



St. John the Baptist Church

St. Mary Church - Clearmont
St. Hubert Church - Kaycee

Office and Rectory

532 North Lobban Avenue
Buffalo, Wyoming 82834
307-684-7268

Website: www.sjbc-buffalo.com

Sermon link – <https://soundcloud.com/st-johns-1>

Email:

St. John's: sjbc532@gmail.com

Fr. Pete: frpete@bresnan.net

Mary Ann: macummins@bresnan.net

Carol Gagliano: gagliano.carol@gmail.com

St. John the Baptist Church

Saturday 5:00 PM
Sunday 8:00 & 10:00 AM
Daily Mass T - F 8:00 AM
Holy Days
Anticipatory 6:00 PM
Day of... 7:00 AM

St. Mary Church, Clearmont

2nd & 4th Sunday 12:30pm

St. Hubert Church, Kaycee

1st & 3rd Sunday 2:00pm

Confessions Saturday 11:00am
Saturday after 5pm Mass
By Appointment

Parish Staff

Pastor	<i>Fr. Pete Johnson</i>	684-7268
Parish Administrator	<i>Mary Ann Cummins</i>	684-7268
CCW Leaders	<i>Vickie Abbott</i>	307-737-2281
Finance Council Chair	<i>Steve Reimann</i>	684-7439
Janitor	<i>Mick Camino</i>	217-1575
K of C Grand Knight	<i>Jason Sutton</i>	217-0468
Choir Director	<i>Mary Finney</i>	278-0137
Organist	<i>Judi Semroska</i>	684-2171
Parish Council Chair	<i>Mike Ihnat</i>	684-7698
Religious Education	<i>Carol Gagliano</i>	684-7217
Trustees	<i>Jean Urruty</i>	684-7093
	<i>Phil Gonzales</i>	684-5920

Religious Education / Meeting

Sunday, Feb. 12 – 5pm Youth Group
Tuesday, Feb. 14 – HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!!
Wednesday, Feb. 5 – 3:45pm & 7pm CCD
Thursday, Feb. 16 – 6:30am Men of St. Joseph
Sunday, Feb. 19 – NO Youth group
Sunday, Feb. 26 – 5pm St. John's Foundation dinner
Tuesday, Feb. 28 – 4pm Knights' Fish Fry

Baptisms – Please call Fr. Pete

Marriage – Planning and preparation 6 months in advance

Prayer line Requests – Patty Myers, 684-9381 or Jan Edgcomb – jmpe@wyoming.com

Rosary Guild – Thursdays at 8:30am to 10am; call 217-0150 or 307-660-4936 for place

Sacrament of the Sick – After first Sunday Masses or call the Parish Office

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 12, 2017

Altar Assisters:

SATURDAY, FEB. 18, 5pm

Lector: Mary Smith

EM: Dennis Lawrence, Phil Gonzales, Colleen Donahue

Altar Servers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, FEB. 19, 8am

Lector: Volunteer

EM: Rick Andersen

Altar Servers: Ben/Bryce Camino, Matt Harrison

SUNDAY, FEB. 19, 10am

Lector: Marilyn Maxwell

EM: Mary Ann Cummins

Altar Servers: Cole Linden, Jeron/Jaxon Sutton

Homebound Ministry, Friday, Feb. 17

Jim Fitzsimmons

COLLECTIONS FOR WEEK OF FEB. 5, 2016

St. John's	\$ 5,694.50	YTD \$ 128,520.59
St. Mary's	\$ 6.00	YTD \$ 3,605.00
St. Hubert's	\$ 145.00	YTD \$ 2,710.00
Poor Donations	\$ 854.75	
Online Donations	\$ 670.60	

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon.	02.13	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
Tue.	02.14	8:00 a.m.	+Francine Swerdon
Wed.	02.15	8:00 a.m.	+Catherine Spanos
Thu.	02.16	8:00 a.m.	Ladies of the CCW
Fri.	02.17	8:00 a.m.	Ladies of the CCW
		8:30 a.m.	Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Sat.	02.18	5:00 p.m.	Mike Sullivan
Sun.	02.19	8:00 a.m.	Mike Sullivan
		10:00 a.m.	for the parishes
		2:00 p.m.	Kaycee: Fr. Pete's intention

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon-Genesis 4:1-15, 25; Gospel: Mark 8:11-13

Tue-Genesis 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Gospel: Mark 8:14-21 *Saints Cyril, Monk & Methodius, Bishop*

Wed-Genesis 8:6-13, 20-22; Gospel: Mark 8:22-26

Thu-Genesis 9:1-13; Gospel: Mark 8:27-33

Fri-Genesis 11:1-9; Gospel: Mark 8:34—9:1

Sat- Hebrews 11:1-7; Gospel: Mark 9:2-13

FROM FR. PETE:

Congratulations to the folks at St. Hubert's in Kaycee! You made your 2016 Living and Giving in Christ goal. Your goal was \$990.00 and you paid \$1,000.00. Thank you so much! This means less money will have to be taken out of savings to meet parish obligations.

St. John the Baptist goal is \$53,036.00. Of that \$36,591.97 was pledged and \$34,321.12 has been paid thus far. The parish is already receiving bills from the Diocese to make up the difference, (goal minus amount paid): \$18,714.88 if there are no other contributions made toward the goal.

St. Mary's in Clearmont's goal is \$1,407.00. Of that \$44.00 was pledged and \$44.00 has been paid thus far. The parish is already receiving bills from the Diocese to make up the difference (goal minus amount paid): \$1,363.00 if there are no other contributions made toward the goal.

Great turn out for Mass and Adoration last Friday!

It was so good I was tempted to take up a collection! I hope this turnout will continue. God bless all who make the effort to spend some time in prayer and meditative reading of the Scriptures before our Lord.

Adoration begins immediately after the Friday morning Mass (generally around 8:30 a.m.) and promptly concludes at 9:30 a.m.

What if you can't spend a Holy Hour? No problem. Spend a Holy Half Hour or a Holy Quarter Hour! The amount of time you spend in prayer is not always what matters so much as the quality of the time you spend. It is a lot like friendship, really.

Parish Council Members. We will meet on Sunday, February 26, 7:00 p.m. at the rectory. I would like to spend most of our time discussing the job description for the Youth Ministry position. Please review the draft of

that description that will be in your information packets.

Finance Council Members. We will meet on Tuesday, February 28, 5:00 p.m. at the rectory. I would like us to consider what projects we need to complete for this current fiscal year and what we should anticipate for the next fiscal year's budget. I would also like to discuss planting some trees, particularly deciduous and / or fruit trees on Church property.

Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow! The hefty groundhog in Pennsylvania was pulled out of his shelter on February 2 and saw his shadow. There will be six more weeks of winter! So.... don't put away those heavy coats and boots just yet. When I told a friend about this over a cup of coffee he looked me straight in the eye and said, "Someone out to go and shoot that &#! critter." Winter can sure bring out the worst in some folks. To soften the blow, I reminded my friend that the rodent has only a 39% accuracy record, which is much better than my ability to predict Super Bowl winners! It didn't help.

"Fr. Pete.... Does the Church have any official position on climate change?" No. Popes Benedict XVI and Francis have argued passionately about the need to care for the environment. The Vatican set an example by going "green" using solar energy for some of its buildings. But there is no formal position. Nor should there be since there is so much we do not yet understand.

No sensible person can deny that the climate is changing. It remains uncertain, however, to what extent human activity is the source of that change or to what degree it contributes to it. It might be instructive to remember that only recently (late 19th or early

20th century) our planet emerged from what has been called the "Little Ice Age". Some theorize it began in 1250. It remains unclear what induced this centuries long period of intense cold with brief periods of warming. Science is doing what science does best to find an explanation: investigate, seek data and draw workable hypotheses. Some experts, for example, suggest the Little Ice Age was created by shifts in solar radiation, others that there was an increase in volcanic activity and some suggest that there was a significant change in ocean currents so that the exchange of warm and cold ocean waters that keep extreme temperatures, atmospheric moisture variations and extreme storms at bay was somehow disrupted. No one could validly argue that human beings at that period of history were responsible for that climatic change. The planet simply underwent what it always does: change. The important point, however, is that whatever the causes of the Little Ice Age, and despite all the disruptions it created in human society, we survived and flourished.

It is certainly reasonable to think that the sheer number of us on the planet today and our industries have some impact on global climate. But we need to exercise caution for two reasons. First, neither we nor scientists know all the facts. Second, scientists are not immune from governmental manipulation to achieve political goals. I recall as an undergraduate student in the 1970's President Carter addressed the nation wearing a sweater sitting in front of a fire telling us that science had demonstrated our planet was cooling down. Some politicians went so far as to declare we were entering another ice age. There was no such scientific consensus. The President solemnly warned that our planet's supply of oil was limited and being depleted far too rapidly and we must limit our use of fossil fuels. Again, there was no such scientific consensus. Contrast that message of the 70's with the hysteria of some of our political leaders today: that science has proven our planet is warming up at unprecedented rates and we must stop using fossil fuels immediately or our coastal cities will be flooded out and island nations will be submerged under water! While there is growing scientific

consensus that we are in a warming phase, it's far from a unanimous conclusion. And there is intense debate as to the origins of this warming trend, the level of human responsibility, and predicting what will happen and when. Some groups, catapulted into panic mode, argue for the eradication of cattle because cow flatulence contributes to the "evil" of global warming! You may ask me to lower my thermostat, recycle and reduce my "carbon footprint" and I shall comply. But as God is my judge I shall not give up my prime rib!

Scientists from various disciplines continue to study climate change and must be allowed to do so without pressure from either government, academia or special interest groups to produce results or tweak the data to meet institutional or political agendas. Science must be allowed to follow the data regardless of where the data leads. At this point science admits that the various terrestrial and celestial systems that impact our planet's climate and how those systems interact are not fully understood. In the absence of facts and an agreed upon working model of our planet's climatic systems we should dismiss those who try to suck us into their hysteria. Fear of the unknown is never a sound foundation to make policies that affect the lives of millions, indeed billions of people. And we should also dismiss those who ridicule climate change as a hoax. *Regardless of the passion with which both sides argue neither group knows the full story.* At least they share something in common!

What we can and ought to do is use common sense to live in ways that make maximum, efficient use of our current energy resources, employ our entrepreneurial skills in creating new and sustainable energy resources that reduce pollution and take practical steps to minimize the negative impact we have on our environment. As the Popes have said, we are called to care for the marvelous creation God has entrusted to us. We are creation's stewards, not its masters.

Our planet's climate has changed many times in the course of its history. Human beings have only been in existence for a thin sliver of that time and have been able to effectively study this fascinating mystery for a mere fraction of that thin sliver. Though we are making progress in our understanding of

climate change there is still much we do not understand. One thing we do know for certain is that the climate will change. It always has. It always will. Our task is to do what we can to reasonably minimize our impact on our environment and when climatic changes come do what our species does best: learn, adapt and overcome.

"Fr. Pete.... The shrine looks so nice with the trees gone!" I agree but that was not why the trees were cut down. They were weak, some diseased and one with boughs falling off, threatening life and property. Now that the property has been thinned of unhealthy trees that posed threats to the safety of people and buildings we can look at planting some trees.

"Fr. Pete.... Would you consider putting cushions on the pews?" This topic came up in the Parish Council. My answer is no. First, it would be a very expensive undertaking. Second, we have many children in the parish and that means that everything from baby formula, juice, crushed cereal or crackers, vomit, urine and feces will get into the fabric creating very unhygienic conditions for people to sit on. We would have to include regular professional dry cleaning and replacements which greatly adds to the expense. For those who require padding you are more than welcome to bring a cushion from home for your personal use.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST FOUNDATION DINNER on Sunday, Feb. 26 at 5pm. Everyone is invited to attend!

#307CATHOLICS: WHAT DO YOU SEEK?

This is for young adults (18-39) as the first ever Diocese of Cheyenne Young Adult Lenten Series. It is a 6-week program. Cost is free! Registration is open until Feb. 22 at <http://www.307Catholics.org>. For more information contact Amy at 307-638-1530. The program can be small groups or done online. The groups will meet once a week for prayer, a video reflection from a Diocesan leader, and then share reflection questions in your group. Designed to take an hour...