

Belief?

Do you believe in the resurrection?

If the answer is “no,” St. Paul says that your “faith is in vain” (1 Cor 15:14).

Alright, but sometimes it is hard to know what “resurrection” means. Could it simply mean bringing Jesus back to life so he could go on as before?

No!

Jesus had been deeply marked by injuries, humiliation and death. A return to mere life would almost erase these, as if they did not happen. An ordinary life! All better now?

No. Here is a metaphor.

Imagine there is a “spiritual soil” from which all life “sprouts.” In his death Jesus plunged deep down into such a soil. He stumbled, fell, and lost his life, the very thing we think is irreplaceable and to be guarded beyond all else.

In this metaphor, life is only a garden plant. It grows from an earth so rich that we hardly notice it. That spiritual earth is love.

Vast, quiet love. From God, who is love.

Like Doubting Thomas, we find this easy to doubt. Look at him. He was resentful, probably broken-hearted. He warded off his grief by simple denial. Unless I “put my finger into the nail marks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe” (Gospel)!

And look at the other men. In the gospel of Luke, the women, not the men, saw the empty tomb first and the angels. They took it seriously. But “... their words seemed an idle tale, and [the apostles] did not believe” (Lk 24:11). In Matthew’s gospel, Jesus first came to the women. When the men went to the place where Jesus had said he would meet them, “they worshipped him, but some doubted” (Mt 28:17). In Mark, Jesus appeared first to Mary Magdalene, but when she went to the apostles, you guessed it, they rejected her testimony (Mk 16:9). Nor did they listen to the men who had met Jesus walking to Emmaus (Mk 16:12-13).

Hard to miss the fact that the women usually believed and the men often did not. Women dared to trust what they saw. They have been given lower status in culture throughout the ages, but we can see that it is a big mistake to ignore their testimony.

There was a popular author, Dan Brown, who in the Da Vinci Code, pretended not to ignore woman’s testimony. He says dramatically that males have systematically repressed the essence of Christianity. The real truth, he claims, one guarded through centuries, is that Mary Magdalene was Jesus’ secret wife! Moreover, a flesh and blood descendent from Jesus is alive today (a woman, living in secret and in fear for her life). Obviously, as Brown seems to assert, if the gospels are just huge cover-ups, then the resurrection would be just one more spin on the glittering wheel of deception.

Ouch. What is the truth?

It is this: Jesus’ life, death and resurrection point us toward the source of all life, the source of the universe, of trees, of women and men, of marriage and offspring. Jesus is a river of love that God pours into the world. In the Resurrection he is now flowing back into the ocean of the Trinity and taking us along, whichever of us chooses to believe.

It is the resurrection. Do you believe in it?

If you do, then you believe that love is the foundation of life. Just put your finger into the mark of the nails, and put your hands into his side and you will find that love.

John Foley, SJ

Second Sunday of Easter

April 24, 2022

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 Faith Formation

Blessed Sacrament & St. Josephs

332-9090

Sr. Teresa Frawley, OSF.....Past. Asst./Director of Faith Formation

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 April 25th through May 1st:

Mon: 1 Pt 5:5b-14; Ps 89:2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mk 16:15-20
 Tue: Acts 4:32-37; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Jn 3:7b-15
 Wed: Acts 5:17-26; Ps 34:2-9; Jn 3:16-21
 Thur: Acts 5:27-33' Ps 34:2, 9, 17-20; Jn 3:31-36
 Fri: Acts 5:34-42; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Jn 6:1-15
 Sat: Acts 6:1-7; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19; Jn 6:16-21
 Sun: Acts 5:27-32, 40b-41' Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13; Rv 5:11-14; Jn 21:1-19

Sunday Ministry Schedule-St. Stephens

4/24/22

9:00am Mass

Lector: Linda Bebout

5:00pm Mass

Lector: Volunteer needed

5/1/22

9:00am Mass

Lector: Melissa Brown

5:00pm Mass

Lector: Volunteer needed

Happenings:

4/24: Rosary at 8:20am
 4/28: Just Faith tonight
 5/1: Rosary @ 8:20am

Parish Collection

4/17/22

TBA

"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

Big thanks to those who donated eggs for the egg hunt and to Niibe Prue, Mary Brown and Patti Stalley's grandkids for hiding them all!



Congratulations to Isabelle Wagon who received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion!



Welcome to the table of plenty!

Mass Intentions this week

4/23:	Saturday 4:30pm Blessed Sacrament	Gil Rau
4/24:	Sunday 9am St. Stephens	Annie Vincent
	Sunday 11am St. Josephs	Special Intention
	Sunday 5pm St. Stephens	+Loriel Espinosa
4/26:	Tuesday 7:15am St. Stephens	Special Intention
4/27:	Wednesday 5pm St. Stephens	Hayley Cole
4/28:	Thursday 7:15am St. Stephens	+Debbie Moss-Antelope
4/29:	Friday 5pm St. Stephens	+Shawna Bell
4/30:	Saturday 4:30pm Blessed Sacrament	Gil Rau
5/1:	Sunday 9am St. Stephens	Brenda Squires
	Sunday 11am St. Josephs	Darrell O'Neal
	Sunday 5pm St. Stephens	+Richard "Jimmy" Littlefield

Please pray for the family of:

+Shawna Bell

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.

Thank you to all those who donated lilies for the altar!



Christ is Risen!

Indeed, He is Risen!

St. Stephens is hosting the Sacrament of Confirmation this year. Confirmation is on May 6th at 7pm. We are looking for volunteers to bring cookies, brownies, lemon bars, smore's bars etc...for the reception. If you are able to donate goodies, please call Patti at the Parish Office and let her know. Thank you!

Blessed Sacrament and St. Josephs



*Baptism celebration after Mass!
 Congratulations
 Kaileena Esperanza-Jane Griego!*

