



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>

Foundation – www.SJBC-Foundation.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

Religious Education / Meeting

Sunday, Dec. 13 – 5pm Youth Group
Wednesday, Dec. 16 – 3:45pm & 7pm CCD
Sunday, Dec. 20 – NO Youth Group
Wednesday, Dec. 23 – 9am decorate church
Christmas Eve Masses – 3pm, 5pm, 7pm
Christmas Day Masses – 7am, 9am, 11am

Email:

St. John's: sjbc532@gmail.com
Fr. Pete: frpete307@gmail.com
Mary Ann: sjbc532@gmail.com
Carol Gagliano: Gagliano.carol@gmail.com

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

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 13, 2020

Altar Assisters:

SATURDAY, Dec. 19, 5pm

Lector:

EM:

CUP: None

Altar Servers:

SUNDAY, Dec. 20, 9am

Lector:

EM:

CUP: None

Altar Servers:

Homebound Ministry, Friday, Dec. 18

COLLECTIONS FOR WEEK Dec. 6, 2020

St. John's	\$ 3245.05	YTD \$ 74,588.14
St. Mary's	\$	YTD \$ 2333.00
St. Hubert's	\$ 190.00	YTD \$ 7855.00
Poor Donations	\$ 491.00	
Online	\$ 2142.00	

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon.	12.14	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
Tue.	12.15	8:00 a.m.	+Robert Vane Burns
Wed.	12.16	8:00 a.m.	+Bill Huddleston
Thu.	12.17	8:00 a.m.	John Hoffman
Fri.	12.18	8:00 a.m.	John Hoffman
		8:30 a.m.	Adoration
		9:30 a.m.	Reposition
Sat.	12.19	5:00 p.m.	John Hoffman
Sun.	12.20	9:00 a.m.	John Hoffman
		2:00 p.m.	Kaycee: for the parishes

Scripture Readings for the coming week:

Mon.	12.14	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17; Ps 25:2-9; Mt 21:23-27
Tue.	12.15	Zep 3:1-13; Ps 34:2-23; Mt 21:28-32
Wed.	12.16	Is 45:6-25; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 7L18-23
Thu.	12.17	Gn 49:2-10; Ps 72:3-17; Mt 1:1-17
Fri.	12.18	Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-19; Mt 1:18-25
Sat.	12.19	Jgs 13:2-25; Ps 71:3-17; Lk 1:5-25
Sun.	12.20	Sm 7:1-16; Ps 89:2-29; Lk 1:26-38

FR. PETE:

Deacon Jay Garland will lead the parish in a **Respect Life Holy Hour - Wednesday, December 23, 7:00 p.m.** Come pray for each human life - the dignity and sanctity - the inestimable worth especially the least of God's children.

During this Eucharistic Holy Hour, we will be praying a rosary of life - the Luminous Mysteries - and hear from Pope St. John Paul II's encyclical the *Gospel of Life, Evangelium Vitae*, in which he states; "the unconditional respect for the right to life of every innocent person - from conception to natural death which is one of the pillars on which every civil society stands.....It is impossible to further the common good without acknowledging and defending the right to life, upon which all the other inalienable rights of the individual are founded and from which they develop" (The Gospel of Life, paragraph 101).

This Advent spend time with our Eucharistic Lord, the One Who is and Who was and Who is to come. He is the One Who can lead us to a culture of life.

The following article was sent to me by the Catholic League, an excellent source of information on what is going on in the life of the Church. The Catholic League actively defends the Church from the attacks of bigots, the ignorant, and manipulative politicians. It is an organization that deserves our support.

Covid's Mental Health Effects Vary Widely

December 7, 2020

Catholic League president Bill Donohue comments on a [new Gallup poll on mental health](#):

Covid-19's effects on our physical health is clear cut: we are witnessing a surge in infections, hospitalizations and deaths. We are also witnessing a surge in mental health

problems. Now we have the results of a new Gallup poll that offers rich demographic detail.

The segment of the public that is experiencing the most dramatic effects of Covid-19 are young single women who identify as liberals and are not religious. The segment that is suffering the least mental health problems are older married men who identify as conservatives and are church-goers. [Note: I am using the term liberal for what the poll names as Democrats, and conservative for what are identified as Republicans.]

All of this is consistent with what I found in my 2015 book, [*The Catholic Advantage: Why Health, Happiness, and Heaven Await the Faithful.*](#)

Of all the demographic categories—sex, party affiliation, religiosity, race, age, and income—there is only one subgroup that is actually reporting better mental health than a year ago: those who attend religious services on a weekly basis (they experienced a 4% increase—every other category and subgroup witnessed a decrease).

We have known for years that there is a positive correlation between those who score high on religiosity (beliefs and practices) and physical health; the more religious the person is, the healthier he is likely to be. The correlation is even higher when measures of mental health are weighed.

What causes this phenomenon? Beliefs are related to bonding, and bonding keeps us mentally fit. The obverse—secular-minded people who are unattached and without strong family and friendship bonds—are the most at risk for loneliness, depression and suicide.

Young unmarried people do not enjoy, on average, the strong bonds that older married persons enjoy. Women are particularly given to problems when social bonds are weak. Liberals tend to be secularists and they lack the bonding that religious persons experience through prayer.

In my book, I contrasted two very different segments of the population: cloistered nuns and Hollywood celebrities. The former were by far the healthiest, both in terms of physical and mental health. They bonded with each other, horizontally, and with God, vertically. Such a tight-knit lifestyle explains why they are also the happiest. By contrast, the self-

absorbed milieu that Hollywood is noted for works against social bonding. Hence, the surfeit of mental problems that mark Tinseltown.

Here's the bottom line: The growing secularization of our society, combined with a less than friendly environment for people of faith to operate in, is a threat to our mental health.

Everyone knows we can't beat Mother Nature. What everyone does not know is that we can't beat nature's God, either. Going it alone is not in our best interest.

Phone: 212-371-3191

E-mail: pr@catholicleague.org

Christmas Masses are already filling up.

Please keep in mind that in order to accommodate "safe distancing" requirements within the Church's small space we cannot have more than 65 individuals at any given Mass. If you wish to reserve a spot for yourself and your family you must register by calling the parish (684-7268) and letting us know how many will be attending.

The Christmas Eve Masses are **FULL**.

The Christmas Morning Masses are:
7:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., and 11:00 a.m.

Confessions during the remainder of

Advent. I will offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation on the following days and times:

Tue. 12.15	7:00 p.m.
Wed.12.16	7:00 p.m.
Thu. 12.17	7:00 p.m.
Fri. 12.18	7:00 p.m.
Sat. 12.19	11:00 a.m.
	6:00 p.m. (after Mass)
Tue. 12.22	7:00 p.m.
Wed.12.23	7:00 p.m.

Confessions will be heard in the Baptistry. Please remember that face masks are required. Thank you.

"Fr. Pete...Aren't we buying poinsettias for the Church? Normally you advertise this by now." I have decided not to ask people to buy the traditional Christmas plants. For a lot of folks money is getting tight. We have enough artificial flowers to decorate the sanctuary.

I would ask, however, that if you were intending to purchase a plant for the Sanctuary you consider donating that money to a

community charity: the Family Crisis Center, the Food Pantry, the Boys and Girls Club, the Salvation Army, or our Parish Emergency Assistance Fund to name but a few. Every charitable organization that serves people in Buffalo and Kaycee could use a bit of help at this time.

I am anticipating the next few months to be especially tough for those who are already on the edge and may not be able to pay their rent, utilities bills, medicines or have enough to buy groceries.

“Fr. Pete...Why is the roof over the new bathroom so tall?” The east and west walls were designed with “buttresses” much like the “flying buttresses” of Notre Dame in Paris. These “buttresses” redirect the stresses of the roof to the sides of the Church. But there are no “buttresses” on the north and south ends of the Church. This means that special trusses had to be constructed to compensate for the stresses created by the new construction. And these trusses required a high-pitched roof. In addition, we are utilizing current roofing technology to prevent what we have had every winter in that section of the roof: a buildup of ice and snow that can do considerable damage over the long term.

“Fr. Pete...Why can’t we extend the new bathroom construction to the alley and create office space?” We can do whatever you want. How are you paying for it? Feel free to discuss this with your next pastor. It’s not right for me to have all the fun.

“Fr. Pete...When can we get the Fathers of Mercy out here? We’ve had them almost every Advent and Lent you’ve been here.” I am hoping that we can have them out next Advent.

“Fr. Pete...Is Fr. Larry going to come out for Christmas?” Fr. Larry and I talked about this and we agreed that given all the concerns about the pandemic, warnings from the Center for Disease Control that people stay home and refrain from travel and being in large gatherings to prevent a surge in COVID cases, he will not be coming out this year.

I strongly suggest that people seriously weigh the long-term risks of spreading this disease by having guests and visitors against any short-term benefits.

CCW LADIES – Gray Ladies’ Cookie distribution to the shut-ins of our community will be Thursday, Dec. 17. Cookies can be dropped off at the parish hall on Wednesday, Dec. 16 from 3:30-5pm. If you need your cookies picked up, call 620-0850 (Claudia Elliott). We will wear masks and gloves when we put the cookie plates together. The Senior Center will deliver these plates with Meals on Wheels deliveries. Consider donating 2 dozen cookies. Thanks so much 😊



The St. John the Baptist Foundation has a website www.SJBC-Foundation.com. They recently gifted the church \$35,000.00.

“The happiness you are seeking, the happiness you have a right to enjoy, has a name and a face: it is Jesus of Nazareth.” – Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI

COOKIES/GOODIES – Anyone wishing to do some extra baking and make cookies, bars, etc. for the staff of Amie Holt, the hospital or the Urgent Care, is encouraged to do so with a note of thanksgiving for all they have had to do above and beyond the ordinary since March. God bless you with this act of kind service and God bless them!