



# 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, January 11 – Knights' breakfast  
5pm YOUTH  
Tuesday, January 13 – 4pm Kaycee classes  
7pm Islam class in HALL  
7:30pm Knights of Columbus  
Wednesday, January 14 – 6am & 10am Job classes  
3:45pm & 7pm CCD  
Thursday, Jan. 15 – 6:30am Men of St. Joseph  
Saturday, January 17 – 9:30am. Gillette CCW  
Retreat  
Sunday, January 18 – 5pm YOUTH

## 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

## **BAPTISM OF THE LORD SUNDAY**

**JANUARY 11, 2015**

Altar Assisters:

**SATURDAY, Jan. 17, 5:00pm**

Lector: Janelle Gonzales

EM: Colleen Donahue, Dennis Lawrence, Mary Smith

Altar Servers: Volunteers

**SUNDAY, Jan. 18, 8:00am**

Lector: Blaine Horn

EM: Arnette Tiller

Altar Servers: Clayton Borgialli, Seth/Aaron Thiele, A Seeman

**SUNDAY, Jan. 18, 10:00am**

Lector: Volunteer

EM: Volunteers

Altar Servers: A Snyder, A Belus, M Ihnat

**Homebound Ministry, Friday, Jan. 16**

Lynn Ridgeway

### **Collections for Week of January 4, 2015**

|                    |            |                   |
|--------------------|------------|-------------------|
| St. John's         | \$ 3683.50 | YTD \$ 103,432.11 |
| St. Mary's         | \$ 20.00   | YTD \$ 3,580.61   |
| St. Hubert's       | \$ 235.00  | YTD \$ 2,420.00   |
| Poor contributions | \$ 1584.00 |                   |

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

|      |       |            |                                 |
|------|-------|------------|---------------------------------|
| Mon. | 01.12 | 8:00 a.m.  | No Mass                         |
| Tue. | 01.13 | 8:00 a.m.  | +Bill Short                     |
| Wed. | 01.14 | 8:00 a.m.  | +Bill Short                     |
| Thu. | 01.15 | 8:00 a.m.  | +Marilyn Armijo                 |
| Fri. | 01.16 | 8:00 a.m.  | +John McMahan                   |
| Sat. | 01.17 | 5:00 p.m.  | +John McMahan                   |
| Sun. | 01.18 | 8:00 a.m.  | +John McMahan                   |
|      |       | 10:00 a.m. | for the people                  |
|      |       | 2:00 p.m.  | Kaycee: Fr.<br>Pete's intention |

### **Readings for the Week:**

Mon-Hebrews 1:1-6; Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

Tue-Hebrews 2:5-12; Gospel; Mark 1:21-28

Wed-Hebrews 2:14-18; Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

Thu-Hebrews 3:7-14; Gospel Mark 1:40-45

Fri-Hebrews 4:1-5, 11; Gospel; Mark 2:1-12

Sat-Hebrews 4:12-16; Gospel: Mark 2:13-17

*Saint Anthony, Abbot*

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

*At the 10:00 a.m. Sunday Mass our children will perform their Christmas Pageant. After Mass the Knights of Columbus will have breakfast prepared. Please come and enjoy this last communal celebration of Christmas!*

**A final Christmas meditation for the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.** The following comes from the writings of St. Gregory of Nazianzus.

He was born in Cappadocia, the eastern part of modern day Turkey in the year 329. His father, also named Gregory, was a pagan but through the witness of his wife St. Nonna, he became a Christian and eventually was ordained a priest and then a bishop. In those days the Sacrament of Holy Orders was open to married men.

St. Gregory received the best classical education available at his time, including study at Athens where he enjoyed what became a lifelong friendship with St. Basil. When St. Gregory's father was nearly 80 he returned to help his father with the affairs of the diocese. St. Gregory, no doubt with some considerable persuasion from his father, was ordained a priest. Genuinely petrified of the responsibilities of the priesthood St. Gregory fled to his friend, St. Basil. Several months later St. Gregory came to his senses and shouldered the responsibilities of being a parish priest and became a bishop. This was a period of great religious and political tension between Catholicism and the heresy of Arianism which held that Jesus was only human and not Divine. St. Gregory vigorously defended the orthodox faith expressed in the creed of the Council of Nicea that Christ is the Son of God, true God from true God, and true light from true light. And as is so often the case he paid very dearly for defending the truth when it would have been so much easier to yield to the political correctness of his day.

Exhausted from his labors, St. Gregory died in the year 390. His remains now rest at St. Peter's in Rome.

*Christ is bathed in light; let us also be bathed in light. Christ is baptized; let us also go down with Him, and rise with Him.*

*John is baptizing when Jesus draws near. Perhaps He comes to sanctify His baptizer; certainly He comes to bury sinful humanity in the waters. He comes to sanctify the Jordan for our sake and in readiness for us; He Who is Spirit and flesh*

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

comes to begin a new creation through the Spirit and water.

*The Baptist protests; Jesus insists. Then John says; "I ought to be baptized by you." He is the lamp in the presence of the sun, the voice in the presence of the Word, the friend in the presence of the Bridegroom, the greatest of all born of woman in the presence of the firstborn of all creation, the one who leapt in his mother's womb in the presence of Him Who was adored in the womb, the forerunner and future forerunner in the presence of Him Who has already come and is to come again. "I ought to be baptized by You;" we should also add: "and for you", for John is to be baptized in blood, washed clean like Peter, not only by the washing of his feet.*

*Jesus rises from the waters; the world rises with Him. The heavens like Paradise with its flaming sword, closed by Adam for himself and his descendants, are rent open. The Spirit comes to Him as an equal, bearing witness to His Godhead. A voice bears witness to Him from heaven, His place of origin. The Spirit descends in bodily form like the dove that so long ago announced the ending of the flood and so gives honor to the body that is one with God.*

*Today let us do honor to Christ's baptism and celebrate this feast in holiness. Be cleansed entirely and continue to be cleansed. Nothing gives such pleasure to God as the conversion and salvation of men, for whom His every word and every revelation exist. He wants you to become a living force for all mankind, lights shining in the world. You are a radiant light as you stand beside Christ, the great light, bathed in the glory of Him Who is the light of heaven. You are to enjoy more and more the pure and dazzling light of the Trinity, as now you have received - though not in its fullness - a ray of its splendor, proceeding from the*

*one God, in Christ Jesus our Lord, to Whom be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen.*

**Christmas ends at sunset this Sunday.** We will be taking down all the decorations in the Church on Wednesday after the morning Mass. We could use help with this. Everything must be put away carefully so we know where things are for next year.

Many thanks to all who have contributed their time and energy to making the Church look so spectacular this year. Many thanks to all who contributed a poinsettia or mum plant to decorate the sanctuary. Many thanks to all who helped to make the Christmas wreathes. It is a shame everything must come down, but it is knowing that the season is short that allows us to enjoy its beauty.

**The course on Islam begins this Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.!** Nearly 30 people have signed up! Because of the size of the class we will meet in the Parish Hall.

**Bible Study on the Book of Job has recommenced after the Christmas break.** We meet on Wednesdays at 6:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. at the rectory.

**Finance Council Members and Trustees.** We will meet on Tuesday, January 27, 5:00 p.m. at the rectory. Your information packets will be distributed shortly.

**Parish Council Members.** We will meet on Sunday, January 25, 7:00 p.m. at the rectory. Your information packets will be distributed shortly.

**Update on the Parish Emergency Assistance Fund.** For the month of November, 2014 we distributed \$958.52 in assistance. For the month of December, 2014 we distributed \$2,015.58 in assistance. It is the policy of this parish that we never give cash. We require that people, once vetted through the Family Crisis Center, present their bills. Checks are made to the "creditors". If the Family Crisis Center paid the bill we make the check out to the Center as a reimbursement. If people need assistance with food and are unable to get access to the Bread of Life Food Pantry the parish purchases gift certificates from the IGA.

Parishioners have been very generous in supporting the Parish Emergency Assistance Fund. Thank you! As of January 7, 2015 the account has a balance of \$13,501.93

**Advanced notice.** There will be no daily Masses from January 19 to 23. Please plan accordingly.

**The Christmas collection is \$22,507.12.** The full amount was placed in savings ear marked for "Building and Maintenance." We also put last week's collection of \$4,195.00 into savings under the same category.

As a reminder, it is the policy of this parish that any parishioner is welcome to look at the parish books. No one, however, is permitted to know what an individual parishioner gives. If you wish to examine the books or have any questions, please call Mary Ann (684-7268). You may also contact any member of the Finance Council (Dennis Lawrence, Sheila Camino, Steve Reimann, George Schafer, Jerry Powell) or the Trustees (Phil Gonzales and Jean Urruty). If someone would like to serve on the Finance Council, please call Fr. Pete (684-7268).

**An observation about the terrorist attack in Paris on January 7.** The brutal, almost militarily planned and executed attack on the French satirical paper known as *Charlie Hebdo* makes it clear that no Westerner can afford to mindlessly chant the mantra of political correctness that "Islam is a religion of peace." While the vast majority of devout Muslims are peaceful and wish to live in peace with Christians and others there is a growing number in many parts of the world who insist on forcing non-Muslims to convert or die and they use their Holy Book in justifying the use of violence to achieve their goals. They even attack other Muslims.

But there is another side to this story. *Charlie Hebdo* has had a long and sordid history of attacking other religions with some truly sickening cartoons that exceeded the purposes of satire and are designed to be blatantly disrespectful and inflammatory. Catholics and Jews have also been victimized. Muslims were understandably distressed when their prophet, whose image is never portrayed, was depicted in pornographic poses. Shortly after the massacre the President of France, Francois Hollande, said the attack was on all of France. He was right. He also said it was an attack on the freedom of expression. Perhaps that is an issue for debate. There cannot be genuine freedom and the exercise of freedom when there is a willful absence of prudence, self-control, and concern for justice. Otherwise freedom of expression degenerates into a vulgar display of unbridled adolescent self-indulgence often at the expense of innocent people. It is quite legitimate to disagree with the doctrinal position of a religion or to point out the inconsistencies between what its leaders or members profess and live out. It is appropriate to use satire as a means of making a point. It

is another thing altogether for the media to irresponsibly use its power for the purpose of ridiculing, mocking and insulting a religion and thereby its adherents.

Muslims have every right to be angry at the blatant, deliberate, calculated disrespect they were subjected to. Frankly I think people of faith, whatever their religion, should be livid at the abusive insults that *Charlie Hebdo* routinely hurls at them. The Muslims in France (thought to be about 8% of the population, the largest in Europe) have a right to make their anger known clearly and loudly through every legitimate means available to them. Perhaps this incident may become an area where level headed Muslims, Catholics and Jews who have also been victimized by *Charlie Hebdo*, can unite and take this matter to the conscience of French citizens and seek redress through the avenues of French law. But the fundamental moral principle remains: at no time can violence and murder be justified as the antidote to an insult.

Make no mistake: this was a wake-up call not only for France but the Western world. Radical Islam has taught one of the most open, tolerant and liberal European societies a painful lesson: it will not hesitate to use violence to achieve its end, it relishes the opportunity, and sincerely invokes the name of God in doing so. What happened in France is not an isolated event. It is happening now elsewhere in the world. It is time to shake off the blinders of political correctness and call this for what it is: Islamic terrorism.

**"Fr. Pete...How are checks made out and signed?"** Only Mary Ann and Dennis Lawrence have the password to the parish computer. Mary Ann can make out checks but she is not authorized to sign them. I may sign them but am not authorized to write them (and considering my lack of familiarity with the software I wouldn't know how!). All checks must have two signatures: mine and that of either Phil Gonzales or George Schafer. On rare occasions when neither Phil nor George are available and we need to pay our bills in a timely manner the checks will have only my signature, though we try very hard to avoid such a scenario. Should I not be able to sign them the other two can so parish business can continue.

**CHRISTMAS CARD FACES** – if you wish, place them in the box in the back of church for the children in daycare to use in their projects...Just the faces of the cards!

**WOMEN'S RETREAT** sponsored by Gillette's CCW on Saturday, January 17 beginning at 9:30am until 3pm in the parish hall... *The Gift of Our Hands, Blessings of Our Hands and Refreshment of Our Minds*. RSVP for lunch to Gloria Blohm, 686-4142 or parish office, 682-3319.