

Remembering the Truth

It is a human thing to remember the past. We do it in part to understand better who we are now and how we got that way.

That is why remembering is one definition of liturgy. Under God's impetus we remember what it means to be a follower of Christ today. Especially in this Easter season, the Church is recalling its experience in the weeks after Jesus died and rose again.

Let us pretend that we are the historical disciples of Jesus, calling to mind what happened. It is as if we sit around a memory campfire, telling stories.

Remember when Philip said to Jesus, 'Just show us the Father and that will be enough for us?' Of course he was at that very moment seeing Jesus and therefore seeing the Father, but did not know it!

Maybe someone moves closer to the fire and says,

Do you remember the words he said just before his passion and death? That he would send the Spirit of Truth into our hearts! And that we would not be left orphans!

"Go over it one more time," Someone else whispers. Bravely, one of them tries to.

"God the Abba is so much within Jesus that every time we see him we are seeing God."

Philip nods, reluctantly.

"Then Jesus said":

I will be so much within you—yes, you normal people—that when anyone sees you it will be the same thing as seeing me! And of course, since the Father is in me, they will know the Father too!

Philip gulped. "I ... I almost have it ... maybe ... or maybe not. ... Please say it another way."

"Ok. If I boil it down, this is what I understood of what I remember. Jesus said,

I am going back to the Father, back to the one who sent me. The world will not see me any more. But that doesn't make me absent from you. I and the Abba will be within you so that your very insides will be at one with my Spirit and the Father's Spirit.

"Then he put it very simply:

Who sees me

sees the Father.

Who sees you

sees me.

Philip somehow caught a glimpse of daylight.

At least, we find him in the First Reading running from place to place doing miracles and preaching about the Messiah! As scripture puts it,

With one accord, the crowds paid attention to what was said by Philip, when they heard it, and saw the signs he was doing:

Unclean spirits, crying out in a loud voice,

came out of many possessed people,

and many paralyzed or crippled people were cured.

There was great joy in that city.

Do you also see daylight, at least on some days?

Do you remember to say yes to Christ's presence within you? Do you touch and receive communion at Mass and let yourself evolve into Christ, in the world today? Is your life an increasing process of saying "yes," or is there too much "no"? If the latter, read Sunday's readings again.

Simple? Not really.

Well, maybe it is simple. Just receive and love.

John Foley, SJ

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 17, 2020

St. Stephens Indian Mission

www.saintstephensmission.com

856-7806

33 St. Stephens Road

PO Box 250

St. Stephens, WY 82524

Sr. Jim Heiser.....Pastor

Fr. Hugo Blotsky, OSB.....Substitute Priest

Sr. Monica Suhayda, CSJ.....Past. Asst./ Gift Shop 856-4330

Patti McMahon.....Director of Religious Education

Blessed Sacrament & St. Josephs

332-9090

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

Please view the Diocese of Cheyenne website dioceseofcheyenne.org as they have a plethora of information on the Church's continued response to the coronavirus outbreak.

The gift shop is still closed. The office is closed to the public as we encourage everyone to stay home. You may call 851-2912 in an emergency otherwise calls to the parish office will be returned as soon as possible. These continued restrictions are necessary as it is imperative we are responsible and act in solidarity for the common good.

Bulletins will be posted to the parish website at www.saintstephensmission.com.

Please remember the church is open for private prayer every day from 8am-7pm. Continue to pray for the end of this pandemic. God Bless!

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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 May 18th through May 24th:

Mon: Acts 16:11-15; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Jn 15:26-16:4a
 Tue: Acts 16:22-34; Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; Jn 16:5-11
 Wed: Acts 17:15, 22-18:1; Ps 148:1-2, 11-14; Jn 16:12-15
 Thur: Acts 18:1-8; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 16:16-20
 Fri: Acts 18:9-18; Ps 47:2-7; Jn 16:20-23
 Sat: Acts 18:23-28; Ps 47:2-3, 8-10; Jn 16:23b-28
 Sun: Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47:2-3, 6-9; Eph 1:17-23; Mt 28:16-20

Parish Collection

Last week mail in collection \$1685

"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

Father Jim and Father Hugo are celebrating a PRIVATE Mass every weekday so the Mass for the scheduled intentions are still being celebrated. Please feel free to call and leave a message if you have an intention. God bless.

Mass Intentions this week

5/16:	Saturday	Frances Hummingbird Simmons
5/17:	Sunday	Alessa Brown on her 18th birthday/HS graduation
5/18:	Monday	Darrel James Smith, Sr.
5/19:	Tuesday	Howard and William Brown on their birthday
5/20:	Wednesday	Robert Adeky, Sr.
5/21:	Thursday	+Anna Rita Bell
5/22:	Friday	Intention of the priest
5/23:	Saturday	Intention of the priest
5/24:	Sunday	+Kathy Vincent

As we continue to move forward toward opening St. Stephens for Sunday Mass, we will be limited to 10 people in attendance. If you would like to be added to the rotating list of parishioners for Mass please call the office or email the parish office. There will be 9 parishioners for each Sunday remaining in May and 24 parishioners beginning June 7th. This is to allow a safe distance between parishioners. Please remember Bishop Steven's general dispensation from the Sunday Mass obligation will remain in effect for the duration of Mass attendance restrictions. Mass is available for viewing on K2 Television at 9am.

Face masks will be required at Mass, use hand sanitizer, please refrain from exchanging handshakes during the Sign of Peace and maintain at least six feet apart from parishioners (except if you are in the same household) including processing to receive the Eucharist. If you are not feeling well and are scheduled to attend Mass please stay home and call the office so we can switch you with another parishioner until you feel well. Please keep our church family safe. We appreciate your cooperation as we move forward, safely, together.

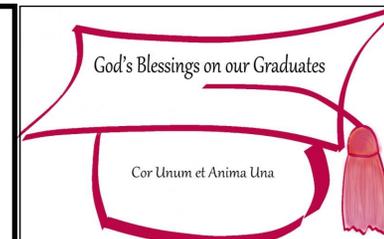
The churches at St. Josephs and St. Stephens are open daily from 8am-7pm for private prayer. No more than 10 people are to be in the church at one time.

Christ Is Risen!

Indeed, He Is Risen!

Prayer of Pope Francis during the pandemic:

O Mary,
 you always shine on our path
 as a sign of salvation and of hope.
 We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who at the cross took part in Jesus' pain, keeping your faith firm.
 You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need,
 and we are sure you will provide
 so that, as in Cana of Galilee,
 we may return to joy and to feasting
 after this time of trial.
 Help us, Mother of Divine Love,
 to conform to the will of the Father
 and to do as we are told by Jesus,
 who has taken upon himself our sufferings
 and carried our sorrows
 to lead us, through the cross,
 to the joy of the resurrection.
 Amen.



Lord, on this "commencement" day, let there be a beginning of my life. In the days of darkness, be my Light so that in turn I can radiate your truth and your message of love, hope, and joy. In the days of blandness and of blahs, Lord, be my Salt, so that in turn I can fend off the corruption, the staleness, the mediocrity around me. In the days when I am flat on my back or fall flat on my face, Lord, be my Leaven, so that not only can I rise again, but also raise the downhearted to the celebration of your Love. And Lord, thank You, for the school years, for the talents I received. Amen.

Sacrament of Reconciliation & Sacrament of the Sick

You may call the office to schedule an appointment for confession. If there is no answer please leave your name and phone number and Father Jim or Father Hugo will return your call. Please do not schedule an appointment if you are sick, please wait until you are well to protect yourself and the priest. Priest and parishioner will be required to wear a mask and maintain a safe six foot distance during confession.

The Sacrament of the sick will still be available for those who are terminal and is now available to those who have an upcoming surgery. Please call the office if you or a loved one is in need of this sacrament.