

### Hungry?

God had sent the prophet Elijah to deal with a starving widow. The trouble was that she was in a foreign land instead of with the many Jewish widows in his own country.

Jesus rubs this fact in.

Indeed, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah when the sky was closed for three and a half years and a severe famine spread over the entire land. It was to none of these that Elijah was sent, but only to a widow in Zarephath in the land of Sidon (Lk 4:25-26).

Jesus is referring to the story from our First Reading. In it Elijah sets out not at all to help the Zarephath widow and her tiny son but to demand food for himself!

She says she has in her jar “only a handful of flour” and “a little oil.” She had been collecting wood to cook the very last meal she and her young son would ever eat before they would die of starvation and thirst! Elijah was demanding, in effect, their last meal for himself.\*

Ok. But Elijah was following God’s own instructions in issuing his imperative. The Lord had told him to go to a certain town in Sidon where God had designated a widow to provide for Elijah in the famine and drought (See I Kings 17:1-9)!

Elijah got what he wanted.

He asked first—politely, we hope—for water. The widow turned on her heel to get the last little bit she had. A great spirit. As she went, Elijah shouted after her to bring him bread too!

In the famine!

The widow went to do his will.

But God had a trick up his sleeve. Elijah called out again, almost as an afterthought, “the God of Israel says, ‘the jar of flour shall not go empty, nor the jug of oil run dry, until the day when the Lord sends rain upon the earth.’” God would keep the vessels full until the drought was over.

The widow had only these puzzling words to rely on. But rely on them she did. She bakes her tiny scraps of bread, in front of the wide eyes of her son, and takes all of it, every bit of it, plus the water, to Elijah.

Does this story make sense?

No.

Is there an explanation?

Yes.

This widow knew God so well that she trusted in his goodness even in the face of impending death. Her last act would be one of trust.

And this is the real meaning of trust, to release our own control of things. When the chips are down, let go and let God. Even in your last extremity.

God had sent Elijah to help the widow, not rob her. But she first had to trust.

She did.

In the Gospel, a second widow illustrates the same kind of trust, putting the last two pennies she has to her name into the collection box. Jesus sees this happen and understands the depth of her faith.

I suppose the question then turns to you and me. How much trust do we place? Do we do it in fear?

Alternately, how much do we trust God?

John Foley, SJ

## Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time November 7, 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

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

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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 8th through November 14th:

Mon: Wis 1:1-7; Ps 139:1-10; Lk 17:1-6  
Tue: 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  
Wed: Wis 6:1-11; Ps 82:3-4, 6-7; Lk 17:11-19  
Thur: Wis 7:22b-8:1; Ps 119:89-91, 130, 135, 175; Lk 17:20-25  
Fri: Wis 13:1-9; Ps 19:2-5b; Lk 17:26-37  
Sat: Wis 18:14-16, 19:6-9; Ps 105:2-3, 36-37, 42-43; Lk 18:1-8  
Sun: Dn 12:1-3; Ps 16:5, 8-11; Heb 10:11-14, 18; Mk 13:24-32

### Sunday Ministry Schedule-St. Stephens

11/7/21

#### 9:00am Mass

Lector: Jim Cunningham

#### 5:00pm Mass

Lector: Volunteer Needed

11/14/21

#### 9:00am Mass

Lector: Linda Bebout

#### 5:00pm Mass

Lector: Volunteer Needed

### Parish Collection

10/31

\$1320.55

*"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!

### Mass Intentions this week

11/6:	Saturday 9am St. Stephens	Sue & Carl Acres
	Saturday 4:30pm Blessed Sacrament	Father Jim
11/7:	Sunday 9am St. Stephens	Red Wing
	Sunday 11am St. Josephs	Pam Brown
	Sunday 5pm St. Stephens	Jon & Nic
11/9:	Tuesday 7:15am St. Stephens	Bert Adeky
11/10:	Wednesday 5pm St. Stephens	Teresa Hagestad
11/11:	Thursday 7:15am St. Stephens	Karen & Howard Brown
11/12:	Friday 5pm St. Stephens	No Mass today
11/13:	Saturday 4:30pm Blessed Sacrament	+Sister Mary Carmel Malloy, OSF
11/14:	Sunday 9am St. Stephens	Special Intention
	Sunday 11am St. Josephs	Father John Apel, SJ
	Sunday 5pm St. Stephens	Eric

Please pray for the families of the deceased:

+Kenneth Duran

+Phillip Spoonhunter

*Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed,*

## Synod 2021-2023

Our parish will come together on Sunday November 28 (TIME and PLACE to be announced soon) to pray together and share how the Holy Spirit has spoken to us as we have asked ourselves what steps we can take to more intentionally journey with our sisters and brothers. In preparation, please take time to pray with 1 Corinthians 12:1-11. Then recognize and appreciate the wealth and the variety of the gifts and charisms that the Spirit liberally bestows for the good of our community and the benefit of the entire human family.

**Praised be Jesus Christ! Praise Him now and always!**

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 is a book at the entrance of the church to write the names of your beloved deceased members of your family who will be remembered throughout November.

Thank you, thank you,  
**THANK YOU** to all who  
were able to come out and  
help clean the cemetery.  
What a transformation!  
Thank you so much. May  
you and your families be  
blessed!

## Blessed Sacrament and St. Josephs

Contact Sister Teresa for baptism classes. God bless!