# St. Stanislaus & St. Pius X & St. Christopher

**Parish Administrator:** Rev. Father John Suresh

> **Parish Secretary:** Ellen Austin

Office Hours: **Tuesday to Thursday** 09:30 AM to 2 PM

**Sunday Masses:** St. Pius X - Lively

Saturday: 4:30 PM St. Christopher - Whitefish **Sunday** : 9:00 **AM** 

St. Stanislaus - Copper Cliff **Sunday**: 11:00 **AM** 

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** 

St. Stanislaus - Copper Cliff

Sunday: 10:30 AM to 10:45 AM

St. Pius X - Lively

Saturday: 4:00 PM to 4:15 PM St. Christopher - Whitefish Sunday: 8:30 AM to 8:45 AM

**Baptism:** 

Usually on the 3rd Sunday of the month. Please make arrangements one month in advance by contacting the Parish Office.

#### Marriages:

Please make marriage arrangements 9 months in advance by contacting the Parish office. Saturday weddings are scheduled at 1:00 PM.

> Other Sacraments: **Contact Parish Office**

**Bulletin Announcements:** Email yours to ststans@eastlink.ca Before 12 PM Wednesday

**Prayer line:** 

St. Stanislaus: Ellen Austin 705-682-4596

St. Pius X: Eleanor Williams 705-692-4061 or Denise Stewart 705-692-4883

St. Christopher: Lisette Martin 705-597-2015

#### **Mission Statement:**

By our Baptism, we are committed to celebrate the presence of Christ in Word and Sacrament and are continually called to build our lives in the image of Christ. Through liturgy and ministry, we strive to bring ourselves closer to God and to each other, by building a community of believers and a joyous family of God.

78 Balsam St, P.O. Box 910 Copper Cliff, ON P0M 1N0 Tel: 705-682-4683

Email: ststans@eastlink.ca Website: www.sts-spc.com

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER MAY 25, 2025

## Is Christianity a Religion? - 3

#### Religions: Founded or evolved?

Religions can emerge in two primary ways: through the transformative vision of a charismatic leader who inspires followers with their teachings and spiritual insights, or through the gradual evolution of cultural and spiritual practices that are shaped by the collective experiences, traditions, and values of a community. In the former, a single figure plays a pivotal role in defining the faith's core principles and practices, while in the latter, the religion develops organically over time, influenced by a multitude of factors, including history, geography, and social context. By exploring the origins of religions, we gain a deeper appreciation for the rich diversity of faith expressions and the complex interplay of leadership, culture, and tradition that shapes the beliefs and practices of communities around the world.

In short, Religions can either be founded by a charismatic leader or evolve from existing cultural and spiritual practices. Some religions were founded by influential figures who imparted their teachings and visions to their followers. In contrast, some religions evolved over time through a complex interplay of cultural, historical, and spiritual factors, often without a single founder.

#### Primordial Religion

A primordial understanding of religions encompasses the most fundamental and enduring aspects of human spirituality, rooted in an intuitive awareness of the transcendent and the sacred. This profound awareness, characterized by awe, wonder, and a deepseated quest for meaning, acknowledges a reality beyond the material realm and grapples with the complexities of the human condition, including the mysteries of life, death, and the afterlife. Manifest in ancient rituals, mythological narratives, and symbolic representations of the divine, this foundational understanding has not only shaped the core beliefs and practices of various religious traditions but continues to exert a profound influence on human spirituality, ethics, and culture, informing our values, morals, and sense of purpose in lasting and meaningful ways.

The genesis of primordial religious views likely stemmed from early humans' profound encounters with nature's awe-inspiring power, manifest in phenomena such as tempests, seismic events, and formidable wildlife, which catalyzed the development of spiritual beliefs, rituals, and practices aimed at appeasing, honoring, or explicating these forces. As humans navigated the capricious forces of nature, their primal fears and reverenceinspired awe gave rise to intricate spiritual systems, encompassing practices such as Animism (spirits in nature), Nature worship (reverence for natural elements), Totemism (spiritual connections to animals/objects), and Shamanism (communication with the spirit world). These beliefs may have addressed concerns like 1. Survival and fertility, 2. Explaining natural phenomena and 3. Death and the afterlife and thereby laying the foundational framework for the evolution of more complex and sophisticated religious systems that would subsequently emerge.

Dr. Fr. John Ph.D. Pastor, Copper Cliff

Conti.....Next week



Tuesday, May 27, 2025
10:00 AM - St. Christopher, Whitefish
Katrina Hakala by Bill & Pat Jackson
Wednesday, May 28, 2025
10:00 AM - St. Pius X, Lively
†Maureen Kennedy by Wilf & Flora Tremblay
Followed by Rosary and Social
Thursday, May 29, 2025
10:30 AM Meadowbrook, Lively
†Angela Greco by Maria Greco

Friday, May 30, 2025 09:30 AM - St. Stanislaus, Copper Cliff †Deceased family members

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Saturday, May 31, 2025 04:30 PM - St. Pius X, Lively Wilf & Flora by Mel & Sonia

Sunday, June 01, 2025 09:00 AM - St. Christopher, Whitefish For the perople entrusted to the pastor

11:00 AM - St. Stanislaus, Copper Cliff †Gerald Gilligan by Albert Nesseth The Rosary is recited before Saturday and Sunday Mass.

The Cenacle of the Marian Movement of priests is held each Tuesday at 10:45 AM at St. Christopher's Church, Whitefish.

A Prayer Line is available for parishioners.
Anyone wishing to pray for a
special Intention, for someone who is ill,
having surgery, for the deceased, or
any other intention may contact
the Prayer Line or the Parish Office.

#### **Mass Intentions**

**Offering Masses** is a long standing tradition in the Catholic Church.

An Individual may ask a priest to offer a Mass for several reasons.

For example, in Thanksgiving, for the intentions of another person (such as on a Birthday or an Anniversary), for someone who is sick or for the repose of the soul of someone who has died.

Call the Parish Office: 705-682-4683

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Psalm: 67.1-2, 4-5, 6-7 (R.4)
Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

## Weekdays Scripture Readings: May 26 to June 01, 2025

Day	Reading	Gospel
Monday	Acts 16.11-15	John 15.26—16.4a
Tuesday	Acts 16.22-34	John 16.5-11
Wednesday	Acts 17.15, 22-18.1	John 16.12-15
Thursday	Acts 18.1-8	John 16.16-20
Friday	Acts 18.9-18	John 16.20-23a
Saturday	Zephaniah 3.14-18	Luke 1.39-56
Sunday	Acts 1.1-11/Ephesians 1.17-23	Luke 24.46-53

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Church	Envelopes	Loose	PADP
St. Stanislaus, Copper Cliff	\$ 860.00	\$ 1753.45	
St. Pius X, Lively	\$ 545.00	\$ 50.00	
St. Christopher, Whitefish	\$ 610.00	\$ 154.00	

## Pope Francis On Holy Eucharist.... 3

# 3. Bread of Healing, Cup of Strength

Sunday Collection - May 18, 2025

"The Eucharist heals people of their wounds, emptiness and sadness, and gives them the strength to share Christ's loving mercy with others."

- Pope Francis

Thank You for Your Continued Generosity!

In 2020, when the globe was severely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, Pope Francis celebrated the Holy Eucharist on the feast day of the Solemnity of Corpus Christi in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican on June 14, 2020. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the Mass had a small congregation of about 50 people. During the celebration, Pope Francis delivered a powerful Eucharistic message, stating that the Eucharist heals people of their wounds, emptiness, and sadness, and gives them the strength to share Christ's loving mercy with others.

As the pandemic swept across the globe, claiming lives and causing immense suffering, fear gripped families worldwide. Amidst this backdrop of pain and uncertainty, Pope Francis's message brought solace to a world in distress. He conveyed a powerful message of hope, emphasizing that the Eucharist heals and strengthens us. By receiving the Holy Eucharist, we are transformed and empowered to become bringers of God's love and joy, rather than purveyors of negativity. This message resonated deeply, offering comfort and reassurance to those affected by the pandemic.

From his homily, we try to derive the following insights...

**1.** The Eucharist Heals wounds: The Eucharist's healing power is rooted in its ability to bring spiritual comfort, peace, and solace to those experiencing emotional and spiritual wounds. As Jesus himself said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty" (John 6:35). Through the Eucharist, we encounter the living Christ, who offers us healing, forgiveness, and restoration.

The Eucharist heals emotional wounds by providing comfort, restoring relationships, and nurturing spiritual growth. It brings solace and reassurance, reminding us of we're not alone in our struggles (Matthew 11:28). Through the Eucharist, we're reconciled with God and others, fostering community and belonging (1 Corinthians 11:23-26). Additionally, it nourishes our spiritual lives, helping us grow in faith, hope, and love (2 Peter 1:5-7), promoting overall spiritual well-being.

The Eucharist heals spiritual wounds by forgiving sins, renewing our spirit, and strengthening our faith. Through the Eucharist, we receive forgiveness and mercy, freeing us from sin's burden (Matthew 26:26-28). It revitalizes our spiritual lives, giving us new life and energy (Romans 6:4-5), and strengthens our faith, enabling us to face challenges with confidence and hope (Hebrews 10:19-22). As the source and summit of the Christian life (CCC 1324), the Eucharist transforms our lives, empowering us to live as disciples of Jesus through His healing love.

The Eucharist facilitates inner healing by enabling individuals to confront and overcome inner struggles, such as anxiety, fear, or doubt. As Jesus invites, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). Through the Eucharist, we encounter Christ's peace and comfort, which can calm our anxieties, dispel our fears, and strengthen our faith. By receiving the Eucharist, we can experience inner peace, renewed hope, and a deeper sense of trust in God's love and care.

The healings received through the Eucharist can have a profound impact on one's life, fostering deeper relationships, inner peace, and spiritual growth, while also enhancing emotional well-being and strengthening faith, ultimately leading to a more fulfilling and purpose-driven life.

Dr. Fr. John Ph.D. Pastor, Copper Cliff. Conti.....Next week



In **John's Gospel**, we realize we are approaching Pentecost in a few weeks as Jesus begins to speak of his leaving the earth and of the coming of the "Advocate" - the Spirit of Truth. The image of the Trinity is clear: "when the Advocate comes whom I will send you from the Father...." To his disciples, the idea of his leaving fills their hearts with grief but Jesus reassures them, "it is better for you that I go" so that the Spirit can come to them. The Spirit "will guide you to all truth." Jesus promises, "Amen, amen, I say to you, you will weep and mourn, while the world rejoices; you will grieve, but your grief will become joy." "This is my commandment: love one another as I love you." "Whatever you ask the Father in my name he will give you."

Whether the **Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord** is celebrated this Thursday or on Sunday, it is a stirring story from **Acts of the Apostles** of Jesus leaving his disciples and promising them the support of the Holy Spirit. The **Gospel of Luke** tells of Jesus as he led his disciples out "as far as Bethany, raised his hands, and blessed them. As he blessed them he parted from them and was taken up to heaven."

On Sunday, those dioceses celebrating the Ascension on Thursday will celebrate the **Seventh Sunday of Easter**. As if in preparation for Pentecost Sunday, we read in Acts of the stoning of Stephen, who is "filled with the Holy Spirit." In John's Gospel the poetic words of Jesus are a love song to us as he prays to his Father, "Father, they are your gift to me. I wish that where I am they also may be with me, that they may see my glory that you gave me...."