

Hello, again, Dear Friends at St Agnes Mission Circle -
 I am able to write to you once again - and I apologize for the lack of correspondence (sp?). Our priest decided I was volunteering for too many things, so he "asked" me to scale back on some of my activities.

First of all I must tell you thank you so much for being so faithful and so generous to our parish. We have been able to do so much here at St Agnes with your help. We have a new, larger kitchen in our Isekakwitha meeting hall, and I will be taking some pictures of it, and sending to you with my next letter.

I have thought of you all so often, and prayed for you all. I remember fondly the great time that Roberta Spencer and I had with you all, when we visited there. Roberta is not our parish life co-ordinator, now, but she has a great job at Red Cloud Indian School. She has gotten her teaching certificate from our local college, and she is teaching Lakota Language at the High School. She loves her job, and they are fortunate to have her.

Our new parish life co-ordinator is a young lady called Joyce Tibbitts, and I'm sure she has written to you all. She is very much involved with ministering to prisoners and alcoholics on this reservation. She does a great job.

(I didn't mention it, but Fr. Phil has been reassigned, and we now have Fr. Peter Klink as our priest, at St Agnes.) He has been on this reservation for many years; took a 1 year sabbatical, and now is back here, pastoring St Agnes and Christ the King Church at Porcupine, S.D.

For 3 years we had a pastoral assistant, Hope Vilella, and she guided us while we had no priest assigned here. When Fr. Link came back, Hope, who had recently gotten married, moved to Colorado, and we really miss her. The mission has advertised her position, and we are hoping to make a selection soon.

Now, enough about us. How are all of you? I hope someone will be able to write to us and give us an update on your lives. It was so nice to be able to meet you all at Almera and Charles' house. I hope you are all well and healthy. And, I still would love to have some of you come here and visit us at St. Agnes. Please think about it.

I am enclosing some pictures that I have taken. I hope they give you some idea about our parish. We are struggling - many of our elders have passed away, and it is hard to get the younger ones to attend mass. I did not have very good luck with my young mothers group - they seem to be just too busy, but I may try it, again. I think they are key to our success as our parish life.

As you can see in the pictures, on palm Sunday, we ask our ladies to wear their shawls, and the men their vests, and we have a procession from Dekawitha Hall to St Agnes Church. We have a nice breakfast after mass + it's a great time. Johanna now lives in Denver, Co. but when she was here, she played the drum during the elevation of the eucharist, ~~while~~ Barb ~~played~~ rang the bells. Now, Vienna does the drum. It makes Mass a little more real to us.

3.
Our land is parched and dry this year. We are praying for moisture, and I would like to ask you if you will pray with us.

My husband, Melvin was only able to bale about 100 bales of hay for the cattle this year, when he usually gets 1,000 big bales. We are fortunate to have some hay left over from last year. The pastures are very dry and the cattle seem to never quit eating. Melvin may have to sell all the calves this November. He usually sells the steers, and keeps the heifers in our feed lot. He doesn't have enough feed to do that this year.

I must close for now, and I hope you are all well. Thank you once again for your prayers and your generosity.

God be with you all.

With Love and Prayers
Kath Ann Cummings

P.S. Please excuse this paper.

I never could write without lines!