm St. Joseph's Communion service
- 11/1: 7:15am St. Stephen's Missa Propulo
 5:15pm St. Joseph's +Marjorie Sheridan
- 11/2: 5:00pm St. Stephen's No Mass today
 5:15pm St. Joseph's Communion Service
- 11/3: 9:00am St. Stephen's First Saturday
 4:30pm Blessed Sacrament +Father Savio
- 11/4: 9am St. Stephen's +Father Savio
 11am St. Joseph's Blanch Ridgley
 5pm St. Stephen's Living & deceased members of the Dilger family

Ride for the Brand is a retreat for all high school youth!

\$50 per person registration fee is valid for registrations received through October 31st. Meals included in the registration are dinner on Saturday, breakfast and lunch on Sunday, and snacks throughout the event.

Patrick & Christina Jacobeen will be the featured speakers this year. Join us in beautiful Thermopolis, Wyoming for a fantastic weekend! Contact Father Bryce if you are interested in attending.



"Doom to you who legislate evil, who make laws that make victims - laws that make misery for the poor, that rob my destitute people of dignity, exploiting defenseless widows, taking advantage of homeless children." *cf: Isaiah 10:1-2*

Praised be Jesus Christ.

Praise Him now and always!

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 332-9090 to schedule classes.

Religious Education Classes

Classes are during the 11am Mass.

Confirmation

Confirmation class begins promptly after the 11am Mass.