

A Copernican Revolution

Listen to this consoling sentence from Sunday's First Reading

You who fear my name,
for you there will arise
the sun of justice
with its healing rays.

Justice. Healing rays! We have wanted this for a long time now!

But what about fearing his name, as in the first line? A lot of us have fear. Especially now, with Ukraine and elections, etc.

Well, scripture is not talking about the fear we experience in horror films. Not that strange noise when you are alone in the house (fears, as well-motivated, especially in the present time). No, the Hebrew text uses an older meaning of "fear": there it refers to a "reverential wonder," an awe before that which is very much bigger than us. This kind of "fear" is crucial for you and me.

Only then when we have it can we begin relating to God, to start maturing in our relation with the Most High. Only then do we begin to suspect what it really means to say that God is Love.

Saying that God is Love requires a continuing revolution in our lives, like the one Copernicus brought about. Remember? He showed that the sun does not revolve around the earth but that the earth revolves around the sun. Well, spiritually, most of us are pre-Copernican. We think God's job is to circle around us, as if we, who are small asteroids, were at the center of the universe. We often declare that God is just someone to assist us, to answer our prayers, to make us peaceful, to make our side win the ball game, and so on.

Nothing is really wrong with any of these.

Yet we stand in terrible need of a Copernican revolution. God does not exist to serve me. Just the opposite. God is center of the universe! God quietly maintains all that is: stars, galaxies, lands, oceans, cities, humans hearts, butterfly wings, and so on. We owe reverence to God. It takes a spiritual transformation to think in this way.

What would happen if you or I tried it?

First, we would be living truth instead of pretense. What truth? That human beings are created to welcome this true God within each of them as the source and goal of who they are. If God is greatest, why would we make something else the center of our life? Second, the "sun of justice with its healing rays" would shine upon us. God's love would appear to us as truth instead of as just a bauble to play with, or just a way to find a parking place. We would begin to see God as the gentle source of life and the affectionate mother of the entire universe.

Third—believe it or not—since Advent is coming very soon, we will be preparing to receive our tender invitation shown forth in a child. In pre-Advent (now) we are supposed to be receiving God's grandeur in an awe filled and fear-invoking stage ... in order that soon we will be humble enough to prepare for the baby.

This is why the First Reading and the Gospel thunder on about the day of reckoning when "nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom," etc. Isn't that what we are experiencing today?

Can we climb down from our thrones and pray in hope for those unjust wars!

John Foley, SJ

Thirty-Third Sunday of Ordinary Time November 13, 2022

St. Stephens Indian Mission

www.saintstephensmission.com

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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

.....
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 November 14th through November 20th:

Mon: Rv 1:1-4, 2:1-5; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 18:35-43
 Tue: Rv 3:1-6, 14-22; Ps 15:2-4b, 5; Lk 19:1-10
 Wed: Rv 4:1-11; Ps 150:1b-6; Lk 19:11-28
 Thur: Rv 5:1-10; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b; Lk 19:41-44
 Fri: Rv 10:8-11; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131; Lk 19:45-48
 Sat: Rv 11:4-12; Ps 144:1-2, 9-10; Lk 20:27-40
 Sun: 2 Sm 5:1-3; Ps 122:1-5; Col 1:12-20; Lk 23:35-43

Sunday Ministry Schedule-St. Stephens

11/13/22

9am Mass

Lector: Melissa Brown

5pm Mass

Volunteer Needed

11/20/22

9am Mass

Lector: Linda Bebout

5pm Mass

Volunteer Needed

Parish Collection

11/6

\$2042.95

"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:

11/20: Rosary before 9am Mass

St. Stephens Religious Ed/Baptism

Baptism Class: Monday, December 5th at 5:30pm in the Religious Education classroom.

Having Mass offered for an anniversary, marriage, special occasion, or in memory of someone is a special gift. Cards are available at the office. Diocesan guideline is \$10.00 for Mass.

Praised be Jesus Christ!

Praise Him now and always.

Bless This Child



Congratulations!

Sei' Be'ei Isabelle Iron Eyes, daughter of Anita Roman and William Goggles, is being baptized today. Congratulations to all!

Mass Intentions/Schedule this week

11/12: 4:30pm Blessed Sacrament	Gil & Mary Anne Rau's 50th Anniversary
11/13: 9am St. Stephens	+Edward LaMorte
11am St. Josephs	+Thomas Matthew Denego
5pm St. Stephens	For the people
11/15: 7:15am St. Stephens	Doug Brown
11/16: 5:00pm St. Stephens	+Kathy Anderson
11/17: 7:15am St. Stephens	+Mike McDonald
11/18: 5:00pm St. Stephens	+Ardie Steinbronn (DOD 11/18/22)
11/19: 4:30pm Blessed Sacrament	+Zoe Friday
11/20: 9am St. Stephens	Luke Brown for his birthday
11am St. Josephs	+Thomas Matthew Denego
5pm St. Stephens	For the people

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 will be a book at the entrance of the church for parishioners to write the names of their beloved dead who will be remembered in prayer throughout the month.

Scholarship applications for new students are due on November 30th!! If you or your family member would like an application please have them call the office at 856-7806 or email Melissa: melissa.brown@saintstephensmission.com

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: 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

First Communion and Confirmation classes are full. Classes are after the 11am Mass.