



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

Email:

St. John's: sjbc532@gmail.com

Fr. Pete: frpete@bresnan.net

Mary Ann: macummins@bresnan.net

Carol Gagliano: 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

2nd & 4th Sunday 12:30pm

St. Hubert Church, Kaycee

1st & 3rd Sunday 2:00pm

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

Religious Education / Meetings

Sunday, Dec. 21 – 4pm Choir group
No Youth

Wednesday, Dec. 24 – 7pm Mass
10pm “Midnight” Mass

Thursday, Dec. 25 – 10am Christmas Day Mass
Merry Christmas!

Sunday, Dec. 28 – NO YOUTH

Friday, January 9 – 5pm CCW Progressive Dinner

Sunday, January 11 – 10am Christmas Pageant
9am & 11am Knights’
Breakfast

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

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 21, 2014

Altar Assisters:

SATURDAY, Dec. 27, 5:00pm

Lector: Sarah Sandman

EM: Tim Sandman, Jean Borgialli

Altar Servers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, Dec. 28, 8:00am

Lector: Volunteer

EM: Arnette Tiller

Altar Servers: J Reimann, M Scarlett, B Camino, M Harrison

SUNDAY, Dec. 28, 10:00am

Lector: Marilyn Maxwell

EM:

Altar Servers: T Fieldgrove, Wyatt/Eli/Cole Linden

Homebound Ministry, Tuesday, Dec. 23

Jim Fitzsimmons

Collections for Week of December 14, 2014

St. John's	\$ 3998.50	YTD \$	97,752.11
St. Mary's	\$ 371.61	YTD \$	3,332.61
St. Hubert's	\$ 25.00	YTD \$	2,185.00
Poor contributions	\$ 480.00		

Mass Intentions for the Week:

Mon.	12.22	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
Tue.	12.23	8:00 a.m.	Vyonne and Don Kraen
Wed.	12.24	Christmas Eve	
		8:00 a.m.	No Mass
		7:00 p.m.	+Helen Igoe
		10:00 p.m.	for the people (this is the "Midnight Mass")
Thu.	12.25	Christmas Day	
		8:00 a.m.	No Mass
		10:00 a.m.	for all our parish families
		1:00 p.m.	Kaycee: Fr. Pete's intention
Fri.	12.26	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
Sat.	12.27	5:00 p.m.	+Bill Perry
Sun.	12.28	8:00 a.m.	+Bill Perry
		10:00 a.m.	for the people
		12:30 p.m.	Clearmont: Fr. Pete's intention

Readings for the Week:

Mon-1 Samuel 1:24-28; Gospel: Luke 1:46-56
Tue-Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Gospel Luke 1:57-66
Wed-Isaiah 9:1-6; Titus 2:11-14; Gospel: Luke 2:1-14
Thu-Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-6; Gospel: John 1:1-18
Fri-Acts of the Apostles 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Gospel: Matthew 10:17-22 *Saint Stephen, 1st Martyr*

FROM FR. PETE:

A final Advent meditation. The following comes from a commentary on the Gospel of St. Luke, written by St. Ambrose, Bishop of Milan. Ambrose had no intention of becoming a priest, let alone a bishop. In the year 365 he served as a lawyer and a provincial governor. His reputation for leadership spread and when the bishop of Milan died, the people and clergy voted for Ambrose to succeed to the throne. There was, however, a small problem. Ambrose was only a catechumen, one who was studying the Faith. He wasn't baptized! The will of the people prevailed and Ambrose was baptized, ordained a deacon, then a priest and then consecrated a bishop! For most men this would have been an invitation to personal moral disaster and chaos for the people. Not for Ambrose. He immersed himself in the study of Sacred Scripture and the ancient writings of the Greek Fathers and taught the people through his sermons. He died in Milan in 397.

When the angel revealed his message to the Virgin Mary he gave her a sign to win her trust. He told her of the motherhood of an old and barren woman to show that God is able to do all that He wills.

When she hears this Mary sets out for the hill country. She does not disbelieve God's word; she feels no uncertainty over the message or doubt about the sign. She goes eager in purpose, dutiful in conscience, hastening for joy.

Filled with God, where would she hasten but to the heights? The Holy Spirit does not proceed by slow, laborious efforts. Quickly, too, the blessings of her coming and the Lord's presence are made clear: as soon as "Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting the child leapt in her womb, and she was filled with the Holy Spirit."

Notice the contrast and the choice of words. Elizabeth is the first to hear Mary's voice, but John is the first to be aware of grace. She hears with the ears of the body, but he leaps for joy at the

FR. PETE (cont.)

meaning of the mystery. She is aware of Mary's presence, but he is aware of the Lord's: a woman aware of a woman's presence, the forerunner aware of the pledge of our salvation. The women speak of the grace they have received while the children are active in secret, unfolding the mystery of love with the help of their mothers, who prophesy by the spirit of their sons.

The child leaps in the womb; the mother is filled with the Holy Spirit, but not before her son. Once the son has been filled with the Holy Spirit, he fills His mother with the same Spirit. John leaps for joy, and the spirit of Mary rejoices in her turn. When John leaps for joy Elizabeth is filled with the Holy Spirit, but we know that though Mary's spirit rejoices she does not need to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Her Son, Who is beyond our understanding, is active in his mother in a way beyond our understanding. Elizabeth is filled with the Holy Spirit after conceiving John, while Mary is filled with the Holy Spirit before conceiving the Lord. Elizabeth says: "Blessed are you because you have believed."

You also are blessed because you have heard and believed. A soul that believes both conceives and brings forth the Word of God and acknowledges His works.

Let Mary's soul be in each of you to proclaim the greatness of the Lord. Let her spirit be in each to rejoice in the Lord. Christ has only one mother in the flesh, but we all bring forth Christ in faith. Every soul receives the Word of God if only it keeps chaste, remaining pure and free from sin, its

modesty undefiled. The soul that succeeds in this proclaims the greatness of the Lord, just as Mary's soul magnified the Lord and her spirit rejoiced in God her Savior. In another place we read: "Magnify the Lord with me." The Lord is magnified, not because the human voice can add anything to God but because He is magnified within us. Christ is the image of God, and if the soul does what is right and holy, it magnifies that image of God, in Whose likeness it was created and, in magnifying the image of God, the soul has a share in its greatness and is exalted.

What a wonderful Advent Parish Dinner we had! The Basque ladies and men worked so hard to prepare wonderful, tasty, and filling dishes. The lamb chops were made to perfection. The ham was wonderful. And the desserts were out of this world. Members of the Basque Choir sang for us. We had a lot of people involved: planning, setting up, serving and cleaning up. Thanks to the 5 Confirmation youth who worked so very hard to serve. Everyone ate to their hearts content and I don't think there was much left over! And the hall was full! I don't think we ever had that many people before. It was wonderful to see so many people come, eat and visit. Many thanks to all who were involved in pulling this off so successfully.

Many thanks to the crew that made the Christmas wreathes. There is nothing like "homemade" to give that personal touch. The fresh fir and spruce boughs smell wonderful and should last until the end of the Christmas season.

Help prepare the Church for Christmas! We will begin on Tuesday, December 23, at 9:00 a.m. There is a great deal to be done. All hands welcome! No school, so Confirmation youth come help for church service hours!

The Knights of Columbus wish to thank all who purchased a raffle ticket for the hand carved Nativity Set. The winner was Betty Andersen! The money that is made in excess of the cost of purchasing the set will go to a scholarship fund the Knights have for graduating high school seniors going to college.

Please note: the parish office will be closed December 25 and 26. Mary Ann will not be in the office. Fr. Pete will not be in the office. There will not be any Communion calls on the 26th. Please plan accordingly. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS SERVERS:

7pm Mass:

Lector: Mary Smith

EM: Donna Nelson

Altar Servers: Adam Belus, Matt Harrison, Wyatt/Eli/Cole Linden

"Midnight" Mass at 10pm:

Lector: Marilyn Maxwell

EM: Cece Ihnat, Mary Ann Cummins

Altar Servers: Andrew Snyder, Matt Scarlett, Joe Reimann, Michael Ihnat, Aaron Seeman

10am Christmas Day:

Lector: Dennis Lawrence

EM: David Lausen, Doug/Yolanda Graslie

Altar Servers: Volunteers

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER:

God gave us the greatest gift of love when He sent His son to redeem us. He asks us to love one another as He loves us. Take the time to grow deeper in love with God, your spouse and your family at a WWME weekend. The next WWME weekend is in Billings, MT on Jan. 23-25, 2015. Contact Chris & Angie at 406-534-2391 or sign up online at <http://wwwmesection9.org>

LADIES: Please respond to the CCW Progressive Dinner scheduled for Friday, January 9, 2015 at 5pm beginning at the home of Honey Harriet, 793 N Adams, #13. Return your forms to attend and what you wish to contribute to either the parish office or to Cristie Murray, 684-2143, 616 Sesame St.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT to be presented during 10am Mass on January 11, The Baptism of Our Lord (which is the last day of the Christmas). The Knights of Columbus will serve their monthly breakfast this weekend before and after this Mass. All are invited. Come celebrate this last Feast of Christmas.

CCD is suspended until Wednesday, January 7 at the usual times, 3:45pm and 7pm for the Confirmation students.

YOUTH GROUP is suspended until January 11 at 5pm in the large classroom at the parish hall.

THANKS to everyone who contributed cookies to the Gray Ladies (via Claudia Elliot) for their annual distribution to the community shut-ins!

MEALS-ON-WHEELS in January is our (St. John the Baptist Church) responsibility on each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Would you please consider this ministry? Call the parish office to sign up to help out here; four (4) teams needed each day.

SALVATION ARMY bell ringer money goes to our local Crisis Center, so please give joyfully☺

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

