



# 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](http://www.sjbc-buffalo.com)

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

## Email:

St. John's: [sjbc532@gmail.com](mailto:sjbc532@gmail.com)

Fr. Pete: [frpete@bresnan.net](mailto:frpete@bresnan.net)

Mary Ann: [macummins@bresnan.net](mailto:macummins@bresnan.net)

Carol Gagliano: [gagliano.carol@gmail.com](mailto: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

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday 12:30pm

## St. Hubert Church, Kaycee

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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>Lori Zink</i>	620-5113
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

July 21-23 – NABO (North Atlantic Basque Organization) Festival in Buffalo

Monday, July 31 – 6:30pm Ladies' Night Out

Monday, August 7 – 6:00pm CCW meeting and small business expo by our Catholic women

August – St. John's Meals on Wheels responsibility every Monday, Wednesday & Friday; call the office

**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](mailto:jmpe@wyoming.com)

**Rosary Guild** – Thursdays at 8:30am to 10am; call 307-660-4936 for meeting place

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

## 15<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 16, 2017

Altar Assisters:

SATURDAY, July 22, 5pm

Lector: Keith Leppert

EM: Janelle Gonzales

Altar Servers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, July 23, 8am

Lector: Volunteer

EM: Volunteer

Altar Servers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, July 23, 10am

Lector: Volunteer

EM: Mary Ann Cummins

Altar Servers: Volunteers

Homebound Ministry, Friday, July 21

Mary Ann Dahl

## COLLECTIONS FOR WEEK OF JULY 9, 2017

St. John's	\$ 3,603.63	YTD \$	9,550.19
St. Mary's	\$ 195.00	YTD \$	205.00
St. Hubert's	\$	YTD \$	289.00
Poor Donations	\$ 225.00		
Online Donations	\$ 770.60		

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon.	07.17	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
Tue.	07.18	8:00 a.m.	+Miles Brimeyer
Wed.	07.19	8:00 a.m.	+Miles Brimeyer
Thu.	07.20	8:00 a.m.	+Miles Brimeyer
Fri.	07.21	8:00 a.m.	+Charles Marton
Sat.	07.22	5:00 p.m.	+Miles Brimeyer
Sun.	07.23	8:00 a.m.	+Miles Brimeyer
		10:00 a.m.	for the parishes
		12:30 p.m.	Clearmont: Fr. Pete's intention

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon-Exodus 1:8-14, 22; Gospel: Matthew 10:34—11:1

Tue-Exodus 2? 1-15a; Gospel: Matthew 11:20-24

Wed-Exodus 3:1-6, 9-12; Gospel: Matthew 11:25-27

Thu-Exodus 3:13-20; Gospel: Matthew 11:28-30

Fri-Exodus 11:10—12:14; Gospel: Matthew 12:1-8

Sat-Song of Songs 3:1-4b; Gospel: John 20:1-2, 11-18

*Saint Mary Magdalene*

## **FR. PETE:**

**Men in the parish.** The Men of St. Joseph Prayer Group meet every Thursday starting at 6:30 a.m. sharp and end at 7:30 a.m. sharp. We use the *Magnificat* for the Morning Prayer of the Church and discuss the Scripture readings and the mediation for that day. ***All men in the parish, Catholic or not, able to go to Holy Communion or not, are welcome.*** The parish provides the books and the coffee!

**Last weekend was a busy one for Buffalo! Many thanks to all who volunteered their time and talent to help out during these community events.** Hopefully visitors left with a good impression of our town which, judging from conversations after Mass, was pretty much the case.

**Welcome to all who are visiting our parish this weekend!** We are glad that you took time to join us in worship! May the Lord grant you safe travel. If you are here on Sunday morning you are invited to join us for coffee and donuts before you hit the road.

**From Fr. Pete.....Guys.....looking for a rosary that is masculine and not "sissified"?** I found a great outfit that makes rosaries designed for guys in the Armed Services and law enforcement. It is called *Rugged Rosaries*, located in Modesto, California. There are many different styles you can choose from. There are even stainless-steel rosaries made exactly like the ones issued to troops during World War I.

I recently purchased what is called the "Gentleman's Rosary". The beads are made from steel and copper on paracord with well-designed knots to keep everything in place. The crucifix is handsome and sturdy. This particular rosary is heavy and substantial which I prefer.

Each rosary is well made, rugged, handsome looking and comes in a cloth pouch. You can even "customize" it if you wish! It will never fall apart or unravel in your pocket! Each is designed to be used under any conditions. The prices? Very reasonable for the quality being offered compared to those you find in religious

goods catalogues. The rosary is usually shipped out the day you order it and arrives quickly. Rugged Rosaries offers a full money back / replacement guarantee.

Check it out at [ruggedrosaries.com](http://ruggedrosaries.com)

**Two additional courses are being added to the fall and spring adult faith formation program.**

They are:

***Learning Session on the Apostle Peter*** to be held on Tuesday mornings beginning September 5 at 10:00 a.m. at the parish hall;

***Learning Session on the Great Feast – the Eucharist*** to be held on Wednesday mornings beginning September 6 at 10:00 a.m. at the parish hall.

The only book you need to bring is your Bible. Mike Herth will be the facilitator.

The other courses being offered are:

***The Consolation of Philosophy***, meeting on Tuesday evenings, beginning September 5 at 7:00 p.m. at the rectory. Cost of book is \$9.00.

***Mary and the Fathers of the Church***, meeting on Wednesday evenings, beginning September 6 at 7:00 p.m. at the rectory. Cost of the book is \$19.95.

***Unmasking Anti-Catholic Bigotry in the Culture***, meeting on Thursday evenings, beginning September 7 at 7:00 p.m. at the rectory. Cost of the book is \$22.36.

With all that is being offered to enhance adult faith formation it is my hope that these opportunities will be utilized. As Hippocrates wrote back in the fourth century BC, *"That which is used – develops. That which is not used wastes away."*

**"Fr. Pete... I thought it was going to be pretty bad not having music at Mass last weekend. It wasn't. It seemed that the people sang better. Can we do this more often?"** I would rather not. While I agree that the people did a splendid job at all three Masses we also used hymns that were very simple to follow, not requiring musical accompaniment. Sadly, so much of contemporary Church music is designed for professional musicians and choirs. And truth be told, I don't like to sing. I avoid it even at priest gatherings. I can

belt out a verse to get the ball rolling and hope that better voices than mine prevail which is precisely what happened last weekend, by the grace of God!

**"Fr. Pete... Please settle an argument. I have told my friend that it is immoral to get a tattoo. He insists that it isn't. What does the Church say?"** I just read an interesting, well written article by Ms. Adelaide Mena on this topic from a fantastic website: Catholic News Agency. It is well worth your time to check it out:

[www.catholicnewsagency.com](http://www.catholicnewsagency.com). Some of the things Ms. Mena points out are:

The Church has no formal teaching on tattoos. Tattooing predates Christianity and was usually connected with religious beliefs. As the Church encountered other cultures it noticed that tattooing was commonplace, again having religious overtones. There is a reference in Leviticus 19:28 that forbids the people of Israel from being tattooed, but one can make the argument that since we are no longer under the law we are not bound by it.

The earliest record of specifically Christian tattooing goes back to the sixth century.

There is a family in the Christian quarter of Jerusalem that has been tattooing Christians from the time of the first Crusade (1095). Their descendants are still giving tattoos! Understand, however, that those receiving tattoos from this family of artists are Christians who have completed their pilgrimage to the Holy Land and the tattoos are strictly Christian symbols: a variety of crosses, images of saints or the Blessed Virgin, or images of angels. Some of the wood blocks used to form the initial printing on the skin are thought to be 500 to 600 years old!

Coptic Christians in Egypt are tattooed with a cross and have their children tattooed from an early age with a cross. Why? Security guards check for tattoos before people enter their Church to make sure they are Christians! To wear a tattoo of a cross in a predominantly Muslim and anti-Christian environment takes guts.

**"Fr. Pete... There is supposed to be an asteroid heading to earth. God wouldn't allow it to hit us. Right?"**

I assume you are referring to the asteroid commonly called Apophis. It is aptly named after the Egyptian god of evil and destruction.

Discovered in 2004, it is thought at this point to be 885 feet across. An American football field is 160 feet wide, so this asteroid is larger than the width of three football fields. While that sounds big, it is a "baby" compared to the asteroid that hit the earth 65 million years ago. Scientists calculate that asteroid was about six miles wide. That impact, the subsequent impacts from debris thrown into the atmosphere and then raining down on earth, the global firestorms, the earth quakes and volcanic eruptions generated by the impact all contributed to massive changes to earth's environment that killed off the dinosaurs and nearly 75% of life on the planet. As it turned out, however, it was a blessing. It allowed mammals to dominate and for man to evolve culminating in our species, homo sapiens ("wise man").

Most scientists believe that Apophis will harmlessly pass by the earth on April 13, 2029. We should be able to see it with just our eyes! Some, however, think it too soon to rule out an impact. All agree, however, that it will come incredibly close to us. At this time, it is thought it will pass by at 19,400 miles above the earth though some are estimating it to come in as low as 18,600 miles. These calculations will be refined as the asteroid gets closer. To put this in context: when our moon is at perigee (when it is closest to us) it is 225,163 miles away while at apogee (when the moon it is furthest from us) it is 252,088 miles away. Consider that our communication satellites orbit at 22,370 miles above the earth. This asteroid will be dipping below our satellites! That is real close!

The questions scientists will have to answer from the data they collect as the asteroid approaches are: will earth's gravitational pull during this "fly-by" alter its trajectory? Will that alteration be enough for the asteroid to hit us on its return voyage on April 13, 2036? It is thought that if the asteroid passes through a small region of space astrophysicists call a gravitational key hole located 18,700 miles above earth the asteroid's trajectory will be sufficiently altered to hit the earth when it returns in 2036.

If it hits, it will do so with what is currently estimated to be 880 megatons of energy. Again, that estimate can change as the asteroid gets closer and scientists more accurately assess its mass. It doesn't matter whether the asteroid hits an ocean or

a land mass. It will be bad.... very bad. The impact of an asteroid that size would easily vaporize a metropolitan city and its surrounding area with millions killed instantly. As horrifying as such an initial impact could be that would only be the beginning of the horrors. There will be other impacts from debris thrown into orbit and re-entering the earth's atmosphere creating massive fires around the globe. Particulate matter kicked up into the atmosphere could effectively reduce the amount of sunlight, changing the climate to a much colder one. Growing crops and sustaining livestock will become very difficult creating global food shortages where millions more will most likely starve to death. Diseases will take their toll. Governments could collapse. Societies that became accustomed to their governments meeting all their needs could descend into chaos.

Would God allow such a thing to happen? Yes. We are fallen creatures living in a fallen universe where bad things happen even at cosmic levels. *God is under no obligation to suspend the laws of physics for us, though He certainly can and at times has. This should make us examine ourselves: by what arrogance do we think we can ignore or deny God, keep Him out of our lives, ban Him from the institutions we create to govern and educate ourselves while insisting on "right" to declare good evil and evil good and then when bad stuff happens run to Him and cry, "Save our sorry butts O Lord"?*

Faith is not about magical talismans and chants to make the bad stuff go away. Faith is entering into intimacy with God and from that intimacy consider how precious the gift of life is, how blessed we are, that our God genuinely loves us, and repent for our ingratitude and hardness of heart. Then we put that faith into action by using what God has given us: a tenacity for survival, inquisitive minds to study His creation and discern the laws that govern it, minds that can create technologies to deal with the problem, the ability to work together for the common good of all, and the ability to show compassion and care for each other under the most trying of circumstances.

Whether this asteroid passes by harmlessly or hits us, it could become an opportunity to bring out the best of humanity.... or the worst. That is not up to God. It is completely up to us.