



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>Lori Zink</i>	620-5113
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

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 307-660-4936 for meeting place

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

Religious Education / Meeting

Sunday, June 18 – HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

Wednesday, June 21 – 5:30pm CCW Progressive Dinner – 20 Rose Dr; then 81 Monument Road.

RSVP 620-9656 by Monday!

Thursday, June 22 --6:30am Men of St. Joseph
8:30am Clean hall kitchen

Monday, June 26 – 6:30pm Ladies' Night Out

FEAST OF CORPUS CHRISTI

JUNE 18, 2017

Altar Assisters:

SATURDAY, June 24, 5pm

Lector: Colleen Donahue

EM: Janelle Gonzales

Altar Servers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, June 25, 8am

Lector: Rick Smithers

EM: Volunteer

Altar Servers: Volunteers

SUNDAY, June 25, 10am

Lector: Volunteer

EM: Volunteer

Altar Servers: Volunteers

Homebound Ministry, Friday, June 23

Liz Camino-Ramsey

COLLECTIONS FOR WEEK OF JUNE 11, 2017

St. John's	\$ 3,797.00	YTD \$ 203,378.24
St. Mary's	\$ 342.00	YTD \$ 6,151.00
St. Hubert's	\$	YTD \$ 4,185.25
Poor Donations	\$ 145.00	
Online Donations	\$ 546.20	

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon.	06.19	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
Tue.	06.20	8:00 a.m.	+Joanne Bogus
Wed.	06.21	8:00 a.m.	+Francis Hardy
Thu.	06.22	8:00 a.m.	+Harvey Beattie
Fri.	06.23	8:00 a.m.	+Harvey Beattie
		8:30 a.m.	Adoration until 9:30 a.m.
Sat.	06.24	5:00 p.m.	+Valorie Coda
Sun.	06.25	8:00 a.m.	+Valorie Coda
		10:00 a.m.	for the parishes
		12:30 p.m.	Clearmont: Fr. Pete's intention

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon-2 Corinthians 6:1-10; Gospel: Matthew 5:38-42
Tue-2 Corinthians 8:1-9; Gospel: Matthew 5:43-48
Wed-2 Corinthians 9:6-11; Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18
Saint Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious
Thu-2 Corinthians 11:1-11; Gospel: Matthew 6:7-15
Fri-Deuteronomy 7:6-11; 1 John 4:7-16; Gospel:
Matthew 11:25-30 *The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus*
Sat-Isaiah 49:1-6; Acts of the Apostles 13:22-26;
Gospel: Luke 1:57-66, 80

FROM FR. PETE:

A mediation on the Eucharist by Pope Benedict XVI:

What is the precise significance of today's solemnity, of the Body and Blood of Christ? The answer is given to us in the fundamental actions of this celebration we are carrying out: first of all we gather around the altar of the Lord, to be together in His presence; secondly, there will be the procession, that is walking with the Lord; and lastly kneeling before the Lord, adoration, which already begins in the Mass and accompanies the entire procession but culminates in the final moment of the Eucharistic Blessing when we all prostrate ourselves before the One Who stooped down to us and gave His life for us....

Corpus Christi (Body of Christ) reminds us, first of all, of this: that being Christian means coming together from all parts of the world to be in the Presence of the One Lord and to become one with Him and in Him...

With the gift of Himself in the Eucharist the Lord Jesus set us free from our "paralysis," He helps us up and enables us to proceed, that is, He makes us take a step ahead and then another step, and thus sets us going with the power of the Bread of Life...

The Corpus Christi procession teaches us that the Eucharist seeks to free us from every kind of despondency and discouragement, wants to raise us, so that we can set out on the journey with the strength God gives us through Jesus Christ...

Each one can find his own way if he encounters the One Who is the Word and the Bread of Life, and let's himself be guided by His friendly presence. Without the God-with-us, the God Who is close, how can we stand up to the pilgrimage through life, either on our own or as society and the family of peoples? The Eucharist is the Sacrament of the God Who does not leave us alone on the journey but stays at our side and shows us the way....

God created us free but He did not leave us alone: He made Himself the "way" and came to walk together with us so that in our freedom we should also have the criterion we need to discern the right way and to take it....

Adoring the God of Jesus Christ, Who out of love made Himself bread broken, is the most effective and radical remedy against the idolatry of

the past and of the present. Kneeling before the Eucharist is a profession of freedom: those who bow to Jesus cannot and must not prostrate themselves before any earthy authority, however powerful....

We prostrate ourselves before a God Who first bent over man like the Good Samaritan to assist him and restore his life, and Who knelt before us to wash our dirty feet. Adoring the Body of Christ means believing that there, in that piece of Bread, Christ is really there, and gives true sense to life, to the immense universe as to the smallest creature, to the whole of human history as to the most brief existence. Adoration is prayer that prolongs the celebration and Eucharistic Communion and in which the soul continues to be nourished: it is nourished with love, truth, peace; it is nourished with hope, because the One before Whom we prostrate ourselves does not judge us, does not crush us, but liberates and transforms us.

This is why gathering, walking and adoring together fills us with joy.

A wonderful Father's Day to all the dads. Let us also honor our stepfathers, foster fathers and all the men that played and may still play a "fatherly" role in our lives. Let us remember, as well, our fathers who passed from this life and are now with the Father.

Registration for adult faith formation courses begins next weekend. Course descriptions are available this weekend. This is rather early but classes start in early September which means books must be ordered in the early to middle part of August so they can be distributed in time to begin the weekly reading assignments.

A course description is given for each topic along with meeting day and time and the price of the book.

Please understand that if you register for a course a book will be ordered and you are expected to pay for it whether you attend the discussions or not.

An experiment. There will be a few weeks this summer when there will not be a Sunday bulletin. It will, however, be published on the parish website as it normally is and on the "My Parish" app that can be downloaded by those who have a smart

phone. We want to see if we can get along without publishing a hard copy of the bulletin.

Why are we doing this?

First, it is not clear how many bother to read the bulletin.

Second, people will take a bulletin but then stuff it in the pew racks or leave it at the Church entrance and it has to be thrown out.

Third, the costs of paper and toner are increasing. Those expenses could be significantly reduced by eliminating the Sunday bulletin.

Fourth, we can prolong the life of the copy machine. Its primary use is to publish the bulletin. This again could result in savings for the parish.

Realizing that there are some who do not have access to a computer or to a smart / android phone we can publish 50 copies placed in a box marked "RESERVED FOR THOSE WITHOUT A COMPUTER".

After the summer, we will review how the experiment went and see if this is something we can do permanently.

"Fr. Pete.... I heard about the note you have on the rectory door. I didn't believe it until I read it for myself. It's terrible! You are telling people that they are not welcome to our community! What a lack of charity. What would Pope Francis say?"

The note you refer to reads: ***"We do not provide motel rooms during the summer months (May thru October). We do not provide vouchers for gas. You may go to the Police Station (639 Fort Street). You will most likely be asked to show a valid driver's license and proof of insurance."*** What have been the results? The "transient community" has its own communication network and the word is out. There has been a significant drop in those ringing the doorbell. Why? Seems a lot of these individuals want to avoid the police.

Who are these people? The majority are men. A very small portion are professional drifters who like this life style and believe that it is their right to live off the charity of others. Many, however, if not most, suffer from a mental illness to one degree or another. They alienated themselves from their families or their behavior became so bizarre their families abandoned them.

I have called these families from time to time and their stories are heartbreaking. Some exhausted the limited resources of their home communities and hit the road. Some are veterans who distrust the VA system. Some are very delusional, convinced that one government agency or another is planting chips in their brains. Almost all refuse to take their medications but will often self-medicate with alcohol or illegal drugs which only makes their behavior more bizarre and makes them vulnerable to exploitation by predatory characters.

Under the restrictions of current laws there is little that can be done to compel these people to get the long term help they really need nor does their impaired mental state incline them to accept such help. As one fellow succinctly yelled at me, "I'm not crazy. It's the rest of you who are crazy." Mind you, he was wearing a winter coat and hat on a July afternoon and talked to the birch tree in the front yard as if it was a person.

The police can only intervene if the person is a danger to himself or others. I have seen our police officers deal with such individuals calmly, professionally and compassionately, protecting the rights of the individual while concerned about the safety of others. But there is just so much the police can do.

Two fundamental changes are needed, if we have the stomach to take on a society that exalts individualism at all costs. First and foremost, health insurance coverage for those with mental illness should be the same as for those who suffer from a physical illness. All forms of mental illness are ultimately diseases of the brain. Health insurance covers diseases of all other organs but is very limited in covering diseases of the brain. Second, laws that balance the rights of the mentally ill and the rights of the larger community must be developed where the mentally ill can be compelled to take their medications so they can function in the larger community and return to their families. Otherwise communities are reduced to applying expensive "band aid" measures; a trip to the ER, prescribing medication which is usually not taken, release back into the community with on-going needs for food and shelter, or a bus ticket to move the person to another town only to see the cycle repeated because the root cause has not

been addressed. Those are the realities all in our community have to deal with. None know this broken, illogical system better than the police, mental health workers, ER doctors, and pastors who see this sad scenario played out time and time again.

I spoke two weeks ago with Chief Carder of the Buffalo Police Department. I indicated that I am referring transients to the Police Station. While the police cannot possibly verify the legitimacy of every story they are given, they are very perceptive in noting inconsistencies and can check to see if there is a criminal record or possibly an arrest warrant. I informed Chief Carder that if a police officer determines that a transient's need for lodging is genuine or there is a need to get that person a bus ticket the parish will be happy to help. (I apply this same principle to referrals from social service agencies in the community, hospital staff, the VA, mental health services and other pastors whose resources are limited).

Just recently a similar procedure of referring transients to the Police Department was adopted by a number of pastors in the Buffalo Ministerial Association (BMA). This move was initiated by a pastor who was alarmed at the huge expense the BMA has recently absorbed to shelter or move transients on.

As to your question of what the Pope would think of my note on the door, I don't care. All the Churches in our community are doing what can be done to help meet the needs of the "transient community" with the resources we have. I cannot speak for other pastors, only myself. My first priority has to be those who live in Johnson County. I can spend a few hundred dollars to cover someone's lodging, food, medicines that most likely will not be taken and a bus ticket to get the person out of town or help someone in our community or Kaycee pay their rent and utility bills or help the Food Pantry. Which do you think should be the priority?

If you believe more should be done for the "transient community", please consider gathering like-minded people together. Let's begin a conversation with all the agencies in our community on how to best serve this population. Perhaps this can be the beginning of needed reforms. I would be sincerely happy to be part of such an endeavor.