



St. John the Baptist Catholic 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

Email:

St. John's: sjbc532@gmail.com
Fr. Bryce: blungren@dcwy.org
Jay Garland: jgarland@dcwy.org
Mary Ann: sjbc532@gmail.com
Carol Gagliano: Gagliano.carol@gmail.com

St. John the Baptist Church

Saturday 5:00 PM
Sunday 9:00 AM, 5 PM
Daily Mass M -Th 8:00 AM
Holy Days
Anticipatory 6:00 PM
Day of... 8:00 AM, 6 PM

St. Mary Church, Clearmont

2nd & 4th Sundays 1:00pm

St. Hubert Church, Kaycee

1st & 3rd Sunday 2:00pm

Confessions Saturday 3pm-4:30pm
Or by Appointment

Religious Education / Meeting

Sunday, August 10 – 1pm Clearmont Mass
4:30pm Rosary
5pm Mass

Monday, August 11 – 7pm Rosary

Wednesday, August 13 – Summer CCW Social

Thursday, August 14 – 6:30am Men of St.
Joseph

6pm Holy Day Mass

Friday, August 15 – 8am Holy Day Mass

6pm Holy Day Mass,

Assumption of Mary into Heaven

Saturday, August 16 – Basque festival at the
Fairgrounds

Sunday, August 17 – 2pm Kaycee Mass
followed by a picnic

Parish Staff

Pastor	<i>Fr. Bryce Lungren</i>	684-7268
Deacon	<i>Jay Garland</i>	
Parish Administrator	<i>Mary Ann Cummins</i>	684-7268
CCW Leader	<i>Vacant</i>	
Finance Council Chair	<i>Steve Reimann</i>	
Maintenance Technician	<i>Darin Gagliano</i>	
K of C Grand Knight	<i>Bob Fox</i>	
Parish Council Chair	<i>Barbara Mueller</i>	
Religious Education	<i>Carol Gagliano</i>	
Music Ministry	<i>Vacant</i>	
Corporate Board of Directors	<i>Bishop Steve Biegler, President</i>	
	<i>Very Rev. Carl Gallinger, Vice-P</i>	
	<i>Rev. Bryce Lungren, Sec & Treas</i>	
	<i>Phil Gonzales, Lay Director</i>	
	<i>Julie Snyder, Lay Director</i>	

Baptisms – Please call Fr. Bryce, 684-7268

Marriage – Planning and preparation 6 months in advance- Mentors Jim/Lori Johnson. Call Fr. Bryce.

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

Rosary Guild – Thursdays at 8:30am to 10am.

Sacrament of the Sick – Call the Parish Office

19th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 10, 2025

Liturgical Ministers at Mass:

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9, 5pm

Lector: Judy Wigginton

EMHC: Paul Wigginton, Vexie Reimann

Altar Server: Volunteer

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10, 9am

Lector: Marcie Scarlett

EMHC: Karen Hostetler, Barb Mueller

Altar Servers: Volunteers

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 5pm

Lector: Blaine Horn

EMHC: Dennis Lawrence, Phil Gonzales

Altar Server: Volunteer

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17, 9am

Lector: Mike Herth

EMHC: Carleen Cosner, Sue Herth

Altar Servers: Volunteers

COLLECTIONS FOR WEEK August 3, 2025

St. John's	\$ 5,528.71	YTD \$	27,115.27
St. Mary's	\$	YTD \$	757.00
St. Hubert's	\$ 175.00	YTD \$	720.00
Poor Donations	\$ 626.00		

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sat	8/9	5pm	Jim/Gloria Doughty
Sun	8/10	9am	Bob Fox
		2pm	Pro Populo
		5pm	+Rubyjean Hudson
Mon	8/11	8am	LWHC
Tue	8/12	10am	Funeral Mass for Mary Louise Arambel
Wed	8/13	8am	Rhiannon & family
Thu	8/14	8am	+Eileen Nelson
		6pm	Intention of the Donor
Fri	8/15	8am	+Faustina Cortes Cruz
		6pm	Bob Fox
Sat	8/16	5pm	Garrett Kauffman
Sun	8/17	9am	Pro Populo
		2pm	+Luis Corrales
		5pm	Intention of the Donor

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon-Deuteronomy 10:12-22; Gospel: Matthew 17:22-27

Saint Clare, Virgin

Tue-Deuteronomy 31:1-8; Gospel: Matthew 18:1-5, 10, 12-14

Wed-Deuteronomy 34:1-12; Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

Thu-Joshua 3:7-10a, 11, 13-17; Gospel: Matthew 18:21—19:1 *Saint Maximilian Kolbe, Priest & Martyr*

Fri-Joshua 24:14-29; Gospel: Matthew 19:13-15

POPE LEO XIV August prayer intention - For mutual coexistence. Let us pray that societies where coexistence seems more difficult might not succumb to the temptation of confrontation for ethnic, political, religious, or ideological reasons.

PLEASE PRAY for the repose of the souls of ***Rosita Ibarra & Mary Louise Arambel***. May they rest in peace. Mary Louise's vigil Monday at 6pm in the church. Funeral at 10am Tuesday.

CCW SOCIAL on Wednesday, August 13 will be a progressive dinner beginning at the home of Mary Ann Cummins (20 Rose Dr) for appetizers at 5:30pm; main course dinner at the home of Valerie Spanos (654 Rock Creek Rd) at 6:30pm; and dessert at the home of Alecia Kozisek (46 Darton Ct) at 7:30pm. All women of the parish are welcome to attend and **SIGN UP to bring one of the items at one of the houses** by calling the Mary Ann 620-9656. We will carpool from the church parking lot at 5pm.

FAITH FORMATION CLASSES (formerly CCD) will begin on Wednesday, September 10. Preschool-4th grades at 3:45pm to 5pm and 5th grade through 12th youth group from 6pm to 7:30pm. Confirmation class will be current 6th & 7th graders. Registration to begin in two weeks.

SHERIDAN DEANERY CCW FALL TOUR on September 11 in Sundance at St. Paul's Church. Registration begins at 8:30am, \$15. Speakers Rose Black and Fr. Brian Hess with the theme of "God's Love, Hope & Mercy." RSVP by Sept. 1 to Barbara Byrne 307-290-0438 or just call the parish office, 684-7268 and we will send one number of guests.

Living the Catholic Cowboy Way with Fr. Bryce Lungren

Fr. Bryce Lungren will be leading a three-night retreat September 18-21, 2025, for men aged 18 and older who desire to take the next step in the spiritual life. Fr. Bryce will be sharing the fundamentals of our relationship with God and how to carry out His mission in our lives; from living out our identity as beloved sons to sacrificing ourselves as fathers. Besides the teachings, this weekend will allow ample silence for prayer, times of social interaction as brothers, one afternoon of guided horseback riding, fishing, or hiking in the Bighorn Mountains, the celebration of Mass, and other sacramental and spiritual opportunities. The retreat will be held at the serene Paradise Guest Ranch in the Bighorn Mountains west of Buffalo. For any

questions, please email paradiseranchmensretreat@gmail.com or phone 307-684-7876 to schedule your retreat. Cost is \$500 per person (financial aid can be available). Three nights' lodging and all meals are included!

"In the heart of this Jubilee Year, we believe and say over and over again: there is hope! We have encountered that hope in Jesus. He calms the storm."

| Pope Leo XIV

A Jubilee Minute: Jubilee Year of Hope: Witnesses of faith on a Jubilee Pilgrimage of Hope

This week's Reflection on the 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope by Deacon Jay Garland

The following are excerpts from a Vatican News article on three young people who had a profound encounter with our Lord and who shared their experiences at the vigil of the Jubilee of Youth in Tor Vergata, Rome this past weekend. Their stories, each coming from a different life experience, converged in a shared desire to respond to God's love with their own lives.

Antoine: "I met Christ, and everything changed" Antoine Saint-Claire, 18, from France, began his story by painting the image of a happy childhood in a loving Christian family. Faith, he said, was always present, yet somewhat routine: Mass on Sundays, catechism, the sacraments shared with friends. It was during his teenage years, he added, that a deeper yearning began to stir in him. Antoine attended the FRAT pilgrimage to Lourdes in 2023. There, he said, during a moment of adoration after confession, something shifted: "I knelt before the Blessed Sacrament, and in my heart, I heard the Lord say: 'One day, you will see my love.'" A few months later, in the silence of his home, he continued, he had a profound spiritual encounter with Jesus, a moment of peace, love, and deep joy. "That encounter gave meaning to my life," At the end of his testimony last week Antoine affirmed. "I now know I am loved, and I want to love in return, with all I am." He concluded by saying, "each one different, but all capable of receiving love and spreading it. By God's grace, we will succeed. Amen."

Gustavo: "I want to sing the praises of the Lord"; Gustavo Eterno, a Brazilian member of the Shalom Catholic Community, spoke about how, for the past 22 years, he has been consecrated in the Shalom Community. "Fifteen of those years I lived as a celibate. Today, I walk the path of a seminarian, and with God's grace, I hope to one day be ordained to the priesthood,"

he said, introducing himself. Gustavo described how music played a significant role in his spiritual and personal journey. In his youth, he said, music was a private refuge, a way to express emotions and find solace amid personal struggles. Over time, he added, this interior world began to lose meaning for him, explaining that as he sought love and freedom in secular experiences, ultimately, he felt disoriented and distant from God. His turning point came during a moment of Eucharistic adoration. "My eyes were opened, like the disciples on the road to Emmaus," he said. "There, I encountered the love I had been seeking." Eterno concluded by expressing his desire to share this experience through music and witness: "Every second of my life that God allows me to live on this earth, I want to sing the praises of the Lord and help others encounter the same joy that He poured into my life."

Olimpia: "Chosen to love" Olimpia Iacono, a physician from Ischia, Italy, offered a deeply personal witness of her vocation to love, not only as a doctor, but as a Christian woman called to serve with her heart. After completing her medical degree, Olimpia's life seemed on track, but she added that a sudden breakup and an unexpected move left her disoriented. A mission trip to Argentina became a turning point. During a moment of prayer, inspired by the Gospel of the blind man of Jericho, she said she heard a message whispered to her: "The Lord has chosen you to love." "I had always thought my vocation was to be a good doctor or a good wife," she noted, "But I had never considered the universal vocation of every baptized person: the call to love." This call took concrete form when Olimpia met Francesco, a terminally ill patient in her hospital. Through simple gestures, she narrated how she accompanied him through his final weeks. "His hospital room became a small church," she recalled. On his birthday, Francesco entered eternal life, she said: "That day, I understood that what seemed like useless suffering had become a time of grace."

FROM THE PASTOR:

My greatest desire as a pastor is keeping people in a state of grace. Generally speaking, *state of grace* refers to a Christian who is in right relationship with God. Outside of a state of grace means being outside of communion with God and His Church.

Being outside of a state of grace is danger zone for eternal salvation. It also impedes one from flourishing in their present circumstances. As a pastor, not only do I want all my people to go to Heaven, but I also desire them to be fueled by the grace God offers us in the Sacraments of the Catholic Church, even now.

For Catholics, walking in a state of grace is not arbitrary. There are broad parameters to help us stay in right relationship with God and to avoid choosing against that relationship. The Catechism of the Catholic Church calls these boundaries the Precepts of the Church (2041-2043).

The first precept to staying in a state of grace is, "You shall attend Mass on Sundays and on holy days of obligation and rest from servile labor" (CCC 2041). This is baseline Christianity. For our ancestors, the Israelites/Jews, keeping holy the Sabbath was the most essential command to follow. Even directly following the Lord's death, Jesus' disciples observed the Sabbath and then ran to find the empty tomb the day after (See John 19,20).

For Christians, Sunday is the new Sabbath, also known as the *Lord's Day*. The Church, which Jesus firmly established on Apostolic foundations (Matthew 16:18), continues to teach that keeping the Lord's Day holy, in a new Sabbath fashion, is essential to staying in a state of grace.

The most fundamental way Catholics keep holy Lord's Day is by *attending Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation*. This command is not optional but obligatory. For most, this is not new news. For many, however, the seriousness of this first precept might be new.

Jesus gave an example of this in the Gospel of Luke. *A man gave a great feast and invited many. But they all began to make excuses. One said, I have to check on the farm. Another said, I have to check on my cattle. And another said, I can't because I just got married. The master, after filling his feast with the poor and lame instead, said "none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet."* (Luke 14:16-24)

Choosing to attend the wedding feast of Heaven is not a decision at the end of our life, but decision every Sunday of our lives. If we freely choose not to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days, we are freely declining our invitation to Heaven. And God honors our request by not allowing us to *taste His banquet*.

Bro! Hold on! Are you saying, Fr. Bryce, that just because I miss one little Sunday Mass I'm going to Hell? Not necessarily. Final judgement of our choices in life is up to God. What I'm saying is that freely choosing not to go to Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation is choosing not to be in a state of grace.

Not being in a state of grace is not cool. Not only is it an offence to God, but also an offense to our brothers and sisters, the Church. Therefore,

the Church says that anyone knowingly not in a state of grace should not receive Holy Communion.

Now, God is merciful. The Sacrament of Reconciliation restores us back to a state of grace, *if* we are truly sorry and have the firm resolve to go and sin no more. If I have freely chosen to miss Mass on Sunday or a holy day of obligation, I need to go to Confession before going to Holy Communion.

My job as a pastor is to inform our conscience. Not only so we can know right from wrong. But mainly so I can stay in a state of grace and allow that grace to transform my life and those around me. Sunday Mass and holy days of obligation are nonnegotiable to staying in a state of grace!

Now, hear me out. We always start with the standard and if there are legit reasons to break from the standard, we go from there. We all know there are times when I cannot make it to Mass. The Church, who is a mother, knows this and grants us permission to miss Mass on a Sunday or holy day of obligation, *if* we seek dispensation.

Granted there are *extraordinary* circumstances that cause me to miss Mass unexpectedly. For example, if I'm in the hospital or jail. Outside of *extraordinary* matters, seeking dispensation from the pastor is the only way to ensure that my intentional missing of a Sunday Mass or holy day of obligation does not put me outside of a state of grace.

Think of any invitation or obligation. If I have committed to being at a dinner or going to work and I can't make it, do I just not show up or do I phone ahead? Respect would say that I call ahead. Nonchalantly not coming to the *wedding feast of Heaven* on Sundays and Holy Days without *calling ahead* through a dispensation is offensive to God and the rest of the family, the Church.

Dispensation can be sought by contacting Fr. Bryce in one fashion or another. In that conversation the both of you can talk about the circumstances that surround the conflict if there is another way to resolve it. If not, he is happy to grant you a dispensation from the first precept of the Catholic Church.

Again, my deepest desire as a pastor is to keep you all in a state of grace. Not only so you can experience eternal life at the end of your life. But also, so that you can experience eternal life even now! This is what it means to be in a state of grace, and it all stems from our participation in Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation.

Let's ranch.