

## Stay Awhile

At schools such as Saint Louis University the students and their life-networks have always flown away at the end of each school year. Or at least driven away. The school always missed them. And now, in this wake of the Pandemic, especially so.

In my own college days, if I stayed on after the last day, there were empty halls and rooms and broad, completely undisturbed yards of grass. Yes, we were all glad to have the year done. But at the same time, why were the buildings deserted, and where is the buzzing life of intermingling students? Is zoom the wave of the future?

This phenomenon must be a pointer to the hollowness that the disciples must have felt, especially the women who had loved Jesus so much.

The passion had been the worst part for them.

What sort of lives were Jesus' followers supposed to find after the very center of their lives had been taken away?

Well, you say, there was the resurrection. Correct. But we have seen how confusing this was to the disciples. Doubting Thomas said, "I will not believe this unless I put my hands on him." And Jesus' new presence did not last so very long, did it? Suddenly there was this week's "Ascension," and it emptied their lives all over again.

We might say that he had graduated from life into Life. Having tunneled through the tight passageway of death—as you and I certainly will do one day—he had given everything he was and everything he possessed to the Father. Out of sheer love. But instead of there being nothing left for us, there was now humanity transformed: a divine human person who had opened himself all the way and who was now marked with the totality of love. He was on his way back to the dynamic, swirling, Trinitarian circle of love from which his humanity had issued in the first place.

After the Resurrection he had lingered only in order to tell us about it, to comfort us, to ease the loss!

"Stay in Jerusalem until my Spirit comes to fill your heart," Jesus said to his followers (Ascension, First Reading). They were going to be filled "with all humility and gentleness, bearing with one another through love, striving to preserve the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace: one body and one Spirit" (Second Reading).

Could you or I follow Jesus in his resurrection and ascension, his immense act of humble love, poured into us and ever since known to be the Holy Spirit? Jesus would continue to be alive within the world after all, but in a different form: the Holy Spirit's presence within our own human bodies. Loss and absence were turned into real presence.

In the Eucharistic Prayer and in Communion we take his body and blood into our own body and blood. His Spirit helps us accept his life, death, and resurrection. These settle into us and into others around us.

This real presence now abides forever in our midst, urging us, gently nudging us to say yes.

John Foley, SJ

## Ascension of The Lord May 29, 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 McMahan.....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

*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 May 30th through June 5th:

Mon: Acts 19:1-8; Ps 68:2-3b, 4-5acd, 6-7b; Jn 16:29-33  
 Tue: Zep 3:14-18a; (Ps) Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6; Lk 1:39-56  
 Wed: Acts 20:28-38; Ps 68:29-30, 33-36b; Jn 17:11b-19  
 Thur: Acts 22:30, 23:6-11; Ps 16:1-2a, 5, 7-11; Jn 17:20-26  
 Fri: Acts 25:13b-21; Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20b; Jn 21:15-19  
 Sat: Acts 28:26-20, 30-31; Ps 11:4-5, 7; Jn 21:20-25  
 Sun: Acts 2:1-11; Ps 104: 1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34; 1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13; Jn 20:19-23

**Sunday Ministry Schedule-St. Stephens**

**5/29/22**

**9:00am Mass**

Tom Kasper

**5pm Mass**

Volunteer Needed

**6/5/22**

**9am Mass**

Forrest Cole

**5pm Mass**

Volunteer Needed

Parish Collection

5/8 \$1852                      5/15 \$1725                      5/22 \$1412

*"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*

**Christ is Risen!**

**Indeed, He is Risen!**

**Mass Intentions this week**

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| 5/28: Saturday 4:30pm Blessed Sacrament | Intention of donor   |
| 5/29: Sunday 9am St. Stephens           | Colleen Miller       |
| Sunday 11am St. Josephs                 | Darrell O' Neal, Sr. |
| Sunday 5pm St. Stephens                 | Those with cancer    |
| 5/31: Tuesday 7:15am St. Stephens       | +Ardena Spoonhunter  |
| 6/1: Wednesday 5pm St. Stephens         | Connie Brown         |
| 6/2: Thursday 7:15am St. Stephens       | +Joseph Smith, Sr.   |
| 6/3: Friday 5pm St. Stephens            | Theresa Brown        |
| 6/4: Saturday 9am St. Stephens          | Special Intention    |
| Saturday 4:30pm Blessed Sacrament       | Special Intention    |
| 6/5: Sunday 9am St. Stephens            | Steve Gresbeck       |
| Sunday 11am St. Josephs                 | Intention of donor   |
| Sunday 5pm St. Stephens                 | All graduates        |

Please pray for the families of:

+Wayne Brown

+Ronald Moss

+Craig C'Bearing

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.

**Farewell Dinner!**

Everyone is invited to come thank Father Jim for his six years of ministry to our Mission. We will have a lunch on June 26th at 1pm. The Mission will provide the condiments, hamburgers and hotdogs and paper goods. Parishioners with last name beginning with A through G are asked to bring a side dish of baked beans, potato salad, macaroni salad or the like; H through N are asked to bring a dessert; O through U are asked to bring chips and dip; V-Z are asked to bring drinks. Please bring chairs!

Father Jim and Fr. Drew will be on retreat June 6th through June 10th so there will not be daily Mass during this time. Please pray for our Bishop and priests while they make the retreat.

**Blessed Sacrament and St. Josephs**

Thank you! Thank you to all who returned your rice bowl boxes. Because of your generosity and caring, a check for \$950 has been sent to help people in need. WELL DONE!