



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, Jan. 2 – No Youth group
Wednesday, Jan. 5 – 3:45pm & 7pm CCD
 7pm Confirmation class
Thursday, Jan. 6 – 6:30am Men of St. Joseph
Sunday, Jan. 9 – 9am Mass with Children’s play
 10am Knights’ breakfast
 5pm Youth group

Email:

St. John’s: sjbc532@gmail.com
 Fr. Pete: frpete307@gmail.com
 Deacon Jay Garland: jaygarland@comcast.net
 Mary Ann: sjbc532@gmail.com
 Carol Gagliano: Gagliano.carol@gmail.com

Parish Staff

Pastor	<i>Fr. Pete Johnson</i>	684-7268
Deacon	<i>Jay Garland</i>	(303)842-9320
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
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>	620-5491

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

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

JANUARY 2, 2022

Altar Assisters:

SATURDAY, Jan. 8, 5pm

Lector: Volunteer

Altar Servers: Lance/Lane Rabel, Ryan Merritt

SUNDAY, Jan. 9, 9am

Lector: Gene Gagliano

Altar Servers: Cortlan/Luken Smith, Redic Mader,
Grady Mathson, Finn Johnson, Sawyer Sullivan

COLLECTIONS FOR WEEK Dec. 25, 2021

St. John's	\$ 20,455.00	YTD\$114,110.04
St. Mary's	\$ 165.00	YTD \$ 2,962.00
St. Hubert's	\$ 525.00	YTD \$ 2,650.00
Poor Donations	\$ 900.00	
Online	\$	

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon.	01.03	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
Tue.	01.04	8:00 a.m.	Fr. Pete's intention
Wed.	01.05	8:00 a.m.	+Chris Schafer
Thu.	01.06	8:00 a.m.	+Chris Schafer
Fri.	01.07	8:00 a.m.	+Chris Schafer
		8:30 a.m.	Adoration
		9:30 a.m.	Reposition
Sat.	01.08	5:00 p.m.	+Chris Schafer
Sun.	01.09	9:00 a.m.	+Chris Schafer
		12:30 p.m.	Clearmont: for the parishes

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon-1 John 3:22—4:6; Gospel: Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25

Tue-1 John 4:7-10; Gospel: Mark 6:34-44

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

Wed-1 John 4:11-18; Gospel: Mark 6:45-52

Saint John Neumann, Bishop

Thu-1 John 4:19—5:4; Gospel: Luke 4:14-22

Fri-1 John 5:5-13; Gospel: Luke 5:12-16

Sat-1 John 5:14-21; Gospel: John 3:22-30

FR. PETE:

An interesting article from the Catholic League.

It was not written by Bill Donohue. It was not written by a Christian. It was written by Mr. Don Feder, practicing Jewish man. Why is this article so interesting? As a Jew he makes a good case why Christmas is important for our country. The article goes by the title: *“Why Christmas is Good for America.”* It was sent out on December 23, 2021. Enjoy!

By Don Feder

Mazel Tov to the season to be jolly

This article originally appeared on December 8, 2021 in the Washington Times

I once interviewed Elyakim Haetzni, then a member of the Knesset, who told me that he always supported higher subsidies for religious education in Israel.

I was puzzled. “Elyakim, you said you’re an agnostic. Isn’t that a contradiction?” I asked. “Not at all,” he replied. “Even though I’m not a believer myself, I know that religion makes my country stronger.”

That’s how I feel about Christmas. I don’t celebrate the holiday, but I support its public celebration robustly. Christmas is something that brings us closer as a people.

This era is marked by relentless assaults on our institutions and traditions. Statues of historical figures as diverse as Stonewall Jackson and Theodore Roosevelt are removed from public display. At sports events, it’s become routine for players to refuse to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. Students are taught to hate America through critical race theory and other educational indoctrination. The Supreme Court is under attack by partisans who fear it will overturn *Roe v. Wade*.

As a Jew, I have no problem with Christmas trees in parks or nativity scenes in front of city hall, whether or not they’re

camouflaged with Santas and snowmen. They are reminders of our religious heritage.

That's one of the things that makes the Left nervous about Christmas. It wants America to be a cosmopolitan land of rootlessness — united by nothing more than our location on the globe and a vague belief in democracy.

That's why it cheers the alien horde surging across our southern border and purging Christmas from the public square. Anything that disunites us is good in its eyes.

As much as the Declaration of Independence or Constitution, Christmas unites us as a people.

According to a 2017 Pew poll, roughly 90% of Americans celebrate Christmas — probably more than any other holiday, including Thanksgiving and the Fourth of July. In a way, that makes Christmas a national holiday.

Christmas has a venerable lineage. Although the custom of the gaily festooned tree only goes back to the 19th century, the gift-giving tradition is said to be inspired by the wise men who journeyed to Bethlehem. I give not because I want something in return but as an expression of love.

Besides generosity, one of the holiday's chief appeals is hopefulness.

For North America, Christmas comes during a gloomy season that's brightened by colorful decorations and colorfully wrapped presents.

Optimism is a uniquely American virtue. The settlers came here seeking opportunity. Regardless of their station at birth, America gave them a chance for a fresh start.

Like Hanukkah, Christmas urges us to have hope for the future. Even though

things look bleak, God will make it turn out right in the end.

One of the most popular songs of the season, which came out during the depths of World War II, speaks to that. "Christmas Eve will find me where the love light gleams. I'll be home for Christmas, if only in my dreams."

With our economy in the doldrums, crime surging and enemies everywhere — like the Star of Bethlehem and the Hanukkah menorah — Christmas points the way to hope.

More than anything else that is what I wish for my country.

Don Feder is communications director at the Ruth Institute and is a good friend of Bill Donohue.

Many thanks to all who made their Christmas financial contributions to the parish. They have been recorded as being made in December, 2021. Statements for IRS purposes will be sent out later in January. When you receive them and have any questions, please contact Mary Ann at the parish office (684-7268). Thank you for your generosity in supporting the parish.

An update on the Living and Giving in Christ 2021 Campaign:

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Goal</i>	<i>Pledged</i>	<i>Paid</i>
St. John's	\$47,029	\$23,671	\$22,253
St. Mary's	1,074	550	550
St. Hubert's	1,070	950	825

Thus far the parish will have to pay \$25,545.00 to fulfill its diocesan goals for the parish and the two missions.

Attention Clearmont parishioners. Your letter to the Bishop has worked. He will be coming to St. Mary's on Wednesday, February 2, at 5:00 p.m. to discuss the "merger" of St. Mary's with St. John's. Please make every effort to be there.

Please keep Fr. Thomas George in your prayers.

Fr. Thomas, pastor of Our Lady of Fatima in Casper, has been on a leave of absence for four weeks. In a recent visit with the Bishop, Fr. Thomas has chosen to return to India in mid-January. For the time being Fr. Gary Ruzika will be overseeing Our Lady of Fatima as well as his own parish, St. Patrick's.

Update on Fr. Kevin Koch and Fr. Jim Heiser.

Both are slowly recovering from their illnesses. Please continue to keep them in your prayers.

“Fr. Pete...Is there something you can do to improve the lighting at the front of the Church?”

Yes. Modern Electric will replace the “diffused” lights with those similar that surround the lawn where the Ten Commandments monument is located. These throw much more light out on the sidewalk. I hope that will help.

“Fr. Pete...I really want to thank all the people who helped decorate the Church. It is the best I've ever seen it.”

Consider it done! Enjoy it while you can. It all comes down soon.

“Fr. Pete...There are a number of us who would like to have a Saturday morning Mass. Will you do it?”

No. While I hear that you “want” it, I am not convinced there is a “need” for it. And I know that if it is offered some will think, no matter what I tell them, that they don't have to come to the weekend Mass. Been there, done that, and won't go there again. However, feel free to express your “want” to the new pastor when he arrives in July.

“Fr. Pete...Is there anything we can do to improve the looks of the property between the Church and parish hall like put a statue there and some park benches?”

I can tell you that we are not budgeted for any major property improvements for this fiscal year. I suggest you get a committee of like-minded people and present your proposal to the new pastor.

“Fr. Pete...What happens to the Parish Council and Finance Council when you leave?”

At the moment a priest ceases to be pastor both councils are dissolved. Only the Directors (formerly known as the Trustees) remain. The new pastor has the right to call them back or to replace them. Most priests prefer to keep the councils as they were, as I

did when I arrived. It just makes sense to have some continuity until the new pastor finds his legs so to speak.

“Fr. Pete...Can the bishop stop priests from retiring given the shortage of priests?” He can certainly try by appealing to a particular priest's sense of duty to consider staying on or offering him a different position in the diocese. Most of us who are close to or are about to retire would consider helping out but, and I can only speak for myself, I refuse to deal with the ever-increasing administrative nonsense that has become such a tedious aspect of ordained ministry.

“Fr. Pete...When does Christmas end?”

Christmas ends at sunset on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, Sunday, January 9.

CONFIRMATION CLASS on Wednesday, January 5 at 7pm. Please bring your service hours of the last month and your folder!

NO YOUTH GROUP until Sunday, January 9 at 5pm.

CCD resumes this week on Wednesday, January 5 at 3:45pm and 7pm. The Children's Christmas play will be at 9am Mass on Sunday, January 9.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS will host a breakfast on Sunday, January 9 after Mass. Bring your family to share fellowship! Donations are much appreciated ☺

MEALS ON WHEELS begins Monday, January 3 for our parish volunteers. THANK YOU to all who are delivering meals to the community shut-ins!

DAILY CATHOLIC WISDOM – “Let us concern ourselves with those who lack everything, those of whom no one thinks. Let us be the friends of those who have no friends.” -Bl. Charles de Foucauld quoted in Fr. Donald Haggerty's book *The Contemplative Hunger*

DAILY CATHOLIC WISDOM – “The title of Mary as our mother is not merely symbolic. Mary is our mother in the most real and lofty sense, a sense which surpasses that of earthly maternity. She begot our life of grace for us because she offered up her entire being, body and soul, as the Mother of God.” -Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross