



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

## 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)

The Mission of St. John the Baptist Church, in union with the Universal Church, is to faithfully spread the light of Christ through the teaching of Sacred Scripture, Sacred Tradition and the authority of the Magisterium. We seek to improve the spiritual and daily lives of all who come to us.

## Mass Schedule

### 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

## Religious Education / Meetings

Sunday, Dec. 14 – 11am Parish baby shower, hall  
11am YOUTH GROUP  
4pm Choir group  
5pm Parish dinner

Wednesday, Dec. 17 – 3:45pm & 7pm CCD  
3:45pm Cookies--Gray Ladies  
6am, 10am & NO 7pm – Job

Thursday, Dec. 18 – 6:30am Men of St. Joseph  
Gray Ladies in hall, cookies  
7pm Knights' social

Sunday, Dec. 21 – NO YOUTH

Tuesday, Dec. 23 – 9am decorate church

## Parish Staff

|                       |                         |              |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| Pastor                | <i>Fr. Pete Johnson</i> | 684-7268     |
| Parish Administrator  | <i>Mary Ann Cummins</i> | 684-7268     |
| CCW Leaders           | <i>Cristie Murray</i>   | 684-2143     |
|                       | <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>Blaine Horn</i>      | 217-1075     |
| Choir Director        | <i>Mary Finney</i>      | 278-0137     |
| Organist              | <i>Judi Semroska</i>    | 620-1964     |
| 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     |

**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 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM; call 217-0150 or 307-660-4936 for place.

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

### **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**DECEMBER 14, 2014**

Altar Assistants:

**SATURDAY, Dec. 20, 5:00pm**

Lector: Colleen Donahue

EM: Dennis Lawrence

Altar Servers: Volunteers

**SUNDAY, Dec. 21, 8:00am**

Lector: Volunteer

EM: Rick Andersen

Altar Servers: **SUNDAY, Dec. 21, 10:00am**

Lector: Dianne Urruty

EM: Jean Urruty, Mary Ann Cummins

Altar Servers:

**Homebound Ministry, Friday, Dec. 19**

Valerie Spanos

### **Collections for Week of December 7, 2014**

|                    |             |        |           |
|--------------------|-------------|--------|-----------|
| St. John's         | \$ 10404.76 | YTD \$ | 93,753.61 |
| St. Mary's         | \$ 15.00    | YTD \$ | 2,961.00  |
| St. Hubert's       | \$ 225.00   | YTD \$ | 2,160.00  |
| Poor contributions | \$ 989.00   |        |           |

### **Mass Intentions for the Week:**

|      |       |            |                                 |
|------|-------|------------|---------------------------------|
| Mon. | 12.15 | 8:00 a.m.  | No Mass                         |
| Tue. | 12.16 | 8:00 a.m.  | Beverly Rhodes                  |
| Wed. | 12.17 | 8:00 a.m.  | Beverly Rhodes                  |
| Thu. | 12.18 | 8:00 a.m.  | Beverly Rhodes                  |
| Fri. | 12.19 | 8:00 a.m.  | +Paul Rambasek                  |
| Sat. | 12.20 | 5:00 p.m.  | +Paul Rambasek                  |
| Sun. | 12.21 | 8:00 a.m.  | +Paul Rambasek                  |
|      |       | 10:00 a.m. | for the people                  |
|      |       | 2:00 p.m.  | Kaycee: Fr.<br>Pete's intention |

### **Readings for the week:**

Mon-Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17a; Gospel: Matthew 21:23-27

Tue-Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13; Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32

Wed-Genesis 49:2, 8-10; Gospel: Matthew 1:1-17

Thu-Jeremiah 23:5-8; Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

Fri-Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a; Gospel: Luke 1:5-25

Sat-Isaiah 7:10-14; Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

### **FROM FR. PETE:**

**An Advent meditation from a homily entitled In Praise of the Virgin Mother by St. Bernard, abbot.**

*You have heard, O Virgin, that you will conceive and bear a son; you have heard that it will not be by man but by the Holy Spirit. The angel awaits an answer; it is time for Him to return to God Who sent Him. We too are waiting, O Lady, for your word of compassion; the sentence of condemnation weighs heavily upon us.*

*The price of our salvation is offered to you. We shall be set free at once if you consent. In the eternal Word of God we all came to be, and behold, we die. In your brief response we are to be remade in order to be recalled to life.*

*Tearful Adam with his sorrowing family begs this of you, O loving Virgin, in their exile from Paradise. Abraham begs it, David begs it. All the other holy patriarchs, your ancestors, ask it of you, as they dwell in the country of the shadow of death. This is what the whole earth waits for, prostrate at your feet. It is right in doing so, for on your word depends comfort for the wretched, ransom for the captive, freedom for the condemned, indeed, salvation for all the sons of Adam, the whole of your race.*

*Answer quickly, O Virgin. Reply in haste to the angel, or rather through the angel to the Lord. Answer with a word, receive the Word of God. Speak your own word, conceive the divine Word. Breathe a passing word, embrace the eternal Word.*

*Why do you delay, why are you afraid? Believe, give praise, and receive. Let humility be bold, let modesty be confident. This is no time for virginal simplicity to forget prudence. In this matter alone, O prudent Virgin, do not fear to be presumptuous. Though modest*

## **FR. PETE (cont.)**

*silence is pleasing, dutiful speech is now more necessary. Open your heart to faith, O blessed Virgin, your lips to praise, your womb to the Creator. See, the desired of all nations is at your door, knocking to enter. If He should pass by because of your delay, in sorrow you would begin to seek Him afresh, the One Whom your soul loves. Arise, hasten, open. Arise in faith, hasten in devotion, open in praise and thanksgiving. "Behold, the handmaid of the Lord," she says, "be it done to me according to your word."*

### **Advent Parish Dinner this Sunday, 5:00**

**p.m.** If you took a ticket, you should have a spot. We think that this is going to be one of the more well attended parish functions. Many thanks to all who have worked so hard to organize this event.

**Many thanks to Leah and Clay Miller and Terry Ridgeway.** They spent quite a few hours on Tuesday to get the sanctuary ready for Christmas. Things are slowly building up!

Between Christmas and Lent there will be a Book Study offered on *The Complete Infidels Guide to the Koran* by Robert Spencer. This in-depth book explains what the Koran says about Jews, Christians, and other non-Muslims and why all non-believers of Islam are labeled as infidels by radical extremists and jihadists. The book is very easy to read and highly informative.

The price of the book is \$14.41 and an outline will be provided to each participant.

The study will be held at the Rectory (532 North Lobban Ave.) on Tuesday evenings 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. beginning January 13 thru February 17, 2015.

A sign-up sheet will be on the table in the Narthex (front entrance) of the Church.

Fifteen books have been preordered and will be available for pick-up the weekend before Christmas. Please read chapters 1 & 2 and answer the questions in the outline before our first study date. We will be covering two chapters at a time.

If you do not wish to attend the discussion classes but read the book, you can get it via Amazon.com. It is also available for Kindle and Audiobook.

*An observation from Fr. Pete: Many thanks to David Goehring for suggesting this study as well as the research and foot work to make it a reality. This is a timely topic and every Christian should learn what Islam has to say for itself and its views of other religions. This will help us to understand how Islam has been hijacked and politically manipulated by extremists. Islam itself is not the enemy. Our ignorance about Islam's self-perception, our passive acceptance of political correctness and Islam's vulnerability to being abused by extremists are.*

**Many thanks to all the parishioners who made the effort to attend the Advent Parish Mission!** Fr. Louis did a wonderful job

teaching on the Eucharist. And thank you to all who made a donation to the Fathers of Mercy. May God continue to bless their ministry and may more men join them as priests.

**Christmas Mass schedule.** Assuming the Second Coming doesn't happen first the Masses are: December 24, Christmas Eve: 7:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. (this is the "Midnight Mass" with choir). December 25, Christmas Morning: 10:00 a.m.

**Advanced warning: the parish office will be closed on Friday, December 26.** Mary Ann will not be in the office. Fr. Pete will not be in the office. There will not be a morning Mass. No communion calls will be made. Please plan accordingly.

**Wonderful article in the Catholic News Agency website by Mr. Kevin Jones.** It seems that Marquette University, an allegedly Catholic institution, fulfilled its requirement that all employees take anti-harassment training. Employees were encouraged, wrote Mr. Jones, "to report critics of 'gay marriage.'" According to the article, "The presentation shares the federal government's new understanding that beliefs about marriage as a union only of one man and one woman can be a source of discrimination and illegal harassment."

I strongly recommend you read Mr. Jones' well written article. Just "google" Catholic News Agency for the website.

**Please put missals and hymnals where they belong after Mass.** The Church looks quite messy when they are thrown all over the pew or shoved in the pew racks mindlessly and it takes time for me to get everything straightened up. In just two weeks I have had to replace a few of the missals because they have been either ripped or taken. There are very few replacements left and extras will not be ordered.

When Mass is over please put the missals in the pew racks "standing up." This will prevent the missals from "curling up." The hymnals should be stacked on either end of the pew.

Recall a few years ago I warned that Oregon Catholic Press would stop making small print editions and that I wanted to change the pew racks to accommodate the larger sizes. There was

significant opposition. So..... we have what we have.

But this is an opportunity to reconsider our current practice. From my perspective these books are used for Divine Worship. The missals contain the Word of God and we are throwing them out! I have a hard time with this.

Not convinced? Consider this. For 2014 our parish has spent \$1,958.94 on missals and hymnals. The price will just continue to rise, as will the shipping costs. Since I've been here the parish has spent a total of \$12,136.71 on these books which ultimately are either tossed in the garbage or sent to the recycling plant. That is like going to the bank, taking out thousands of dollars from your account every year and throwing the cash in the dumpster or bringing it to the recycling plant! We have been and are now literally throwing away money.... *a lot of money*.... and for what? Convenience! That's what this boils down to. Nothing more.

My preference would be to work with the musicians and a group of lay people in selecting a permanent missal that parishioners could purchase, keep at home for their own spiritual reading and then bring with them to Mass. Such a missal would have all the Scripture readings, all the prayers of the Mass and an assortment of basic hymns. If necessary we could simply purchase hardbound hymnals. It would save the parish a ton of money to say nothing of being environmentally sound.

**Christmas flowers are for sale!** If you wish to purchase a flower in memory of a loved one to decorate the Sanctuary for the Christmas season, please call the parish office as soon as possible at 684-7268.

**Knights of Columbus social** for all Knights and their ladies on Thursday, December 18 beginning at 7pm. Please bring and appetizer to share©

**Knights of Columbus crèche raffle tickets** available this weekend...\$2 per ticket or 3 for \$5. Drawing for the winner at the parish dinner Sunday evening.

**YOUTH GROUP** this Sunday at 11am in one of the classrooms.

**CCW Baby Shower** at 11am this Sunday honoring 7 new babies in the large classroom! Please bring diapers and wipes...We welcome Dorothy Marie Adeline Janssen & Jack Sackett Gampetro©