

## Trust

Trust is a lot more difficult these days with terrorists waiting around the corner. Trust today can seem foolish. Which city has the latest massacre?

Yet human bonding is entirely dependent on trust.

Let us take a closer look.

In the USA we had developed substitutes for trust and for human bonding. We over-work, overeat, over-celebrate parties, invent formulas such as “quality time” to fit family and children into our loaded schedules, etc. And in the USA we simply drop a husband or wife who no longer pleases us. It is expected that we will go get another one, isn't it?

Can such be a foundation for human bonding? Even bonding just for a little while? There is a wonderful example of trust in the readings for Sunday. The Second Reading talks about risky deeds that God asked from Abraham. Travel to a land he did not know, pass through great deserts and villages full of strangers, dwell in temporary shelters all the way, and most difficult of all, believe that Sarah would at last conceive and give birth—even though, as scripture says, their old age made them “as good as dead.”

And it got worse, not better. God ordered Abraham to make a bloody sacrifice of this promised son born to the aged selves. Kill him.

Remember, God had promised that Abraham and Sarah would have “descendants as numerous as the sands on the seashore.” Therefore the question before Abraham was not one about obedience, as is often thought, but whether to trust in God. Could God's promise come true even if Abraham went through with the sacrifice of his son?

Sunday's Second Reading says what he decided. Abraham “thought that the one who had made the promise was trustworthy.” The terrible action could be taken because he believed in God's fidelity. Maybe God would raise their son from the dead!

How would you or I have responded? Wouldn't we say it was time to cancel the trust stuff and save whatever we can of our family?

Yes.

But notice: trust consists of more than just a generally sunny attitude. Trust means believing in someone. It means remembering the love that resides in that person, remembering the promises, the pacts made in fidelity. It means taking the risk.

Can you or I wait? In some kind of trust?

We are told that Abraham did. Perhaps he was being trained by God to rely on God's word. And of course, the Israelites were waiting, looking ahead to the coming of a Messiah in a future age. And Jesus worried about God's abandoning him as he was being crucified. Yes, he trusted, even though he was filled with the raw human fear that God might have rejected him (“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” Mt 27:46)

But God had been with him even in the hardest patch of life, the cross, when no one could see any divine evidence. But human bonding is always subject to doubt. If we are lucky, we discern and pray and forgive, and then give it another try. All of us remain “strangers and aliens on earth” (Second Reading) and we long for someone to trust.

We long to be able to trust.

Can we open our hearts to God and let Jesus' own trust be ours?

John Foley, SJ

## Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time August 7, 2022

St. Stephens Indian Mission  
www.saintstephensmission.com  
856-7806  
33 St. Stephens Road  
PO Box 250  
St. Stephens, WY 82524

Fr. Andrew Duncan.....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

*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 August 8th through August 14th:

Mon: Ez 1:2-5, 24-28c; Ps 148:1-2, 11-14; Mt 17:22-27  
 Tue: Ez 2:8-3<sup>rd</sup>; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131; Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14  
 Wed: 2 Cor 9:6-10; Ps 112:1-2, 5-9; Jn 12:24-26  
 Thur: Ez 12:1-12; Ps 78:56-59, 61-62; Mt 18:21-19:1  
 Fri: Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63; (Ps) Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6; Mt 19:3-12  
 Sat: Ez 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32; Ps 51:12-15, 18-19; Mt 19:13-15  
 Sun: Jer 38:4-6, 8-10; Ps 40:2-4, 18; Heb 12:1-4; Lk 12:49-53

**Sunday Ministry Schedule-St. Stephens**

8/7/22

**9:00am Mass**

Forrest Cole

**5pm Mass**

Volunteer Needed

8/14/22

**9am Mass**

Tom Kasper

**5pm Mass**

Volunteer Needed

Parish Collection

7/31

\$1252

*"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*

**Praised be Jesus Christ!**

**Praise Him now and always!**

**Mass Intentions this week**

8/6: Saturday 4:30pm Blessed Sacrament	Father Apel
8/7: Sunday 9am St. Stephens	Eva Brown for her 13th birthday
Sunday 11am St. Josephs	J. Sammie Ferris
Sunday 5pm St. Stephens	For the people
8/9: Tuesday 7:15am St. Stephens	Tiayla Suh
8/10: Wednesday 5pm St. Stephens	+Colleen Addison
8/11: Thursday 7:15am St. Stephens	Intention of donor
8/12: Friday 5pm St. Stephens	Mike Buffalo
8/13: Saturday 4:30pm Blessed Sacrament	Intention of donor
8/14: Sunday 9am St. Stephens	Azalea Hanway
Sunday 11am St. Josephs	J. Sammie Ferris
Sunday 5pm St. Stephens	For the people

Please pray for the family of:

+Colleen Addison

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.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

WCCW 68<sup>th</sup> State Convention

"Faith, hope, and love remain - greatest of these is love." 1 Cor. 13:13

Sept. 9-11, 2022 - Our Lady of Peace Church - Pinedale, WY

Keynote speakers:

**Danielle Bean** - Ascension Press published author (WHISPERS) and "Girlfriends" podcast

**Kitty Cleveland** - "music missionary" - singer and songwriter - CDs found at Lighthouse Catholic Media

More info. contact:

Kathy Larson - 307-360-7016

Peg Carney - 307-360-6350

Erica Bohnet - 307-367-2359

**Parish Business Manager**

St. Stephens Catholic Church on the Wind River Indian Reservation is seeking a full-time Office and Business Manager. While providing a welcoming and orderly atmosphere for parishioners and visitors, the position oversees the administration, personnel, finances, and the building facilities of the parish. Qualifications include being a full initiated and practicing Catholic with the ability to work effectively with personnel, clergy, diocesan staff, advisory bodies, and volunteers, also, the ability to work in a multicultural environment with special outreach to Arapaho and Shoshone people. Salary range: \$55,000 to \$60,000 (DOQ), with full benefits. Please contact Melissa at St. Stephens for the full job description. 307.856.7806

**Blessed Sacrament and St. Josephs**

If you would like to have your child baptized please talk with Sister Teresa.