

Look What Love Is Doing

Kids go through grade school and high school with important questions to face. Am I "in" with the crowd? Can I hold my own against the bullies, can I get along with girls, can I get along with the boys, did I wear the right clothes, am I cool enough? These are obviously more important and more crucial than anything else in their lives.

This was the case in my own life, and I suppose it was the reason I did not think much about the place of "love" in the overall scheme of life. Of course, who "thinks" when they are in high school?

Then as a college freshman I had Fr. Robert Boyle, SJ, for English literature. He was a great teacher, without question, and one proof of his greatness lay in a statement he often made:

If you want to know what is happening
in a work of literature,
look what love is doing.

Look at what love is doing!

"What?" my barely 18 year old self gasped.

I had never known explicitly that love was such a big deal. I thought it was something parents have for you and tell you about it over and over. Could it really be the key to plays, poems, novels, short stories and literature? The key to humanity? Ulp. I had better pay attention.

We went through Shakespeare, Hopkins, Joyce, Keats, Milton, and I can't remember how many more. The clouds parted and I began to see that Boyle was right: characters' lives do center around something called "love" or the lack of it. Try it out when you read your next serious novel or short story. Which character acts out of real regard for the other(s) and which does not? What happens as a result?

Oh, and what about love in our own lives?

Have you discovered that love is quite a bit more than pretense, more than an ideal, more than just a thing we crave from others, and certainly more than just pleasure? Have you seen that learning to love is the very air inhaled by such everyday importances as work, relaxation, attractions, happiness? Without love's living atmosphere none of these could breathe, nor could we.

In Sunday's Gospel Jesus says this in no uncertain terms.

You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart,
with all your soul, and with all your mind. ...

You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments.

"What?" we might exclaim (as I did in college). We thought that law consisted of commands placed upon us from the outside, rules whose violation would bring punishment! What is this about law depending on love?

Well, take a look.

God does not fail at love. God waits. God says, "how wonderful that you are learning!" God says, "I love every person on earth. And you: you are my beloved. I am at your side as you learn to open to me and to others."

You and I do not judge ourselves as succeeding in this very often, so we need laws to help us. But the root of law and of life is love of others. It is loving concern under God for human persons. Ultimately it is an imitation of God's love for us.

"Look what love is doing

John Foley, SJ

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time October 25, 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 October 26th through November 1st:

Mon: Eph 4:32-5:8; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 13:10-17
Tue: Eph 5:21-33; Ps 128:1-5; Lk 13:18-21
Wed: Eph 2:19-22; Ps 19:2-5; Lk 6:12-16
Thur: Eph 6:10-20; Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10; Lk 13:31-35
Fri: Phil 1:1-11; Ps 111:1-6; Lk 14:1-6
Sat: Phil 1:18b-26; Ps 42:2-3, 5cdef; Lk 14:1, 7-11
Sun: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14; Ps 24:1b-4b, 5-6; 1 Jn 3:1-3; Mt 5:1-12a

Parish Collection

Last week mail in collection \$1325

"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

10/25: Sunday	For the people
Sunday	Poor souls in purgatory
10/28: Wednesday	+Bob Ligocki
10/29: Thursday	+Jack Corbett
11/1: Sunday	+Jared Sonnen
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 limited to 10 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 also email the parish office (melissa.brown@saintstephensmission.com) to make sure your contact information is on file with the Parish as this is our primary way to contact you when things change or if we have an event you might be interested in. Thank you!

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. We appreciate your cooperation as we move forward, safely, together.

Please pray for the family of the deceased:

+Theresa Littleshield
+Eugene Goggles
+Brodie Potter

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.

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.

Television Mass Announcement

Due to program changes that would affect consistency in air time for televised Masses on KLWY in Cheyenne, the Diocese of Cheyenne will move permanently to KKTQ in Cheyenne, where Mass will air Sundays at 9 am. Televised Masses will continue to air Sundays at 9 am on Ktwo out of Casper.

Sacramental Preparation has begun!

If you still have not met with Patti McMahon, DRE for St. Stephens or Sister Teresa, DRE for St. Josephs and Blessed Sacrament then please contact them as soon as possible to get your children enrolled! Patti may be reached at 856-7806 and Sister Teresa may be contacted at 332-9090.



Why do we wear masks?

"It is a simple and selfless act of love for the common good."

*Bishop Steven Biegler
Diocese of Cheyenne*