



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>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

Sunday, Dec. 25 – Merry Christmas!

Tuesday, Dec. 27 – NO classes

Wednesday, Dec. 28 – NO Judges study
NO CCD

Thursday, Dec. 29 – 6:30am Men of St. Joseph

Saturday, Dec. 31 – 5pm New Year's Mass

Sunday, January 1, 2017 – 8am & 10am Masses for
New Year's; Solemnity of Mary

Sunday, January 8 – 10am CCD play at Mass
9am-noon Knights' breakfast

Sunday, January 15 – 4:30pm CCW Progressive
dinner

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

CHRISTMAS
DECEMBER 25, 2016

Altar Assisters:

SATURDAY, Dec. 31, 5pm

Lector: Sarah Sandman

EM: Tim Sandman, Janelle/Phil Gonzales

Altar Servers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 8am

Lector: Richard Frankovic

EM: Volunteers

Altar Servers: Andrew Snyder, Aaron Seeman,

Aaron Thiele

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 10am

Lector: Mike Scarlett

EM: Mary Ann Cummins

Altar Servers: Lance Rabel, Adam Belus, Michael

Ihnat, Carter Zink

Homebound Ministry, Friday, December 30

Valerie Spanos

COLLECTIONS FOR WEEK OF DEC. 18 2016

St. John's	\$ 2,987.00	YTD \$ 106,204.72
St. Mary's	\$ 10.00	YTD \$ 3,093.00
St. Hubert's	\$ 325.00	YTD \$ 2,295.00
Poor Donations	\$ 140.00	
Online Donations	\$ 155.60	

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon.	12.26	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
Tue.	12.27	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
Wed.	12.28	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
Thu.	12.29	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
Fri.	12.30	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
Sat.	12.31	5:00 p.m.	Mary Mandatory
Sun.	01.01	8:00 a.m.	Maureen Dinnicenzo
		10:00 a.m.	for the parishes
		2:00 p.m.	Kaycee: Fr. Pete's intention

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon-Acts of the Apostles 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Gospel:

Matthew 10:17-22 *Saint Stephen, 1st Martyr*

Tue-1 John 1:1-4; Gospel: John 20:1a, 2-8

Saint John, Apostle & Evangelist

Wed-1 John 1:5—2:2; Gospel: Matthew 2:13-18

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

Thu-1 John 2:3-11; Gospel: Luke 2:22-35

Fri-Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Gospel: Matthew 2:13-15,

19-23 *The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph*

Sat-1 John 2:18-21; Gospel: John 1:1-18

FROM FR. PETE:

A very Blessed Christmas to all of you. Whether you are parishioners, travelers passing through town or folks here to visit with family you are all welcome. As a small gift the parish would like to offer you a book by Matthew Kelly. It is entitled Resisting Happiness. The title says it all...we are the ones that get in the way of our happiness. Consider what Mr. Kelly writes:

"Are you happy? It may be the wrong question. Most of us think we are relatively happy, while at the same time knowing that we could be happier - maybe even a lot happier. Ordinary people and the finest philosophers have been exploring the question of happiness for thousands of years, and theories abound. But this is not a book of theory. Resisting Happiness is a deeply personal, disarmingly transparent look at why we sabotage our own happiness and what to do about it.

Are you overwhelmed? Do you procrastinate? Do you sometimes feel like you are your own worst enemy? Are you ignoring your dreams? Have you lost the courage to truly be yourself? Do you feel that your life lacks meaning and purpose? Do you find yourself avoiding the real issues in your life and focusing on the superficial?

What is resistance? It is that sluggish feeling of not wanting to do something that you know is good for you. It's the inclination to do something that you unabashedly know is not good for you. It's the desire and tendency to delay something you should be doing right now.

It is resistance that stands between you and happiness. In these pages, you will learn not only what it is, but how to recognize and conquer it in your own life."

Now for those who just read all that and may be asking, "What does any of that have to do with God?" the answer is in the book! Enjoy!

A Christmas meditation from Saint Leo the Great, pope. While it is tempting to read the following with a jaundiced eye thinking that popes are expected to say such things, it would be prudent to remember that this was no ordinary pope and his was no ordinary period of time.

He was called to steer the Church as the Roman Empire was crumbling, when barbarian tribes were exacting revenge for decades of oppression and slavery, when the emperor and the senate had become functionally useless.

Leo was in Gaul (modern day France) when he was elected pope. At the time, he was settling a dispute between two Roman generals, Aetius and Albinus, a dispute that left Gaul vulnerable to attacks from barbarian tribes. Successful at achieving an agreement with the bickering generals, Leo left for Rome and was made pope on September 29, 440. Remember that Christianity had been a "legal religion" by the order of the Emperor Constantine a little over a hundred years earlier and there were many who detested Christianity.

Leo took the charge of preaching with deadly seriousness. In those days, the task of preaching was left to bishops. As pope, he had to deal with all kinds of disturbances in the Western Church created by heretics who were attempting, as all heresies do, to highjack the Church and bend her to their way of thinking. And if that was not enough to keep him busy he was called upon by the Eastern Church to settle disputes on the two natures of Christ to which he ultimately responded with what was called the Tome of Leo that was enthusiastically received and settled the matter.

In 452 King Attila of the Huns invaded Italy. He burned the city of Aquileia, sacked Milan, destroyed Pavia and was making his way to Rome. General Aetius refused to assist. The Emperor, Valentinian III, and the Senate ordered Pope Leo to negotiate with Attila. The Pope met with Attila and, amazingly, was able to convince the king to leave with his army and accept an annual tribute. Three years later King Gaiseric of the Vandals invaded Italy and

again the Pope was ordered to negotiate. Unable to convince King Gaiseric to leave, the Pope was able to persuade him that there was nothing to be gained by slaughtering the population and setting the city on fire as was the custom of invading armies and that he should settle for whatever he could pillage from the city. King Gaiseric agreed, a miracle in itself, and Rome was pillaged for a period of fifteen days. The Vandals carried off anything they could including many Romans to be sold as slaves in North Africa.

The Pope began the work of restoring order as the civil government had collapsed. It is said that he organized the repair of aqueducts to make sure fresh water came to the city and worked on trade deals to ensure a supply of wheat came to the city to feed the population. He sent priests to North Africa to provide comfort for those taken captive and where possible pay their ransom. And through all of it Leo saw to the spiritual needs of his people, preaching a message of hope to those living in a world that had gone mad. He won the esteem of believers and pagans alike.

So, as you read the following Christmas meditation, keep in mind it comes from a man who knew the horror and violence of war, the evils of the human heart, disaster, political intrigue, and theological chaos. And yet for the twenty-one years he was the Successor of St. Peter he chose to cling to hope in Christ because such hope never disappoints.

Dearly beloved, today our Savior is born; let us rejoice. Sadness should have no place on the birthday of life. The fear of death has been swallowed up; life brings us joy with the promise of eternal happiness.

No one is shut out from this joy; all share the same reason for rejoicing. Our Lord, victor over sin and death, finding no man free from sin, came to free us all. Let the saint rejoice as he sees the palm of victory at hand. Let the sinner be glad as he receives the

offer of forgiveness. Let the pagan take courage as he is summoned to life.

In the fullness of time, chosen in the unfathomable depths of God's wisdom, the Son of God took for Himself our common humanity in order to reconcile it with its creator. He came to overthrow the devil, the origin of death, in that very nature by which he had overthrown mankind.

And so, at the birth of our Lord the angels sing in joy: "Glory to God in the highest," and they proclaim "peace to His people on earth" as they see the heavenly Jerusalem being built from all the nations of the world. When the angels on high are so exultant at this marvelous work of God's goodness, what joy should it not bring to the lowly hearts of men?

Beloved, let us give thanks to God the Father, through His Son, in the Holy Spirit, because in His great love for us He took pity on us, "and when we were dead in our sins He brought us to life with Christ," so that in Him we might be a new creation. Let us throw off our old nature and all its ways and, as we have come to birth in Christ, let us renounce the works of the flesh.

Christian, remember your dignity, and now that you share in God's own nature, do not return by sin to your former base condition. Bear in mind Who is your head and of Whose body you are a member. Do not forget that you have been rescued from the power of darkness and brought into the light of God's kingdom.

Through the Sacrament of Baptism, you have become a temple of the Holy Spirit. Do not drive away so great a guest by evil conduct and

become again a slave to the devil, for your liberty was bought by the blood of Christ.

Special treat on Sunday, January 8. This is the Epiphany of the Lord, the last Sunday of Christmas. The children will perform their annual Christmas play at the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Immediately after Mass breakfast will be offered courtesy of the Knights of Columbus.

CONFIRMATION CLASS on Wednesday, January 4 at 7pm. Remember to have your homework on your confirmation saint done!

CCW PROGRESSIVE DINNER on Sunday evening, January 15 beginning at 4:30pm at the home of Nancy Gillespie (263 S Wyoming Ave) for appetizers/drinks; 5:30pm at the home of Barb Mueller (171 N Wyoming Ave) for the main course; and 6:30pm for desserts at the home of Nolcha Fox (83 E Gatchell St). Ladies, all of you are welcome to attend! Please call Mary Ann at the parish office, 684-7268 to bring one of the above items to share on our progressive dinner. Fun for all☺

MEALS-ON-WHEELS volunteers needed for January; every Monday, Wednesday & Friday. Still need 3 on each Monday, 3 on each Wednesday and 3 on each Friday! Let us practice "serving the Lord and showing mercy to His people" in this way.

RIGHT TO LIFE –Cheyenne on January 28, 2017. Guest Speaker is Dr. Alveda King (niece of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.), Director, Civil Rights of the Unborn. March is 11am at the Historic Cheyenne Depot. Banquet at 5:30pm at Little America...tickets are \$75 single; \$125 couple; \$35 child. Call Lisa, 307-221-1686 for details.

