

Go Gentle

In the Gospel this week, how beautiful Jesus words are, and yet so hard to trust.

Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened,
and I will give you rest.

Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,
for I am meek and humble of heart;
and you will find rest for yourselves.

For my yoke is easy, and my burden light.

What a great comfort these promises are. There is a place to go to when death or loss or suffering descend upon us.

Another very honest viewpoint is given by Dylan Thomas, the poet, who was in no way wiser than Jesus, but nevertheless deserves to be heard. He wrote this to his dying father:

Do not go gentle into that good night,
Old age should burn and rave at close of day;
Rage, rage against the dying of the light.

Rage is quite different from the ease that Jesus promises. And in his great poem, "Fern Hill," the same poet says,

Oh as I was young and easy
in the mercy of his means,
Time held me green and dying

Though I sang in my chains like the sea.

Dylan Thomas was a raggedy man, who, if rumor is true, drank himself to the death he dreaded. He loved his youth and sang glad song to it, but death always stood waiting, and it did not offer relief to the chains it wrapped around him.

What about Jesus? He said that his yoke was easy yet he went through torture and death. How can this be?

Here is an approach. Maybe labor and burdens are not meant to be erased from our lives, not erased or thrown away, but instead are meant to be pathways to a solid ground far underneath our troubles, into a quiet grounding that is real stillness and rest. What rich earth would that be?

Jesus says it is meekness and humility of heart.

In the desert he had already told the devil that the only food he needed was "every word that proceeds from the mouth of God." Maybe the only real goods in life are those rooted in the love that is God and in the meekness and humility that are Jesus' life.

"Watch me," Jesus says. "I am meek, and riding on an ass, on a colt, the foal of an ass (First Reading). Or in other words,

Watch me on the sad height of Calvary and see. I have let it all go—belongings, beloveds, reputation, everything. One thing remains. In it I find my rest. Make it your life, whatever your sorrow, whatever act of living and dying and being burdened you have, and it will not be heavy. Make it the center of your life and your burden will be light too.
Love.

Love of God and neighbor.

If you can begin to let go into the arms of the Great Love, if you can give your life away instead of raging, you will know rest from your burdens. You will see how death is the ultimate act of giving yourself away, as Jesus did in the midst of his burdens. Meek and humble of heart, he is, not proud and above it all.

Take your troubles and hand them gratefully to the One who can give you rest.

John Foley, SJ

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 5, 2020

St. Stephens Indian Mission

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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 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 penitent 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.

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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 July 6th through July 12th:

Mon: Hos 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22; Ps 145:2-9; Mt 9:18-26
 Tue: Hos 8:4-5, 11-13; Ps 115:3-7b, 8-10; Mt 9:32-38
 Wed: Hos 10:1-2, 7-8, 12; Ps 105:2-7; Mt 10:1-7
 Thur: Hos 11:1-4, 8c-9; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16; Mt 10:7-15
 Fri: Hos 14:2-10; Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-14, 17; Mt 10:16-23
 Sat: Is 6:1-8; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Mt 10:24-33
 Sun: Is 55:10-11; Ps 65:10-14; Rom 8:18-23; Mt 13:1-23

Parish Collection

Last week mail in collection \$810
"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

THANK YOU to all who have continued to make financial contributions to St. Stephens Indian Mission through these most trying times! God Bless!

Mass Intentions this week

7/5:	Sunday	Dr. Greg Marino
	Sunday	For the people
7/6:	Monday	
7/7:	Tuesday	
7/8:	Wednesday	+Raymond Lovato
7/9:	Thursday	Grimm Family
7/10:	Friday	
7/11:	Saturday	
7/12:	Sunday	Those who completed their vows
	Sunday	For the people

Praised be Jesus Christ!

Praise Him now and always!

As we continue to celebrate Sunday Mass at St. Stephens, we are still limited to 9 people in attendance as we follow the Wind River Intertribal Council's resolution. If you would like to be added to the rotating list of parishioners for Mass please call the office or email the parish office. Please remember that 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 and/or you may watch via livestream on St. Margaret's or Holy Rosary's FB pages.

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.

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

The churches at St. Josephs and St. Stephens are open daily from 8am-7pm for private prayer. No more than 9 people are to be in the church at one time.



Please pray for the family of the deceased:

+Lettie June Spoonhunter

Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Value/Practice

Understanding and Application

Subsidiarity

The principle of subsidiarity offers insight into how the diocese relates to parishes. This principle maintains, "A community of a higher order should not interfere in the internal life of a community of a lower order, depriving the latter of its functions, but rather should support it in case of need and to help co-ordinate its activities with the activities of the rest of society, always with a view to the common good" (CCC 1883).

The highest level of authority should not usurp the initiative, freedom, and responsibility at lower levels. Subsidiarity calls on higher-level authorities to help individuals and intermediate groups to fulfill their duties (Compendium of Social Doctrine, 186).

How can we best coordinate our activities for the good of our local Church and of our society?

Personal Responsibility

While the Catholic Church has used the language of rights for several decades, it has also used the language of responsibility alongside it. Individuals – especially as members of the Mystical Body of Christ – do have the responsibility to preserve each other's health and opportunity for human flourishing.

What will help people understand that responsibility to others is just as valued in our tradition as personal rights?