

## Are We There Yet?

How can it be that the “typical questions” of children pass down from generation to generation?

They do.

Our family car was half way to Colorado and I was about six or seven and I clearly remember asking my mother that famous, time-honored question, “Mommy, are we there yet?” It was a real question, and I wasn’t quoting someone else, so I thought.

By now I have heard child after child ask exactly the same question of a parent, in exactly the same words. Maybe it is an innate instinct, like geese flying south or robins pulling up worms.

As we become mature, we human beings do learn to wait, to live with the “not yet.” We call it “delayed gratification.” We may want to be home, for instance, but to get there from work, we might have to walk to the bus stop, wait for the #10, hand over the fee, stand until there is a seat, sit down at long last, wait some more, get off, walk 50 blocks (it seems), unlock the door, and finally, finally, finally, put our feet up and relax. Some days this can be annoying, but usually “we get used to it.”

But we shouldn’t get overly used to it. That is the point of this week’s readings. Since we are not children, we can overlook the joy or pleasure when our goal finally arrives. Do you even remember to taste food when you finally get your dinner? Did you remember to enjoy in quiet detail the friend you haven’t seen (at least virtually) in a year?

Sunday’s First Reading reminds us peacefully and beautifully to watch for God at dawn; to keep vigil because Wisdom (the Holy Spirit of God) actually is searching for those who are waiting. The Responsorial Psalm boldly names our craving for God! It says, “my soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.” And, the Gospel adds, stay awake, make preparations. Do not be foolish. Do not forget to be ready.

We are like parched ground without rain. We have huge fractures in our surface. Our souls ache for the gentle, courteous and tender outpouring God wants to do—not a thing like hurricanes or floods, but like a mother feeding her newborn. Let’s face it. You and I desire God more than anything else. At the center of our souls is a thirst that will never be slaked unless the God of all creation comes in person to be living water for us.

“Your kindness is a greater good than life,” the Psalm says to God.

What did you say? But life is so essential, so to be preserved, so valuable that we fight like a cornered wolf when it is threatened. Even so, in spite of all our flurry, God’s delicious kindness is a far greater good than anything else we know, greater even than being alive. It is worth the wait, no matter how long.

So, be excited like a child. Let yourself say “I want,” like kids do. But also, be calm like an adult. Know that when our desires are thwarted we can wait, as wisdom waits for us.

John Foley, SJ

## Thirty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time November 8, 2020

### St. Stephens Indian Mission

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Patti McMahon.....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 is available for those who are in need, terminal and 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 November 9th through November 15th :

Mon: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22  
 Tue: Ti 2:1-8, 11-14; Ps 37:3-4, 18, 23, 27, 29; Lk 17:7-10  
 Wed: Ti 3:1-7; Ps 23:1b-6; Lk 17:11-19  
 Thur: Phlm 7-20; Ps 146:7-10; Lk 17:20-25  
 Fri: 2 Jn 4-9; Ps 119:1-2, 10-11, 17-18; Lk 17:26-37  
 Sat: 3 Jn 5-8; Ps 112:1-6; Lk 18:1-8  
 Sun: Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; Ps 128:1-5; 1 thes 5::1-6; Mt 25:14-30

### Parish Collection

Last week mail in collection \$1273  
*"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

11/8:	Sunday	For the people
	Sunday	+John Cunningham
11/11:	Wednesday	Recovery for those with COVID-19
11/12:	Thursday	+Edward LaMorte
11/15:	Sunday	Toby & Juanita Littlethunder
	Sunday	For The People



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 are required at Mass. Please use hand sanitizer, 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:

+Johnetta Seminole

*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.*

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.

Scholarship applications for new students are due on November 30th!! If you or your family member would like an application please have them call the office at 856-7806 or email Melissa: melissa.brown@saintstephensmission.com

During November, we are called in a special way to remember our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection. There will be a book at the entrance of the church for parishioners to write the names of their beloved dead who will be remembered in prayer throughout the month.

*So our parishioners may plan as they need: There will NOT be a communal penance service this Advent. You may call the office and leave a message if you would like to schedule an appointment for confession. Thank you!*

Praised be Jesus Christ!

Praise Him now and always!

### 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.

### Why do we wear masks?

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

*Bishop Steven Biegler  
 Diocese of Cheyenne*