

The Cry of the Poor

I remember when a certain Jesuit brother died, a most unassuming man. His name was Julius Petrik, always known to us as just Brother Petrik. His funeral Mass took place a few days before the 30th Sunday of Ordinary Time, with the same readings we will hear this Sunday. They were perfect for him. He was 94 years old, and in the very best sense of the word, he was ordinary. He had been a quiet presence ever since I was a very young man in the Jesuits. He did not attract attention. He took pains to avoid it, so it seemed.

In one sense I never knew him, such was his silence. His gentle eyes pointed down, he carried out his tasks without fuss, and—for a long time, maybe always—he ate his meals in a room by himself. I suppose some would just have called him a “character,” or would have branded him as pathologically shy.

My intuition said otherwise. I sensed something very holy about Brother. As the years went by I would take care to greet him when I would meet him and he would smile with a wide grin and greet me with real gladness. We would exchange some small talk and then each go back to our tasks. Introversions took second place to the palpable spirit of love within him.

I speak of this good man not to publicize him, something that would be a shock to him, but because my heart is more at ease for my encounters with him. In a word, Brother was a humble man. His prayer surely must have reached God.

He served gladly.

I think such humility is the key to this Sunday’s scripture. Listen to what the First Reading says:

The one who serves God willingly is heard;
his petition reaches the heavens.

The prayer of the lowly pierces the clouds;
it does not rest till it reaches its goal,
nor will it withdraw till the Most High responds,
judges justly and affirms the right,
and the Lord will not delay.

Such prayer pierces the clouds and does not rest till it finds its goal! Of course our minds race to power: anyone who can force their prayers through to heaven must be able to get everything he wants. No worries about being weak or unworthy: such a one has command over the Most High God!

At least it is tempting to think that way.

But look closely. The prayer that finds heaven is that of the lowly. Such prayer stays before God’s throne not because it is wild and stormy but because it embodies the hushed spirit of truth. It whispers humble needs to the very one who can answer them. It does not have a hidden purpose.

Which of the following two people do you think embodies such lowliness? The Pharisee?

O God, I thank you that I am not like the rest of humanity—
greedy, dishonest, adulterous—or even like this tax collector;
I fast twice a week, and I pay tithes on my whole income.
or the Publican?

John Foley, SJ

Thirty First Sunday of Ordinary Time October 30, 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 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;
Anointing of the sick for anyone wishing to be anointed

St. Josephs, Ethete

Sunday Mass: 11:00 AM

Reconciliation 15 minutes before Mass

Blessed Sacrament, Ft. Washakie

Saturday Vigil Mass 4:30 PM

Reconciliation 15 minutes before Mass

Wednesday: 10:30 AM Communion Service @ Morning Star

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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!
.....

*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 31st through November 6th:

- Mon: Phil 2:1-4; Ps 131:1bcde, 2-3; Lk 14:2-14
- Tue: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14; Ps 24:1bc-4b, 5-6
- Wed: Wis 3:1-9; Ps 23:1-6; Rom 5:5-11; Jn 6:37-40
- Thur: Phil 3:3-8a; Ps 105:2-7; Lk 15:1-10
- Fri: Phil 3:17-4:1; Ps 122:1-5; Lk 16:1-8
- Sat: Phil 4:10-19; Ps 112:1b-2, 5-6, 8a, 9; Lk 16:9-15
- Sun: 2 Mc 7:1-2, 9-14; Ps 17:1, 5-6, 8, 15; 2 Thes 2:16-3:5; Lk 20:27-38

Sunday Ministry Schedule-St. Stephens

10/30/22

9:00 Mass

Lector: Jim Cunningham

5pm Mass

Volunteer Needed

11/6/22

9:00pm Mass

Lector: Marilu Duncan

5pm Mass

Volunteer Needed

Parish Collection

10/16 \$3162.13 10/23 \$1302.50

"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

Happenings:

11/1: Holy Day of Obligation: Mass at St. Stephens at 7:15am and 5pm.

11/6: Rosary before 9am Mass

11/7: Baptism Class

St. Stephens Religious Ed/Baptism

Please plan to attend classes if you wish your child to be baptized. Classes for November begin on November 7th.

Religious Ed Classes have begun and you may contact Patti McMahon if you would like to enroll your children in classes.



All Saints Day is a holy day of obligation. There will be two opportunities to attend Mass on Tuesday. There will be at St. Stephens at 7:15am and 5pm.

ALL SAINTS DAY

Mass Intentions/Schedule this week

- 10/29: 4:30pm Blessed Sacrament Intention of the priest
- 10/30: 9am St. Stephens +Jerome P. Bell
11am St. Josephs For the people
5pm St. Stephens
- 11/1: 7:15am St. Stephens Holy Day of Obligation: For the people
5:00pm St. Stephens +Wayne Brown
- 11/2: 5:00pm St. Stephens +William Spoonhunter
- 11/3: 7:15am St. Stephens Loretta Grassrope Ryan
- 11/4: 5:00pm St. Stephens Special Intention
- 11/5: 9am St. Stephens First Saturday Mass
4:30pm Blessed Sacrament
- 11/6: 9am St. Stephens Jon & Nic Blackburn
11am St. Josephs Christine Nieto
5pm St. Stephens For the people

Please pray for the repose of the soul of:

+Brenda K. 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.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter: Like Zacchaeus, do you ever find yourself out on a limb in your marriage? Do you have to climb a tree to be seen/heard. It happens to all of us at one time or another. Learn a communication technique on the Marriage Encounter Experience that will even the playing field in your communication. Learn to communicate without being defensive and reap the benefits of being listened to.

Upcoming Experience dates: Green River, November 4-6, 2022, and Billings, Montana, February 3-5, 2023. Application fee is \$100. For more information or to apply, call Dan and Clare 406-697-3275, or visit our website: wwme.org

Blessed Sacrament and St. Josephs

Baptism Classes

Please call Sister Teresa at 332-9090.

Religious Education

Classes for Kindergarteners and First Grade and First Communion students is at 11am on Sundays.

Confirmation

Classes begin immediately after Mass.

Holy Day of Obligation on 11/1.

Mass is at 7:15am and 5pm on Tuesday at St. Stephens.