

Who knew?

Who knew the Messiah was born as the baby Jesus in Bethlehem in that wintertime?

In this [Gospel Reading](#), a lot of people came to figure it out.

The chief priests and scribes knew where the Messiah would be born because they could interpret the parts in the Old Testament that predicted the Messiah's birth. The magi from the East knew that the Messiah had been born because they could interpret the presence of the star in the sky. When the magi followed the star to Bethlehem to see for themselves, Herod the King ordered them to come back and tell him too.

For all these people, there was a way to know the birth of the Messiah. The priests could interpret Scripture, and the magi could read the stars. King Herod had the political power to command their knowledge and wisdom for his own purposes.

But what about people who lack the advantages of the priests and magi and who have no power to command others? How are they to know? Does God make provision only for the fortunate?

Consider the shepherds. They lacked the money needed for education, and so they lacked the ability to use Scripture or stars to know the birth of the Messiah. They had no power to command others to share the fruits of their education with them either.

But it isn't powerlessness or poverty that keeps a person from knowing the birth of the Messiah. In the end, it was not the shepherds but the powerful and wealthy King Herod, with his evil-hearted intentions, who didn't know the baby Jesus was the Messiah. The magi didn't tell him, because God warned them in a dream not to. And so Herod the King didn't know.

In spite of their lack of all worldly advantages, the shepherds in fact out-ranked the king and all the others. They were by the side of the Messiah first, and they didn't have to figure it out for themselves either.

The shepherds may have been poor and simple, but they were trusting and open-hearted, too. And so they knew Christ Jesus was born in a manger in Bethlehem that cold winter night because they heard the angels sing.

Eleanor Stump

Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord January 6, 2019

St. Stephen's Indian Mission

www.saintstephensmission.com

856-7806

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Fr. Jim Heiser.....Pastor
Fr. Bryce Lungren.....Associate Pastor
Sr. Monica Suhayda, CSJ.....Past. Asst./ Gift Shop 856-4330
Patti McMahan.....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

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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 January 7th through January 13th:

- Mon: 1 Jn 3:22-4:6; Ps 2:7b-8, 10-12a; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
- Tue: 1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44
- Wed: 1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:46-52
- Thur: 1 Jn 4:19-5:4; Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15bc, 17; Lk 4:14-22a
- Fri: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16
- Sat: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-6a, 9b; Jn 3:22-30
- Sun: Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Ps 29:1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b, 9b-10; Acts 10:34-38; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

**Sunday Ministry Schedule-St. Stephen's
1/13/19**

9:00 Mass

Lector: Carol Kellogg
Extraordinary Ministers: Jeanne Ann Scott, Marilu Duncan, Tom Kasper

5:00 Mass

Lector: Volunteer Needed
Extraordinary Ministers: Ardie & Mike Steinbronn, Cindy Davis

Parish Collection

12/30 \$1567.30

"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

Happenings:

- 1/6: Rosary @ 8:20am
Coffee and donuts after the 9am Mass
- 1/11: Adoration 3:45pm
- 1/12: Music Practice 3pm

St. Stephen's Religious Ed/Baptism

Please plan to attend three classes if you wish your child to be baptized. Classes for January are on the 7th, 14th & 21st from 5:30-6:30pm.

Religious Education classes for K-8 grades will resume on January 20th!



Father Jim will leave for Rome on Thursday, January 9th and return from his sabbatical on May 10th. Please keep him in your prayers while he is on sabbatical.

Father Hugo will arrive at the Mission to assist Father Bryce with the Mass schedule and all other sacramental purposes in Fr. Jim's absence. Please welcome him!

Mass Intentions/Communion Service & Schedule this week:

- 1/5: 4:30pm Blessed Sacrament For the people
- 1/6: 9am St. Stephen's Brown Family
11am St. Joseph's +Dillon Whiteplume
5pm St. Stephen's Dominic Littlesfield
- 1/8: 7:15am St. Stephen's Special Intention
- 1/9: 5:00pm St. Stephen's +John Wayne Cooper
5:15pm St. Joseph's Communion service
- 1/10: 7:15am St. Stephen's +Joe Northcott
- 1/11: 5:00pm St. Stephen's Special Intention
5:15pm St. Joseph's Communion service
- 1/12: 4:30pm Blessed Sacrament
- 1/13: 9am St. Stephen's
11am St. Joseph's
5pm St. Stephen's

Join thousands of Catholics nationwide in the annual pro-life novena, 9 Days for Life, Monday, January 14 – Tuesday, January 22. Pray for the respect of all human life with daily intentions, brief reflections, and more. Download a free mobile app, or sign up to receive the novena through daily emails or text message. (A printable version is also available online.) Sign up at www.9daysforlife.com!

*"The smile is the rose of the world, the grace that settles over the world, embodying all three graces - brightness, good cheer, and bloom - in a delicate and gentle gesture. An unsmiling religion is anti-religion: ... Becoming religious is a matter of learning how to smile."
Hoping Against Hope (2015), by John D. Caputo, p 42*

Praised be Jesus Christ. Praise Him now and always! *Happy Epiphany!*

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.