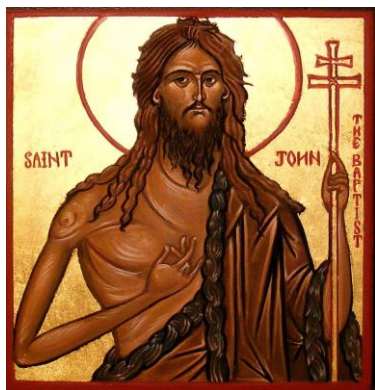




St. John the Baptist Church

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. 9 – 9am Mass with Children's play
10am Knights' breakfast
5pm Youth group

Wednesday, Jan. 12 – 3:45pm & 7pm CCD

Thursday, Jan. 13 – 6:30am Men of St. Joseph

Sunday, Jan. 16 – 5pm Youth Group

Monday, Jan. 17 – 7pm Holy Hour

Monday, Jan. 24 – 7pm Parish Council

Tuesday, Jan. 25 – 5pm Finance Council

Tuesday, Feb. 1 – Noon CCW mtg. with soup

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	Fr. Pete Johnson	684-7268
Deacon	Jay Garland	(303)842-9320
Parish Administrator	Mary Ann Cummins	684-7268
CCW Leader	Nolcha Fox	620-0296
Finance Council Chair	Steve Reimann	217-0119
Janitor	Mick Camino	217-1575
K of C Grand Knight	Jason Sutton	217-0468
Parish Council Chair	Vacant	
Religious Education	Carol Gagliano	684-7217
Trustees	Jean Urruty	684-7093
	Phil Gonzales	684-5920
Choir	Tony Fox	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

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JANUARY 9, 2022

Altar Assistants:

SATURDAY, Jan. 15, 5pm

Lector: Blaine Horn

Altar Servers: Asher/Kieran Murray, Ryan Merritt,
Carson Bergstresser

SUNDAY, Jan. 16, 9am

Lector: Mary Ann Cummins

Altar Servers: James/Michael Ihnat, Will Finkle,
Quentin Agyemang, Finn Johnson, Sawyer Sullivan

COLLECTIONS FOR WEEK Jan. 2, 2022

St. John's	\$ 2,168.01	YTD\$ 116,278.05
St. Mary's	\$ 6.00	YTD \$ 2,968.00
St. Hubert's	\$ 202.00	YTD \$ 2,852.00
Poor Donations	\$ 557.00	
Online	\$	

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon.	01.10	8:00 a.m.	No Mass
Tue.	01.11	8:00 a.m.	+Chris Schafer
		5:30 p.m.	Knight of Columbus
Wed.	01.12	8:00 a.m.	+Chris Schafer
Thu.	01.13	8:00 a.m.	+Chris Schafer
Fri.	01.14	8:00 a.m.	+Chris Schafer
		8:30 a.m.	Adoration
		9:30 a.m.	Reposition
Sat.	01.15	5:00 p.m.	+Chris Schafer
Sun.	01.16	9:00 a.m.	+Chris Schafer
		2:00 p.m.	Kaycee: for the parishes

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon-1 Samuel 1:1-8; Gospel: Mark 1:14-20
Tue-1 Samuel 1:9-20; Gospel: Mark 1:21-28
Wed-1 Samuael 3:1-10, 19-20; Gospel: Mark 1:29-39
Thu-1 Samuael 4:1-11; Gospel: Mark 1:40-45
Fri-1 Samuel 8:4-7, 10-22a; Gospel: Mark 2:1-12
Sat-1 Samuel 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1; Gospel: Mark 2:13-17

FR. PETE:

COVID and parish life. Just before Christmas the number of official cases of COVID-19 in Johnson County was 3. As of January 6, it jumped up to 23. This was to be expected. How much higher the number will go is anyone's guess. The official number does not reflect the actual number of cases of active COVID so it would be logical to assume that the actual number is substantially higher.

At this point I don't see any need to change what we are doing. If you wish to wear a face mask do so though there are now claims that the cloth masks we've been wearing are no longer adequate to prevent either spreading or receiving the mutated omicron virus.

Common sense is our best bet. If you are ill, even if it's a common cold, please stay home. It might be something more serious than a cold and we need to consider the health of others. Make sure you sanitize your hands. Do not give a hug or handshake at the sign of peace during Mass or if you insist on doing so make sure to disinfect your hands (so carry some hand sanitizer with you). I have no problem shaking hands when greeting people at the front door, but then as soon as I go inside, I disinfect my hands before beginning the Mass. For those who prefer not to shake hands at all I respect your right to do so.

A reflection from St. Romanos Melodus. St. Romanos was born of a Jewish family in Syria toward the end of the fifth century. After moving to Constantinople, he became a deacon during the reign of Emperor Anastasius I. Romanos's great gift was his musical ability and he became the most famous Byzantine composer of church hymns. Much of his work is still used in various forms in the Orthodox Churches and the Eastern Churches in communion with Rome. The sacred hymns are collectively called the KONTAKIA. There are about 100 of them that have survived though scholars debate the authorship of some. It is very possible that some of the hymns were composed by students of Romanos who, according to ancient tradition, honored their teacher by ascribing their work to him out of respect. Romanos used not only Scripture for his hymns but the accounts of martyrs and Greek homilies. Some of his hymns reached levels of depth and intense emotion rarely attained in modern times such as his hymn that takes the form of a dialogue between the Virgin Mary and her

Son as He was undergoing the sufferings of His passion. St. Romanos died around the year 555.

“In My mercy, I was overcome by My compassion and came to My creature, stretching out My hands to embrace you. So do not be ashamed in front of Me: for your sake, naked as you are, I am stripped naked and baptized. Already the Jordan opens for Me, and John prepares My ways in the waters and in minds.” The Savior spoke thus to humankind, not in words, but in deeds, and came, as He said, drawing near to the river on foot and to the Forerunner as the Unapproachable Light.

When John saw the river in the desert and Christ in the Jordan, he was troubled by fear, as his father had trembled at Gabriel (Lk 1:12), for at that moment something happened, greater than any moment; for at that moment the Master of the angels had come to a slave wishing to be baptized....” I am not asking, Baptist, that you overstep your bound. Simply baptize me in silence and expectation of what will follow the baptism. Because in this way you will gain a dignity which does not belong to angels, for I will also make you greater than all the prophets. Not one of them saw me clearly, but only types and shadows and dreams. But as He stands before you by His own will, you see, you grasp the Unapproachable Light.

Heaven rejoice and earth be glad, springs of water be hallowed, for by appearing He has filled all things with blessing, He enlightens all mankind, the Unapproachable Light.

At the divine command, Zechariah’s offspring raises his mind on high, and stretching out his palm places it on the King, washes in the streams, then leads back to land the Lord of land and sky, Whom the One Who cried out this is My beloved Son pointed out from heaven by a voice. To the Father Himself then and to the Son Who was baptized and to

His Spirit I cry, “Crush those who afflict my soul; end my errors, my Redeemer, the Unapproachable Light.”

As Mick Camino prepares to retire from the maintenance position at St. John the Baptist, please welcome Darin Gagliano. Darin has a wide range of work experience and skill sets for the job. He will visit with Mick to learn where things are. Darin has also agreed to mow the Church and rectory lawns. We will purchase a riding mower for that purpose. This will save the parish a significant amount of money over the spring and summer months that will no longer need to go to a contract service.

We are getting some volunteers to help with coffee and donuts after the Sunday Mass. We will do this only once a month so as to not overtax any one individual. The more folks that volunteer the more often we can do this. If you are interested in helping out, please call the parish office (684-7268) and speak with either Fr. Pete or Mary Ann.

Please take a moment and say “thank you” to Tony Fox. Tony has done a wonderful job developing our choir. Tony is looking at a variety of things we can do to increase the amount of music we have for the Sunday Mass, including getting our young people involved.

Parish Council will meet on Monday, January 24, 7:00 p.m. at the rectory. Your information packets will be handed out next week.

Finance Council and Directors will meet on Tuesday, January 25, 5:00 p.m. at the rectory. Your information packets will be handed out next week.

It seems it is necessary to keep repeating that Monday is my day off. The rectory is closed on Monday. The Parish Office is closed on Monday. Mary Ann does not work on Monday. So please do not call or

drop by the rectory on Monday unless, of course, it is an emergency. Thank you.

Many thanks to all the ladies of the CCW who worked so hard to provide a funeral luncheon for the family and friends of the late John Manzella.

The Knights of Columbus will have an evening Mass on Tuesday, January 11, at 5:30 p.m. Anyone is welcome to come to the Mass.

Christmas ends this Sunday, the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, at sunset. All the Church decorations will be taken down shortly thereafter.

“Fr. Pete...Will we be ordering live Easter lilies for the sanctuary this year?” Probably not. We can assume that prices will be very high. We have no assurance that the plants can be delivered to the parish. We don't have anyone who will be responsible for making sure the plants are properly and routinely watered. And, ultimately, all the plants will have to be thrown out into the trash despite having spent all that money. It really just doesn't make sense. As we did with Christmas, we will use artificial plants.

“Fr. Pete...Will we be having a parish mission for Lent?” Yes. Fr. Tony is scheduled to come on Friday, March 11. He will preach the weekend Masses, offer a retreat for the Confirmation students on Sunday, March 13, and begin the Mission that Sunday evening at 7:00 p.m. through Thursday evening, the 17th. He will fly out on the 18th. Please consider taking advantage of having two priests available for confession.

“Fr. Pete...I brought a friend with me to Mass and he was impressed by the servers! They are doing a really good job.” Aren't they though? I am very proud of the way they are conducting themselves in the Sanctuary. Please make the effort to thank them yourself. I think it would mean a great deal to them.

“Fr. Pete...When I drive by the rectory in the evening, I never see any lights on.” I turn off all lights except for the room I'm in. At night I am

usually in my den / study and that is the only light I have on.

Just to provide some information on parish utility costs:

	December	January
Rocky Mountain Power		
Rectory	\$ 75.83	\$ 84.25
Parish Hall	\$496.17	\$663.28
Church	\$200.29	\$217.52
Montana - Dakota		
Rectory	\$ 57.88	\$101.88
Parish Hall	\$238.00	\$458.06
Church	\$184.68	\$342.47

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

DAILY CATHOLIC WISDOM – “God has ‘come down’ to us in the person of Jesus to feed us with His words and His very self, to be fully human...Jesus continues today feeding us with God's truth, example, and love, offering His very self in Holy Communion to nourish us on life's journey.” -Fr. Joseph Kelly from *On Second Thoughts: A Book of Stories*

“The key to perseverance is keeping your eyes on the goal. For every Christian, that goal lies just beyond the gates of death. Our true citizenship is in the only place where we will truly feel at home: Heaven.” -Fr. J. Augustine Wetta, OSB from his book *Humility Rules*

BREAD OF LIFE FOOD PANTRY – Happy new year from them! They gave out 85 Christmas meals this year. Mrs. Pierson's 4th grade class donated to them from card sales they had, packaged cards for all of the Christmas meal recipients, and purchased food in a visit with their sales money for a family for a week! October 115 households, 298 individuals received food; November in 149 households, 412 individuals received food.

“WHOEVER LOVES GOD, LOVES HIS NEIGHBOR.”
-St. Basil the Great

