

Thanks

I was out for a drive. The weather was beautiful. The city had its usual “non-countryside” and somewhat ruined appearance, and I was merely doing shopping chores. Suddenly, unexpectedly, simple gratitude came upon me. Not earth-shaking, not the result of complicated reasoning, just a modest, - gentle joy. I looked in admiration at my hands, which work reasonably well. I thought of the friends in my life, the special ones.

Later, this very quiet event led me to a conclusion:

“The primary motivation for giving is gratitude.”

Appreciation is a springboard for giving back.

Without being prompted, I said the words, “thank you.”

Another example: I have wide-set eyes. I have never been able to look through both lenses of any set of binoculars. For years my brother had set his mind to solving this problem, and he came up with results that almost worked but never quite. Miraculously, as I was writing this very reflection, a birthday present came in the mail. You guessed it, a set of binoculars.

But don't get excited, these did not fit either. I could look out of either one lens or the other, but not both at the same time. Hoping against hope I wrestled with widening the distance between the arms. It got complicated. By accident I narrowed the distance instead of widening it. Suddenly I could see with both eyes! These binoculars at their widest were too broad for the big head!!!! With arms narrowed I could see through both, and that meant seeing in 3D as well!

I love the binoculars, of course, but more, I imagined my brother sending them to me, his face holding back a grin. I was grateful to him and for him. It is that gratitude that makes me want to do something for him in return.

Put simply, the primary motivation for giving is gratitude.

In the First Reading, Amos the prophet, who was a shepherd and a “dresser of sycamores,” found that God wanted him for a new job. Not watching the flock, not pruning trees. Now he was to be a visionary: someone who would prophesy to the people. Shocking.

Why did Amos respond so boldly?

Perhaps the fierce, quiet landscape of this country had opened him and had let God give to him. His action was an act of gratitude.

Same thing for the apostles in the Gospel. They were men of action, so they did not notice that they were being grateful to Jesus. But they did have a growing realization of what he was giving to them, and secretly they loved him more and more. Their gratitude was their reason for going where he sent them.

So when he told them to go out and preach, and banish demons, they knew that the mission fit them. He had found a way for them to begin seeing with both eyes.

Let's us keep our eyes open too. We are very much loved.

And ready to be sent.

John Foley, SJ

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 11, 2021

St. Stephens Indian Mission

www.saintstephensmission.com

856-7806

33 St. Stephens Road

PO Box 250

St. Stephens, WY 82524

Fr. Jim Heiser.....Pastor

Fr. Drew Duncan.....Associate Pastor

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

St. Stephens

Friday: Adoration followed by benediction 3:45pm will resume on August 6th

Saturday: Confessions 2:00 PM to 2:30 PM

Sunday Masses: 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM

Tuesday & Thursday: Mass at 7:15am

Wednesday & Friday: Mass at 5:00pm

1st Saturday: Adoration at 8:00am; Mass at 9:00am

St. Josephs, Ethete

11am Sunday Mass will resume on July 25th

Confessions 15 minutes before Mass

Blessed Sacrament, Ft. Washakie

Saturday Vigil Mass 4:30 PM

Confessions 15 minutes before Mass

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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!
.....

*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 12th through July 18th:

Mon: Ex 1:8-14, 22; Ps 124:1-8; Mt 10:34-11:1
 Tue: Ex 2:1-15a; Ps 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34; Mt 11:20-24
 Wed: Ex 3:1-6, 9-12; Ps 103:1b-4, 6-7; Mt 11:25-27
 Thur: Ex 3:13-20; Ps 105:1, 5, 8-9, 24-27; Mt 11:28-30
 Fri: Ex 11:10-12:14; Ps 116:12-13, 15, 16bc, 17-18; Mt 12:1-8
 Sat: Ex 12:37-42; Ps 136:1, 23-24, 10-15; Mt 12:14-21
 Sun: Jer 23:1-6; Ps 23:1-6; Eph 2:13-18; Mk 6:30-34

Sunday Ministry Schedule-St. Stephens

7/11/21

9:00am Mass

Lector: Jim Cunningham

5:00pm Mass

Lector: Volunteer Needed

7/18/21

9:00am Mass

Lector: Tom Kasper

5:00pm Mass

Lector: Volunteer Needed

Parish Collection

6/13 Collection	\$1468.00
6/20 Collection	\$1369.63
6/27 Collection	\$1122.00
7/4 Collection	\$2776.00

"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 throughout this past year! God Bless!

Mass Intentions this week

7/10:	Saturday 4:30pm Blessed Sacrament	For the people
7/11:	Sunday 9am St. Stephens Sunday 5pm St. Stephens	+Steven Robert Haugen +Josephine Spoonhunter
7/13:	Tuesday 7:15am St. Stephens	+Marge St. Clair
7/14:	Wednesday 5pm	Roy Brown for his birthday (7/15)
7/15:	Thursday 7:15am	+Glenn Charles Heiser
7/16:	Friday 5pm	+Sam Rotellini
7/17:	Saturday 4:30pm Blessed Sacrament	Marion & Darrell Offe
7/18:	Sunday 9am St. Stephens Sunday 5pm St. Stephens	Intention of donor For the people

Please pray for the family of the deceased:

+Josephine Spoonhunter

+Verna Wilson

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.

As we continue to celebrate Mass at St. Stephens, we are limited to 25% occupancy in attendance as we follow the Wind River Intertribal Council's resolution. Please 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.

Bishop Steven's dispensation from Sunday and Holy Day Mass Obligations expired June 30th.

Face masks are strongly encouraged at Mass. Please use hand sanitizer and maintain a safe distance apart from parishioners (except if you are in the same household).

Praised be Jesus Christ! Praise Him now and always!

Blessed Sacrament and St. Josephs

Congratulations to the family of

Bluecloud Michael Amos

who was baptized in June!

Congratulations to those who recently received their
 First Holy Communion:

Purplehaze LaVell Iron Eyes

Abigail Rose Quiver

Abraham Soaring Eagle Nieto