

## Come To The Water

I love the First Reading. I suppose this is obvious from the fact that I wrote a hymn, "Come to the Water," which is based on it. It was a long time ago (1971), but I remember the time clearly. The St. Louis Jesuits were only just forming and we took a summer together to write, out in Berkeley, CA. We always composed music individually and then presented it to one another for critique. For my part I wrote two hymns, and when it was time, played them for the others. I remember the exact spot where I stood. You probably think one of them was Come to the Water, but it wasn't. I don't even remember the names of those two pieces. The unanimous reaction of my brothers in Christ was, "ugh." "They just don't work," "What were you thinking?" These encouraged me to file the errant pieces in the round file and try again. I had learned something. I could not just "dash off" music. I had to believe in it and believe in what it was saying. So I searched the scriptures and prayed. The result? A setting of the First Reading for this Sunday.

*All you who are thirsty, come to the water!  
 You who have no money, come, receive grain and eat;  
 Come, without paying and without cost, drink wine and milk!  
 Why spend your money for what is not bread; your wages for what fails to satisfy?  
 Heed me, and you shall eat well, you shall delight in rich fare.*

Composers and authors actually do not know what happens when inspiration hits. I only know that I began writing immediately, and that something inside was guiding me. Come to the Water was born. I continue to believe in it and to stand behind what it says. Both the song and the scripture passage express a solution to the needs and aches in our bodies and souls. The love we received when we were children was true, in spite of whatever wounds and reversals any of us received then or afterwards. The inside chambers of our self are truly and thoroughly loved by the giving-God. Jesus shows this to us in the Gospel. He was aching, himself. He had been told about the death of dear his teacher and friend, John the Baptist. He wanted to get away from people, to let himself feel the loss. But look what happened. Crowds of people tracked his boat and figured out where he was headed. They ran around the lake and waited as he pulled up to shore. Gone was his chance to mourn, at least for the moment. Maybe he should have told them to go away! Come back later. But the scripture says, "his heart was moved with pity for them, and he cured their sick." Even more, he gave them food, a tiny bit of food that multiplied so there was enough. If you look at it, he was doing exactly what the First Reading and Come to the Water are talking about. We are meant to be fed by God in this way. And we are to be like Jesus in our actions toward other people. What we receive as we walk up the aisle to communion makes us into God's way of fulfilling the First Reading.

John Foley, SJ

## Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time August 22, 2020

### St. Stephens Indian Mission

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Fr. Jim Heiser.....Pastor  
 Sr. Monica Suhayda, CSJ.....Past. Asst./ Gift Shop 856-4330  
 Patti McMahan.....Director of Religious Education

### Blessed Sacrament & St. Josephs

332-9090

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

#### 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.

.....  
 ♦ 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 3rd through August 9th:

Mon: Jer 28:1-17; Ps 119:29, 43, 79-80, 95, 102; Mt 24:22-36  
Tue: Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22; Ps 102:16-23, 29; Mt 14:22-36  
Wed: Jer 31:1-7; (Ps) Jer 31:10-12b, 13; Mt 15:21-28  
Thur: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9  
Fri: Na 2:1, 3 3:1-3, 6-7; (Ps) Dt 32:35c-36b, 39abcd, 41; Mt 16:24-28  
Sat: Hb 1:12-2:4; Ps 9:8-13; Mt 17:14-20  
Sun: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a; Ps 85:9-14; Rom 9:1-5; Mt 14:22-33

### Parish Collection

Last week mail in collection \$2684  
*"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

8/2:	Sunday	+Herbie Hopkins
	Sunday	For the people
8/3:	Monday	
8/4:	Tuesday	
8/5:	Wednesday	Sophie Heiser
8/6:	Thursday	Rosary Makers
8/7:	Friday	
8/8:	Saturday	
8/9:	Sunday	+Father Carl Beavers
	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.

Please pray for the family of the deceased:

+Houston Headley  
+Joann Romero

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

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.

Holy Virgin of Guadalupe, Queen of the Angels and Mother of the Americas. We fly to you today as your beloved children. We ask you to intercede for us with your Son, as you did at the wedding in Cana.

Pray for us, loving Mother, and gain for our nation and world, and for all our families and loved ones, the protection of your holy angels, that we may be spared the worst of this illness.

For those already afflicted, we ask you to obtain the grace of healing and deliverance. Hear the cries of those who are vulnerable and fearful, wipe away their tears and help them to trust.

In this time of trial and testing, teach all of us in the Church to trust in God, to love one another, and to be patient and kind. Help us to bring the compassion and peace of Jesus to our land and to our hearts.

We come to you with confidence, knowing that you truly are our compassionate mother, health of the sick and cause of our joy.

Shelter us under the mantle of your protection, keep us in the embrace of your arms, help us always to know the love of your Son, Jesus. Amen.

## Blessed Sacrament and St. Josephs

*Congratulations to  
Adinideen Lucy Willow  
who received the Sacrament of Confirmation last week at St. Josephs!*