



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

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

Friday, May 14 – Ordination of Seth Hostetler to deaconate @ Holy Name Church
Sat-Sun, May 15-16 – Deacon Seth Hostetler to assist at Masses @ St. John's
Monday, May 17 – 7pm Holy Hour
Sunday, May 23 – Easter Egg Hunt!
June 7-11 – Vacation Bible School

Parish Staff

Pastor	<i>Fr. Pete Johnson</i>	684-7268
Parish Administrator	<i>Mary Ann Cummins</i>	684-7268
CCW Leader	<i>Nolcha Fox</i>	620-0296
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

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 9, 2021

Altar Assisters:

SATURDAY, May 15, 5pm

Lector: Dennis Lawrence

SUNDAY, May 16, 9am

Lector: Gene Gagliano

COLLECTIONS FOR WEEK May 2, 2021

St. John's	\$ 2,625.00	YTD \$144,491.66
St. Mary's	\$ 40.00	YTD \$ 4,726.00
St. Hubert's	\$ 80.00	YTD \$ 10,140.00
Poor Donations	\$ 556.00	
Online	\$	

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon.	05.10	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
Tue.	05.11	8:00 a.m.	+Gustavo and Angela Colom
Wed.	05.12	8:00 a.m.	Alan H.
Thu.	05.13	8:00 a.m.	+Gustavo and Angela Colom
Fri.	05.14	8:00 a.m.	Alan H.
		8:30 a.m.	Adoration
		9:30 a.m.	Reposition
Sat.	05.15	5:00 p.m.	+Gustavo and Angela Colom
Sun.	05.16	9:00 a.m.	Alan H.
		2:00 p.m.	Kaycee: for the parishes

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon-Acts of the Apostles 16:11-15; Gospel: John 15:26—16:4a

Tue-Acts of the Apostles 16:22-34; Gospel: John 16:5-11

Wed-Acts of the Apostles 17:15, 22-1118:1; Gospel: John 16:12-15

Thu-Acts of the Apostles 18:1-8; Gospel: John 16:16-20

Fri-Acts of the Apostles 1:15-17, 20-26; Gospel: John 15:9-17 Saint Matthias, Apostle

Sat-Acts of the Apostles 18:21-28; Gospel: John 16:23b-28

VBS – to borrow: 1. Portable spotlight
2. child's train set (buildable) with track.

VBS NEEDED – PVC gutter, 4-5 pieces;
Gray foam pipe insulation (pieces ok);
Clear plastic bins (9"x12")

FR. PETE:

Happy Mothers' Day to all the mothers, grandmothers, foster mothers, and all the women in our lives who had a "motherly" role.

Something is rotten in Finland. A Finnish doctor and member of her nation's parliament, Dr. Paivi Rasanen, age 61 and mother of five has been under investigation for over two years by Finnish legal authorities. Recently she was formally charged with a serious crime and faces up to two years in prison, possibly more.

Her crime? She is a Christian who publicly defended the truth about marriage.

Dr. Rasanen is a devout Lutheran. The official church of Finland is the Evangelical Lutheran Church which has embraced much of the gay agenda. The doctor ran afoul of church officials when she questioned the appropriateness of the church's involvement with a gay pride event held in Helsinki in 2019. She appeared on a televised news program where she explained her position and, with the help of a pastor, published a pamphlet defending marriage as a union between a man and a woman. She threw fuel on the fire by posting a tweet in which she quoted St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 1:24-27. Finnish authorities are investigating the television station and the publisher of the pamphlet. I am not aware of any charges being made against either.

The doctor is charged with inciting hatred toward homosexuals and "ethnic agitation." Does Finnish law recognize homosexual persons as an ethnic group?

Dr. Rasanen stated, "I cannot accept that voicing my religious beliefs could mean imprisonment." Her lack of awareness of how intolerant a politically correct and "woke" government can be was a serious miscalculation on her part.

Sadly, this is not the only case in Europe where Christians are charged with hate crimes because they uphold Biblical teaching. It will happen here. You can bet on it, unless we "wake up," not allow ourselves to be intimidated by the zombies of political correctness, and put those who uphold truth into political office.

Peter's Pence Collection. You might recall that in June of last year I asked people not to contribute to the Peter's Pence Collection that allegedly assists the Pope with his various charities to help those suffering the effects of war, disease, or natural disasters. I indicated there was mounting evidence

that the majority of the money raised was not going to those noble purposes but to far less noble ones. I repeat the warning.

The Italian newspaper, *L'Espresso*, published a story claiming that over 560 million dollars was spent on what it called "speculative operations." It further alleged that millions were spent investing in Sir Elton John's movie "Rocketman" as well as luxury condominiums. The paper also reported that donations were placed in investments. It estimated that less than 10% of donations went to the stated purposes of the Peter's Pence Collection. Think that's bad? Read on.

In January 2020 a lawsuit was filed against the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) as part of a Class Action suit initiated by a Catholic layman, Mr. David O'Connell. The essence of the lawsuit boils down to this: the USCCB is accused of knowingly and deliberately misleading Catholics about the Peter's Pence Collection. I have no legal training but that sounds like a charge of fraud. In short it is being argued that the bishops knew there has been a huge discrepancy between the stated purpose of the Peter's Pence Collection and how the money is actually spent and they failed in their responsibility to inform the people. The Bishops lawyers argue, essentially, that it is laypeople's fault for not knowing where the money was really going and that the USCCB has no fiduciary responsibility to the laity! It will be interesting to see how this plays itself out as it churns through the courts.

I have said it before: not one penny of American money should go to the Vatican until there is full financial disclosure and accountability. The Vatican is in a state of financial chaos and corruption not seen since the Reformation. The days in which we simply "trust" those in authority with our money are over. To be fair it must be pointed out that Pope Francis recently created a new law for Vatican employees, both laymen and clergy, which forbids them from accepting gifts exceeding 40 Euros (about \$50.00 American dollars) and that their personal investments cannot be in anything contrary to Catholic social doctrine or come from illegal sources. This is certainly welcomed news and the Holy Father is to be congratulated for his leadership. Much more, however, has to be done. The Vatican has a long way to go to earn our trust and our money.

If you want to donate to the Peter's Pence Collection an envelope will be in your packet. The parish office will deposit it in the weekend collection and then make a check out to the Diocese of Cheyenne which will forward it to Rome as is

usually done. *Understand that in all likelihood you are just throwing your money into the wind at best or contributing to an immoral venture at worst.* You have no guarantee your donation will help those in need. It would be much better, for the time being, if your donation went to our local food pantry, or another local charity. At least you can be certain it is being used for its intended purpose.

Lessening of COVID restrictions. As I shared last weekend after the Masses, there has been a substantial reduction in COVID restrictions.

Effective May 14 all parishes can do the following:

---**No capacity restrictions!** Come to whatever Mass you want! No need to call the parish office to register! Praise be to God!

---**Face masks are encouraged for all**, especially for those who have not been vaccinated. If you don't want to wear one, then don't. Clergy must continue to wear a face mask during entrance processions and when distributing Holy Communion.

---**Altar servers may hold the Missal and carry candles for the Gospel.**

---**Deacons may elevate the Chalice.**

---**Traditional gestures for the Sign of Peace may resume** (e.g., handshake, embrace, etc.) with the option of choosing to do a no-touch gesture (e.g., bow, nod, wave, etc.).

---**Communion on the tongue is permitted AT THE END OF THE REGULAR DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION AFTER** everyone has received on the hand.

---**Meals, snacks, and treats may be served** (e.g., funeral receptions) with those serving the meal wearing face masks. We are not allowed to have buffet style or self-serve.

An observation from Fr. Pete: While this is great news it can change in an instant should a serious outbreak occur and we have to return to earlier protocols. The best course of action for that not to happen is for everyone to consider getting fully vaccinated unless otherwise advised by their primary care physicians or medical specialists.

The following comes from the Catholic league dated April 29. Interesting food for thought:

Catholic League president Bill Donohue commented on [President Biden's speech last night](#):

In his address to the Congress, President Biden spoke to many of his constituents, mostly in the way of promising an expansion of existing government programs or starting new ones. He did not address the concerns of religious Americans.

Over the past year, the faithful have had their religious rights abridged, if not eviscerated, by Covid restrictions. There were several court battles, reaching to the U.S. Supreme Court. Biden said nothing about these First Amendment restrictions. Nor did he mention the words "religion" or "religious liberty" in his speech.

The president did, however, speak to the rights of men who think they are women and women who think they are men. "To all transgender Americans watching at home—especially the young people who are so brave—I want you to know that your president has your back." He did not explain what is "so brave" about being sexually confused.

Biden said he wants Congress to support the Equality Act "to protect the rights of LGBTQ Americans." He did not tell the American people that this piece of legislation is the most anti-religious liberty act ever proposed, and that it would cancel the protections afforded by the historic Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993, a bill supported by then-Senator Joe Biden and signed by President Bill Clinton.

The first of four challenges we face, Biden said, is "access to good education." African American and Hispanic parents are stuck on a waiting line seeking to enroll their children in the local charter school—the demand outstrips the supply—seeking "access to good education." They want more charter schools, not fewer.

No matter, Biden is opposed to all school-choice initiatives, including charter schools. He certainly does not support any voucher program that might enable minorities the chance to send their children to a Catholic school. The record shows that minority students do much better in charter schools and Catholic schools than they do in public schools, but that does not matter to our "devout Catholic" president.

The Biden administration, led by the president, is convinced that America is a racist country. He said it again in his speech, arguing that we need to "root out systemic racism." Given that he has spent his entire adult life in public office, it behooves him to disclose why he has never talked about "systemic racism" until recently. After all, over the past half century he has been a U.S. senator and vice president. We need to know: What has he done to "root out systemic racism"?

If there is systemic racism, it is rooted in those who want to keep blacks in their place, denying them the same choice to send their children to quality schools that the affluent can afford. Perversely, this means President Joe Biden is part of the problem he says exists.

Contact White House press secretary Jen Psaki: jennifer.r.psaki@who.eop.gov

Phone the Catholic League: 212-371-3191
E-mail: pr@catholicleague.org

Summer study for adults and mature teens:

Two courses will be offered from June to August: [How to Destroy Western Civilization and Other Ideas from the Cultural Abyss](#), on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. from June 15 to August 10 and [True Friendship: Where Virtue Becomes Happiness](#) on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. from June 16 to August 18.

Course descriptions with information of where to purchase the books and sign-up sheets can be found at the front entrance of the Church.

Should President Biden be allowed to receive Holy Communion? Church teaching clearly says "no." The president's advocacy for abortion and so called "gay marriage" and his presiding over a "gay marriage" when he was Vice President constitute public rejections of Church teaching. The president is an intelligent man and knows this. He also knows he disqualifies himself from the Sacrament which is true for any Catholic who has acted similarly.

It is the responsibility of his bishop, currently the Cardinal Archbishop of Washington D.C. Wilton Gregory, to explain *privately* to the president the seriousness of the matter and if he does not repent to inform him, he cannot present himself for Holy Communion. I can only imagine how unpleasant such a meeting would be for the archbishop and the intense public criticism that will come his way, but that's the turf that came with the miter and crosier.

And this leads me to an observation: the real issue here isn't the president but the unity or lack thereof of our bishops. Will they uphold Church teaching whether popular or not? If bishops do not but their priests do, will those priests be punished? Will the bishops forsake unity in truth for compromise with secularism? Will they decide to do nothing? It will be interesting to see what they do...or not do.

DAILY CATHOLIC WISDOM – "No one can see God without falling in love with Him, and no one can meet a saint without meeting God in him or her. That is the good news: that in a world dedicated to the will to power, there is no power greater than that of sanctity; and that in a world dedicated to the pursuit of selfish pleasure, there is no pleasure greater than that of unselfish love of God and man. No one can ignore or refute the joy of a saint." – Peter Kreeft from his book *How to Destroy Western Civilization*