



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: frpete307@gmail.com
Mary Ann: sjbc532@gmail.com
Carol Gagliano: Gagliano.carol@gmail.com

St. John the Baptist Church

Saturday 5:00 PM
Sunday 9:00 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 Leader	<i>Lori Zink</i>	620-5113
Finance Council Chair	<i>Steve Reimann</i>	217-0119
Janitor	<i>Mick Camino</i>	217-1575
K of C Grand Knight	<i>Jason Sutton</i>	217-0468
Organist	<i>Judi Semroska</i>	684-2171
Parish Council Chair	Vacant	
Religious Education	<i>Carol Gagliano</i>	684-7217
Trustees	<i>Jean Urruty</i>	684-7093
	<i>Phil Gonzales</i>	684-5920
Choir	<i>Tony Fox</i>	310-339-9162

Religious Education / Meeting

Sunday, April 12 – Easter – KC Breakfast

Baptisms – Please call Fr. Pete, 684-7268

Marriage – Planning and preparation 6 months in advance

Prayer line Requests – Jan Edgcomb – jmpe@wyoming.com or Honey Harriet, 620-1890

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

March 22, 2020

Altar Assistants:

SATURDAY, March 28, 5pm

Lector:

EM:

CUP: None

Altar Servers:

SUNDAY, March 29, 9am

Lector:

EM:

CUP: None

Altar Servers:

Homebound Ministry, Friday, March 21

COLLECTIONS FOR WEEK March 15, 2020

St. John's	\$ 3,044.10	YTD \$ 132,648.08
St. Mary's	\$	YTD \$ 4,074.00
St. Hubert's	\$ 167.00	YTD \$ 3,702.00
Poor Donations	\$ 140.00	
Online donations	\$	

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon.	03.23		No Mass
Tue.	03.24	6:00 p.m.	For our community
Wed.	03.25	6:00 p.m.	For our community
Thu.	03.26	6:00 p.m.	For our community
Fri.	03.27	8:30 a.m.	Adoration: only ten people permitted
		6:00 p.m.	For our community
Sat.	03.28	5:00 p.m.	No Mass
Sun.	03.29	9:00 a.m.	For our community

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon-2 Kings 5:1-15b; 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-2 Samuel 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16; Romans 4:13, 16-18, 22; Gospel: Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a
Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Fri-Hosea 14:2-10; Gospel: Mark 12:28-34
Sat-Hosea 6:1-6; Gospel: Luke 18:9-14

FR. PETE:

The following was written by Sister Aemiliana, a German Benedictine nun who wrote about the liturgy. She passed into eternal life in 1972. It is a reflection on this Sunday's Gospel reading of the healing of the man born blind in John 9:1-41.

The Fathers see in this healing the direct continuation of the creation of Adam. In the beginning, they say, God formed a body from the earth and breathed the breath of life into it. Now, in the fullness of time, the Logos (the Word of God) made man, the right hand of the Father and creator, comes to heal the man whom Satan's darkness has made blind. And, that there may be no doubt that here is nothing except the continuation of that initial work...Jesus takes a bit of "the earth's slime," makes clay of it, and puts it on the eye of the blind man. The incarnate God moistens the earth with His spittle. Things of heaven and things of earth, earth's matter and God's life, just come together to make man and to make him anew. But the third element, the real new creation, the purification from what is old, from the corruption of sin, the healing from the blindness of sin as it is given to us, is water, the image of baptism.

The water takes his sickness from man, his leprosy and blindness. The name of the pool points to the mystical character of this water. It is called *Missus*, the one sent. Christ Himself, the Messiah Whom the Father has sent is the pool, as He is the living water which fills the well of His Church; His blood poured out on the cross is the healing water for man, made sick and blind through sin. The death of Christ is his baptism for the forgiveness of sin and the illumination of his mind. It gives health and light, purity from sin, and faith. "I went and washed and saw, and I found faith in God" is the joyful speech of the man born blind in the sin of Adam and now healed...

The Church could not express more immediately or spontaneously her deep belief in the presence of the saving action of the new creation, when she celebrates the Mass... Christ is present, He holds the earth which heals in His hand: it is His sacred flesh, His human, earthly body. The mysterious pool of Siloam is represented by the chalice, with its

precious water and blood from the wound in the side of the crucified. Everything is ready for healing and for illumination. And we who were born blind are there. Baptism has indeed given us sight.

So.... how is everyone holding up? Thus far I have only had to go to the pharmacy and the supermarket once to re-supply and it was alarming to see all the frenetic activity in both places in stark contrast to the “deadness” of downtown. The grocery store clerks were working at full throttle just to keep the shelves stocked. Our country has one heck of a supply system. Not too many countries can boast of enterprising companies like ours. I hope the stores will consider having a day and a time set aside for senior citizens to shop so their exposure to the virus is minimized and they aren't overwhelmed by all the activity.

I have been impressed by the generosity of people. I received emails from folks asking if I need anything. My needs are really quite minimal and I'm doing just fine thanks. But if you have a surplus of food items please consider giving what you can to the Food Pantry. One couple pulled into the driveway with a box of supplies and said I could take whatever I wanted. The only thing I really needed was a container of bleach (couldn't find any in the stores), though I confess being unable to turn down a loaf of homemade bread! That was very kind of them and I asked that they consider giving what they didn't need to the Food Pantry.

It feels very odd to walk around the Church and the parish plant without all the usual commotion. Way too quiet for my tastes!

We are facing difficult and uncertain times as a community and as a nation. If each of us, however, makes the effort to reach out to another to help as best as we are able, we will make it. We will emerge from this crisis much stronger. Americans are generous people and known to ban together in such moments.

I have been thinking lately that communist China used the iron fist of its government to force her people to its will. Our government has called upon the moral instincts of our people to place the best interests of the common good above personal interests. Despite all the political divisiveness that has

been ripping us apart, we are responding and doing what we can to assist those most severely impacted. We are indeed a great nation.

Did you get the letter I sent? Every registered parishioner should have received a letter outlining the most recent information the Bishop has shared with his priests. The Bishop is doing his best to follow guidelines from the Center for Disease Control. If you did not receive this letter please call the Parish Office ASAP and make sure that Mary Ann has you registered on the computer. That letter will be sent out to you. As new information comes in, I will do my best to get it out to you.

How to communicate with each other? If you need to visit with me, call me. We can visit on the phone. If you prefer to communicate via email feel free to do so but please know that whatever you send via email remains forever in the realm of cyberspace. I delete all communications but it is impossible to guarantee absolute privacy with this technology. And there is that long-lost art of letter writing.

I am asking Mary Ann to start a file for all who have a computer and an email address so we can reach them as quickly as possible. This will take a bit of time on her part. If you have changed your email address in the last few months, please call the parish office and let us know so we can update our information.

I have asked several people in the parish to take on a ministry of calling our senior citizens to check on them and see if they are in need of anything: food, medicines, etc. It is also a good way to combat the isolation that some are experiencing. The caller will identify himself / herself. If you do not want them to call, just tell them and they will respect your wishes.

I would like to send a letter out each week but the postage costs are prohibitive. So, I will use the parish bulletin which will appear on the parish website. If you know someone who does not have a computer but would like a bulletin sent to their home please have the person call the Parish Office and let Mary Ann know. We will be happy to send them one.

To show you how fast best practices are changing.... As of March 19, the Bishop's Office

has ordered that priests are not permitted to hear confessions unless a person is in danger of death.

The Sacrament of the Sick is permitted but only if the person is in danger of death.

It used to be that a group of 10 was permitted but new Center for Disease Control guidelines are urging that no gatherings should happen. The Bishop has therefore suspended Adoration and Stations of the Cross.

The Church will be open starting Tuesday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for private prayer but people are asked to keep a six-foot distance from each other.

As of March 20, we are discouraging people from dropping in at the parish office. If you must drop in you are asked to keep your visit very short and keep a six-foot distance from staff. It would be better if you could call to see if we can resolve your concern over the phone. Sadly, the days of dropping in, visiting and sharing a cup of coffee are over for the time being.

How are you using your time? What do you find helpful? Drop me a line and share what's working for you. I will put it in the bulletin! It might help others.

When will parish life get back to normal? We simply don't know. I think it is a given that there will not be any Holy Week or Easter Liturgies this year.

“Fr. Pete...What are we going to do for palms?”

There won't be any. As soon as our supplier, Gerkens Church Supply in Denver, heard that there would not be a Good Friday Liturgy in Wyoming (and a number of Churches in Colorado) all palm orders were cancelled. That was a wise move and I'm grateful Gerkens had our back. It will save the parish hundreds of dollars.

“Fr. Pete.... Are you making communion calls?”

The Bishop has asked priests to not make routine communion calls unless the person is in danger of death. His goal is simple: to do what we can to stop spreading the virus. I don't like not going, but I understand his reasoning. Eucharistic Ministers are not permitted to bring communion to the homebound or to the nursing homes for the same reason.

“Fr. Pete...How will this impact weddings?” If the crisis continues into the summer months, as some authorities believe it will, the current policy is that a couple can postpone their wedding to another day and time or if they must keep their current day and time they may have only 10 people in attendance (bride, groom, two witnesses and priest make 5 with only 5 family members permitted). To say this is unpopular is an understatement. Keep in mind the number 10 had been the standard used by the Center

for Disease Control. Let us hope things soon change for the better.

ATTENTION all graduating high school seniors!

Applications for the James & Matilda Goar Scholarship Program, administered by the Holy Name School Foundation, are available from the church office or your high school counselor's office. The Scholarship is \$4000 per year, up to five years, for a total of \$20,000. The scholarship is available only to Johnson and Sheridan County residents, and is based on economic need, scholastic achievement and involvement in parish and community activities. All applications must be received by May 1, 2020 to the Holy Name School Foundation at PO Box 6611, Sheridan, WY 82801. For further information, please contact Dr. Pat Meehan at 674-7339 or John Rotellini at 752-2742.

DIOCESE OF CHEYENNE OPENINGS:

1. Website/Social Media Assistant – Under the direction of the Director of Communications, develop and maintain the Diocese of Cheyenne main Website and publish information using web-based software tools; assist other diocesan staff members in maintaining their Webpages as needed; post messages consistent with Diocese of Cheyenne policies, goals, and guidelines to social media platforms, including Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Some consideration to qualified candidates who reside outside of Cheyenne will be given.
 2. Finance Specialist II – The Finance Specialist II performs cash receipts, receivable, payroll, fixed assets and investments. Prepares and posts journal entries and insures a balanced general ledger with all other supporting systems. Assists Chief Financial Officer with the annual audit for the Diocese.
 3. Assistant Director of Pastoral Formation – This position collaborates closely with the Director of Pastoral Formation to coordinate youth ministries through retreats, diocesan trips, and inclusion of adult and youth leaders in decision-making processes. Some consideration to highly qualified candidates who reside outside of Cheyenne will be given.
- APPLICATION PROCESS** – submit an application, Letter of Interest and a Resume by mail, email or in-person by April 12, 2020 for any of the openings to: Tammy Skala, Human Resource Director, Diocese of Cheyenne, 2121 Capital Ave, Cheyenne, WY 82001, tskala@dioceseofcheyenne.org. Tel: 307-638-1530.