

Flesh of My Flesh

God did a wonderful job in creating things. He did it with a Big Bang, out of which came the universe and galaxies, and ... well, whatever else.

So, God is a great artist.

Let's look.

For all eternity the three persons in God have loved each other so much that they are one. When God wanted to create a living being that could share in this inmost characteristic, he knew it would be called "deep love."

But unfortunately, in the sequence of creation, God made a mistake.

The First Reading tells us that he created the male first.

Everyone knows that a man, left on his own, will likely be helpless. He needs company, needs partnership, correction, and sometimes just a lot of forgiveness. For almost all men, this means being with, or at least open to, the creature called woman.

But there were no creatures called women in existence. Since God is a relationship of three persons to the point of forming one being, maybe God thought that adding another creature would make the same thing possible for created beings.

First experiments: he took scoops of earth and made ...

various wild animals and various birds of the air,

and he brought them to the man

to see what he would call them;

whatever the man called each of them

would be its name. (First Reading)

But none of the wild animals proved to be the suitable partner for the man.

So next, God made a move that was actually quite smart. Instead of trying to form a partner out of the earth for the man, as he had with the animals, he spread a deep sleep over the man and removed a rib from him.

He fashioned this into a woman.

This new gambit worked.

There was a great intimacy between the man and the woman. She was, as the man put it clumsily, "bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh!" The two were made out of the same stuff—how much closer can you get?

Marriage came next. As the First Reading puts it, "That is why a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, and the two of them become one flesh."

As centuries went by, millennia really, there came a popular saying among husbands.

Women! You can't live with them

and you can't live without them!

I cannot repeat here what women say, but it often starts out with, "MEN! ..." and a list of particulars follows.

Sadly, divorce made its entrance. It had been around for centuries by the time the Pharisees came to Jesus with the following argument: "Moses permitted a husband to write a bill of divorce and dismiss [his wife]" (Gospel).

Jesus reminded them sternly of why God had made both man and woman, not just the one, not just the other. He wanted them to share an intimate relationship that would be like the Trinity. He stated it this way:

"What God has joined together, no human must separate."

So, if today you find yourself divorced, or alone, or left without your beloved because of death, or if your mate and you do not get along, what can you do?

Do everything you can.

Like the rest of us, you are trying to mirror in your life the loving unity of the

Trinity. Pray and do it as you are able.

John Foley, SJ

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 3, 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 McMahan.....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

Saturday: Sacrament of Reconciliation 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

Sacrament of Reconciliation 15 minutes before Mass

Blessed Sacrament, Ft. Washakie

Saturday Vigil Mass 4:30 PM

Sacrament of Reconciliation 15 minutes before Mass

.....
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 4th through October 10th:

Mon: Jon 1:1-2:2, 11; (Ps) Jon 2:3-5, 8; Lk 10:25-37
 Tue: Jon 3:1-10; Ps 130:1b-4b, 7-8; Lk 10:38-42
 Wed: Jon 4:1-11; Ps 86:3-6, 9-10; Lk 11:1-4
 Thur: Mal 3:13-20b; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 11:5-13
 Fri: Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2; Ps 9:2-3, 6, 8-9, 16; Lk 11:15-26
 Sat: Jl 4:12-21; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Lk 11:27-28
 Sun: Wis 7:7-11; Ps 90:12-17; Heb 4:12-13; Mk 10:17-30

Sunday Ministry Schedule-St. Stephens

10/3/21

9:00am Mass

Lector: Jim Cunningham

5:00pm Mass

Lector: Volunteer Needed

10/10/21

9:00am Mass

Lector: Linda Bebout

5:00pm Mass

Lector: Volunteer Needed

Parish Collection

9/26

\$4375.68

"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

As we continue to celebrate Mass at St. Stephens, we are limited to 25% occupancy in attendance and face masks are required at Mass, per Wind River Intertribal Council Health Order. Please use hand sanitizer and maintain a safe distance apart from parishioners not in your household. Thanks for doing your part to keep everyone safe!

Praised be Jesus Christ! Praise Him now and always!

Mass Intentions this week

10/2:	Saturday 4:30pm Blessed Sacrament	For the people
10/3:	Sunday 9am St. Stephens	Ruth Coulthard
	Sunday 11am St. Josephs	+Myron McKee
	Sunday 5pm St. Stephens	Special Intention
10/4:	Monday 5pm St. Stephens	Jacque Hill
10/5:	Tuesday 7:15am St. Stephens	McNemany Family
10/6:	Wednesday 5pm St. Stephens	Karen Brown
10/7:	Thursday 7:15am St. Stephens	Peterson Family
10/8:	Friday 5pm St. Stephens	+Phil G. Sanchez, Jr.
10/9:	Saturday 4:30pm Blessed Sacrament	For the people
10/10:	Sunday 9am St. Stephens	+Jared Sonnen (Anniversary 10/11)
	Sunday 11am St. Josephs	+Matthew Charles Heiser
	Sunday 5pm St. Stephens	Karen Ann Hanway

Please pray for the family of the deceased:

+Jamie Dawn Goodman

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.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENT – Hurricane Ida

As we continue to stand in solidarity and pray for those communities that have been impacted by Hurricane Ida, Most Reverend José H. Gomez, Archbishop of Los Angeles and President of the USCCB, has asked the Faithful to consider giving to the Bishops Emergency Disaster Fund. Funds will become part of the Bishops Emergency Disaster Fund and will be used to support the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops for pastoral and reconstruction needs of the Church, as well as the efforts of Catholic Charities USA and/or Catholic Relief Services, the official relief agencies of the U.S. Catholic Church, as they and their local agencies respond to immediate emergency needs and aid in long-term rebuilding and recovery efforts. Funds will be used in response to Hurricane Ida and the impact of subsequent flooding and tornados and any other disasters that occur and will be distributed where they are most needed. However, if such purpose(s) become unnecessary, impractical, or impossible to fill, USCCB may use such contributions for other emergency disaster relief where it is most needed as determined by the Committee on National Collections using its emergency response protocol.

If you wish to contribute to the Bishops Emergency Disaster Fund, you may mail your donation – noting "Hurricane Ida" on the memo line – to:

USCCB Office of National Collections

Bishops Emergency Disaster Fund

PO Box 96278

Washington, DC, 20090-6278

To help provide swift assistance to those impacted by Hurricane Ida, you may give directly to Catholic Charities USA by visiting the website at: <https://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/>

Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi

October 4th –5pm Mass

St. Stephens

There will be a blessing of animals after the 5pm Mass on Monday, October 4th. The blessing will take place in the grassy area south of the church. Please bring your pets and join us!

Blessed Sacrament and St. Josephs

Don't forget to contact Sister Teresa regarding Religious Ed. instruction at home!