



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>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

Religious Education / Meetings

Sunday, Feb. 28 – 5pm Youth Group
7pm Parish Council meeting
Monday, Feb. 29 – 6:30pm Ladies' Night Out
Tuesday, March 1 – 6pm Rotary Bingo in hall
Wednesday, March 2 – 3:45 pm CCD
7 pm Confirmation
Thursday, March 3 – 6:30am Men of St. Joseph
KC Meals-on-Wheels – Jason Sutton
6pm Intentional Disciples class
7pm Symbolon class
Friday, March 4 – 7pm Stations
Sunday, March 6 – 9am Knights' Breakfast
5pm Youth Group
7pm Social Justice mtg.

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

FEBRUARY 28, 2016

Altar Assisters:

SATURDAY, March 5, 5pm

Lector: Colleen Donahue

EM: Phil/Janelle Gonzales, Dennis Lawrence

Altar Servers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, March 6, 8am

Lector: Volunteer

EM: Kathy/Greg Smith

Altar Servers: A Snyder, A Seeman, A Thiele

SUNDAY, MARCH 6, 10am

Lector: Patty Tass

EM: Mary Ann Cummins

Altar Servers: T Fieldgrove, A Belus, M Ihnat,

C Zink, L Rabel

Homebound Ministry, Friday, March 4

Kathy Smith

COLLECTIONS FOR WEEK OF FEB. 21, 2016

St. John's	\$ 3,087.73	YTD \$ 131,832.62
St. Mary's	\$ 7.00	YTD \$ 3,804.33
St. Hubert's	\$ 305.00	YTD \$ 2,717.00
Poor Donations	\$ 180.00	
Online Donations	\$ 155.60	

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon.	02.29	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
Tue.	03.01	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
Wed.	03.02	8:00 a.m.	Ladies of the CCW
Thu.	03.03	8:00 a.m.	+Claire Hollcroft
Fri.	03.04	8:00 a.m.	+Peg Rogers
		7:00 p.m.	Stations of the Cross
Sat.	03.05	5:00 p.m.	+Paula Little
Sun.	03.06	8:00 a.m.	+Paula Little
		10:00 a.m.	for the parishes
		2:00 p.m.	Kaycee: +Claire Hollcroft

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Sun-Exodus 3:1-8a, 13-15; 1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12;

Gospel: Luke 13:1-9

Mon-2 Kings 5:1-15ab; Gospel: Luke 4:24-30

Tue-Daniel 3:25, 34-43; Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35

Wed-Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9; Gospel: Matthew 5:17-19

Thu-Jeremiah 7:23-28; Gospel: Luke 11:14-23

Fri-Hosea 14:2-10; Gospel; Mark 12:28-34

Sat-Hosea 6:1-6; Gospel Luke 18:9-14

FROM FR. PETE:

How is your Lent going? This is a good time to take a spiritual assessment of ourselves.

I thought I was doing all right. I gave up meat two weeks before Ash Wednesday then dairy products a week before Ash Wednesday resolving, by God's grace, to have neither until Easter Sunday as an act of self-discipline. I thought I was doing all right giving up desserts, soda, the fancy coffees and candy. But what I discovered is that there is something else I have to "give up", and that is my time. What do I mean by that? I do not spend enough time being still before God, the very thing that fasting is supposed to help me do.

Thank God Great and Holy Lent is not over! There are still opportunities. So, when I have to rush from one place to another I turn off the radio and use that time for prayer. When I am in the office and find myself being distracted by administrative stuff I tune in to Ancient Faith Radio to listen to music that allows me to focus on what is truly important as I get the mundane stuff done and makes my study time more productive. More and more I find myself using the "Jesus Prayer," ("Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Living God, have mercy on me a sinner."). Popular in the Eastern Churches in communion with Rome and in the Orthodox Churches, it is just beginning to find a foothold among Roman Catholics (and even some evangelical Protestants). It helps keep me grounded in my true identity until I draw my last breath in this world: that I am a sinner who cannot possibly save myself and therefore in constant need of the Divine Mercy.

If you find that your Lenten discipline and sacrifices are getting burdensome or perhaps falling by the wayside, do not despair. Remember what I said on Ash Wednesday, as a Church we have begun to climb the mountain of the Lord. The Lord knows that our spirit is willing but our flesh is weak. Ask Him for the grace to start over. Ask Him to give that grace to others in our parish who may also be struggling. What matters is not being successful, but struggling to be faithful.

Would you like to purchase Easter plants in memory of a loved one? If so, please call

FR. PETE (cont.)

Mary Ann as soon as possible (684-7268). There will be 30 six-inch Easter lilies at \$20.00 each; 3 eight-inch lilies at \$35.00 each; 2 Peace lilies at \$37.50 each; 2 palm plants at \$37.50 each and 5 ivy plants at \$37.50 each.

Lenten Parish Mission is coming in a few weeks. Fr. Ken of the Fathers of Mercy will lead us in a series of talks on: "Why Be Catholic." Fr. Ken was raised in the Catholic Church but chose to leave the Faith. He wandered into agnosticism and devoted his energy to his career and sports. Quite successful, he was not happy. He then wandered into a non-denominational form of Christianity. Still, he was not happy. He returned to the Catholic Faith and discovered his call to be a priest.

Fr. Ken will talk about the reasons why people stop practicing the Faith. He will do so with personal examples mixed with a wonderful sense of humor.

Fr. Ken will introduce himself and preach at all the weekend Masses of March 12 and 13. He will begin the Mission on Sunday evening, March 13 at 7:00 p.m. The Mission will be held each evening, starting at 7:00 p.m. until Thursday.

The parish will make every effort to offer babysitting at the parish hall so young parents can attend as much of the Mission as possible.

The parish will also be handing a gift to everyone who comes to the Mission. It is a gift that I believe you

will enjoy and help you in these final weeks of Lent.

Confirmation Students and their Parents.

There is a mandatory retreat on Sunday, March 13 at 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Fr. Ken will lead the retreat. Parents and Confirmation Sponsors are strongly encouraged to attend. The parish will provide lunch.

High School Students....We offer a wonderful and filling Lenten lunch at the Parish Hall on the Fridays of Lent that is absolutely free. You are welcome to bring your non-Catholic friends if you wish.

Babysitting needed for Lenten Parish Mission.

If you have passed a background check and would be willing to offer the gift of your time to babysit for an evening of the Mission week, it would be greatly appreciated. Please call Mary Ann or Fr. Pete at the Parish Office (684-7268) as soon as possible. Thank you!

Contract for replacing the Church roof was signed.

Rock Creek Roofing Inc. received the bid. Half has been paid in advance. We need to have several days of 60 degree weather for the adhesive on the shingles to seal properly. We hope to begin work as early as possible in June and be done by the end of the month. Rock Creek Roofing is aware of the weddings we have in June and will not be working those days. When this job is done we will begin work on sidewalks on the west side of the Church and then complete the landscaping by the Church's foundation. Then we will work on the sidewalk by the west side of the parish hall to improve drainage away from the building. Things will be untidy for a couple of months so please be patient.

Many thanks to Terry and Lynn Ridgeway!

The windstorm we experienced last week tore off a huge section of one of the spruce trees that is next to the shrine. The huge bough missed hitting the Church by a foot. Terry and Lynn spent most of last Saturday morning and afternoon cutting it up

into sections and hauling it off. Now, why couldn't it have been the trees in the front of the Church?

Roof on Kaycee Church to be replaced. The roof is leaking and needs to be replaced. We are in the process of getting bids. We will need permission of the owners of the building and property. A very long time ago an arrangement was made with the original landowner that so long as the building (a small farm house) was being used as a Church the people could do so without cost. The land and the building, however, remain the property of the landowner. I spoke with the current owners and they agreed to allow a roof to be placed on the building. Once a bid is selected I will obtain their written permission.

Update on the Parish Emergency Assistance Fund. For the month of January the parish distributed \$2,085.66. For the month of February the parish distributed \$1,291.83. The Fund's current balance is \$16,531.48. The most common request for assistance has been with utility bills. The parish works with Family Crisis Center to make sure the need is genuine.

"Fr. Pete....What's going on with requests for babysitting?" Our parish is shifting from being an older parish to a younger one. While I do not believe in providing babysitting for weekend Masses, a position that the Parish Council supports, there are times when offering babysitting to young couples can help them take advantage of using parish programs such as the annual Advent and Lenten Parish Missions and the gatherings offered by the Young Couple's Ministry.

"Fr. Pete...Why is Easter so early this year?"
Oh....you may regret asking!

From the earliest days of the Church when it was essentially Jewish, efforts were made to retain a connection between Pascha (Easter) and Passover. Judaism, however, measured time according to a lunar calendar while the Roman Empire used a solar calendar. As Christianity spread and more non-Jews came to the Faith the use of the solar calendar was simply accepted as standard. The result was that different Churches throughout the world celebrated Pascha (Easter) at different dates.

To overcome this the bishops of the world gathered at the first Ecumenical Council of the Church in Nicea in the year 325 to tackle a number of issues, including setting a date for Pascha. Using astronomical observations and mathematics it was decided that Pascha would fall on the first

Sunday after the first full moon occurring on or after the vernal (spring) equinox. Pascha will be delayed by one week should the full moon fall on a Sunday.

The problem, however, was not resolved but became more complicated. The bishops were using what was referred to as the Julian calendar which was shown to be inaccurate. The Church in the west adopted the Gregorian calendar. But many Churches in the east, what today we refer to as the Orthodox Churches, retained the Julian calendar. The result is that to this day Catholics and Orthodox rarely celebrate Pascha at the same time.

There have been a number of efforts to correct this state of affairs and establish a particular Sunday as the date for Easter, but thus far there has been little support for any change.

"Fr. Pete.....I really like the new lighting in the sanctuary. It makes the colors pop out!" The first thing I noticed is that I was not heating up at the altar as I did with the old lighting. Not everyone, however, is pleased. Read on...

"Fr. Pete....Why did you change the lighting in the sanctuary. It's awful! It hurts my eyes." I did not make the change. It was getting time to change the light bulbs and it was thought best to use LED's to save on energy and future bulb replacement costs. We can try what is called an "ambient" LED to see if that enhances the visual experience. If that works we will consider switching out all the lighting in the Church to LED's which will, in the long run, save the parish quite a bit in energy costs. And as we all know the insistence of the current administration in Washington to close coal powered electric plants will significantly raise our electric bills.

LEGACY PREGNANCY CENTER BABY BOTTLES available on the tables at the entrances for your Lenten almsgiving to support "life" through this Sheridan-Johnson County facility enabling pregnant mothers with their needs.

LADIES NIGHT OUT – Monday, 2/29 at 6:30pm in the hall. Bring something to eat and a game to play with the group!

ROTARY BINGO on Tuesday, March 1 in our hall at 6pm.

CONFIRMATION CLASS on Wednesday at 7pm.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BREAKFAST next Sunday, 3/6 at 9am. Donations accepted!