



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 17 – 2pm Kaycee Mass
 followed by a picnic
 4:30pm Rosary
 5pm Mass

Monday, August 18 – 7pm Rosary

Thursday, August 21 – 6:30am Men of St.
 Joseph

Tuesday, August 26 – 5:15pm Parish Council

September 16-18 – September Institute in
 Casper

September 18-20 – Men's Retreat at Paradise

September 19-21 – WCCW Convention in
 Lander

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

20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 17, 2025

Liturgical Ministers at Mass:

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

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 5pm

Lector: Suzie Kirvinskee
EMHC: Vexie Reimann, Donna Nelson
Altar Server: Volunteer

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 9am

Lector: Mike Scarlett
EMHC: Jim Johnson, Jennifer Schroefel
Altar Servers: Volunteers

COLLECTIONS FOR WEEK August 10, 2025

St. John's	\$ 3,889.10	YTD \$	31,004.37
St. Mary's	\$ 290.00	YTD \$	1047.00
St. Hubert's	\$ 20.00	YTD \$	740.00
Poor Donations	\$ 405.00		

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Sat	8/16	5pm	Garrett Kauffman
Sun	8/17	9am	Pro Populo
		2pm	+Luis Corrales
		5pm	Intention of the Donor
Mon	8/18	8am	+Ellen Kirven
Tue	8/19	8am	Dennis Kirven
Wed	8/20	8am	+Mary Louise Arambel
Thu	8/21	8am	LWHC
Fri	8/22	8am	LWHC
		8:30a	Eucharistic Adoration
Sat	8/23	5pm	+Vyonne Kraen
Sun	8/24	9am	Pro Populo
		1pm	+Linda Swanson
		5pm	+Clair Horn

PARISH COUNCIL meeting on Tuesday, August 26 at 5:15pm in the parish hall.

THANK YOU to all the ladies who came to the progressive dinner, made food, and those who opened their homes up for this event 😊

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Mon-Judges 2:11-19; Gospel Matthew 19:16-22
Tue-Judges 6:11-24a; Gospel: Matthew 19:23-30
Wed-Judges 9:6-15; Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16
Saint Bernard, Abott, and Doctor of the Church
Thu-Judges 11:29-39a; Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14
Saint Pius X, Pope
Fri-Ruth 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22; Gospel Matthew 22:34-40
Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Sat-Ruth 2:1-3, 8-11; 4:13-17; Gospel; Matthew 23:1-12

URGENT SECOND COLLECTION this weekend for Gaza as per the Diocese.

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH FAMILY newly baptized twin sons of Bonnie & Sean Belliveau – **Brandt Michael Levi & Jase Anthony David** 😊

FAITH FORMATION CLASSES will begin on Wednesday, September 17. 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 forms will be available at the back of the church next weekend.

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.

WCCW CONVENTION in Lander September 19-21. Carpool with Mary Ann, Elizabeth, Donna, Honey, Suzie, and Valerie 😊 Registration forms in the back of the church; due August 29!

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!

11TH Annual Women's Conference – "Hope Does Not Disappoint" Romans 5:1-5. October 3-4, 2025, at the Ramkota Hotel in Casper. \$60 per ticket. Friday night 6-9pm; Saturday 9am to 5pm, Family Mass at 4pm. Speakers Ali Hoffman, Rachel Herbeck, Nicole Richards.

Single and Catholic? August 22nd - 24th, 2025

Join 400+ singles coming from all parts of the US (and beyond) at the 20th Anniversary National Conference for Single Catholics in **Denver, Colorado!** (Can't travel? Join the virtual option with online socials and small group discussions). This is your chance to connect with like-minded singles of all ages. The weekend includes talks by dynamic speakers, music, social events, Mass with Archbishop Samuel Aquila, adoration, fellowship and more. (If attending in-person, use the promo code PARISH25 for a discount.) Visit NationalCatholicSingles.com for more information and to register.

"We become what we love and who we love shapes what we become."

– St. Clare of Assisi

"One day, through the Rosary and the Scapular, Our Lady will save the world."

– St. Dominic

A Jubilee Minute: Jubilee Year of Hope: Pope Leo XIV's message about hope during the Jubilee

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

In the Jubilee Year of Hope, Pope Leo has consistently focused on hope as an essential Christian virtue and a source of strength in a world facing challenges and

uncertainty.

Christ as the Source of Hope:

Drawing from Pope Francis's Papal Bull *Spei non confundit* (Hope Does Not Disappoint), Pope Leo emphasizes that hope is a desire and expectation of good things to come, founded not on human optimism but on the Risen Christ. He frequently reminds the faithful, particularly the youth, that Jesus is the true source of hope.

Embracing Challenges with Hope:

Pope Leo acknowledges that uncertainty about the future can cause various feelings, including apprehension, anxiety, and doubt. However, he urges Christians to see these challenges as opportunities for conversion and rebirth, emphasizing that even when faced with one's own sins and weaknesses, the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus provide a reason to cling to hope.

Importance of Conscience Formation:

Pope Leo highlights the role of conscience in shaping our understanding of "good." He encourages young people to nurture their conscience by listening to Jesus' word and reflecting on how to build a more humane world.

Hope in Action - Service and Love:

The Pope emphasizes that hope is not merely a passive expectation but calls for action, especially in serving the poor and marginalized. He highlights that seeing and serving the poor allows us to witness the good we desire to receive from our neighbors. Furthermore, he encourages faithful to adore Christ in the Blessed Sacrament, study, work, and love according to Jesus' example, and be a companion on the journey for others.

The Power of Prayer and Friendship with Christ:

Pope Leo encourages prayer to remain friends with Jesus and to be a companion to everyone encountered.

Building a Fraternal and Peaceful World:

Christian hope, according to Pope Leo, gives us the courage to build a fraternal and peaceful world, even when it seems like a difficult task. He reminds us that hope is needed in a world marked by despair, according to Vatican News.

Recognizing the Poor:

In his message for the 9th World Day of the Poor, the Pope stresses that the poor, though materially deprived, can often embody a deep and enduring hope. He calls for policies that address the structural causes of poverty and for viewing the poor not just as recipients of charity but as "creative subjects" who challenge us to live the Gospel in new ways.

A Call to Holiness and Not Settling for Less:

Speaking to the youth, Pope Leo urges them to aspire to great things and to holiness wherever they are, and not to settle for anything less. In summary, Pope Leo's message about hope during the Jubilee Year is a call to deepen our relationship with Christ, to actively live out our faith through service and love, and to remain confident in God's mercy and unfailing love, even amidst life's trials. He envisions the Jubilee as a time to rediscover, proclaim, and build hope for the Church and the world.

FROM THE PASTOR:

I love converts to Catholicism. They ask interesting questions that make us natives think deeper. Such was the case on the feast of the Assumption when my buddy asked, "What is a dogma?"

What do you mean, *what is a dogma? It's a dogma.* Exactly. We all know what a dogma is. But what really is a *dogma*? Good question.

I thought for a minute and then said, "A dogma is a theological *nonnegotiable*." Kind of like $2+2=4$ in math world, dogmas in theology define the logic of Christianity. For many years, the word *dogma* doesn't make a present sound. It's like *authority*, we understand its necessity, but it still sounds restrictive.

That's one way of looking at a dogma, it forces us to believe, or not believe, in something that I kind of question. Take the Assumption of Mary, one of four Marian Dogmas, we may have a hard time believing that Mary was so sinless that both her and her body went straight to Heaven. After all, Scriptures says, "all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23)

True. We could arm wrestle over whether or not St. Paul meant for us to take this literally or that he was simply referring to a theme found in the Old Testament about the sinfulness of mankind, such as Psalm 14:3. Dogmas can seem to be restrictive or they can be viewed as educational.

If there were no dogmas, we would have to *reinvent the theological wheel* with each generation. Theological dogmas actually provide freedom. With them we don't have to do the hard work of working out basic Christian mathematics. Not that we don't take time to understand where they came from and why.

Thanks to Christian dogmas, we can run freely through the theological wildflowers. Because there are certain features of Christianity that are presupposed, like the procession of the Trinity, the hypostatic union of Jesus, and the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, we don't have to start from the beginning. We can pick up where others have left and have fun contemplating salvation history.

Dogmas of Christianity come to us through the authority of the Church. Jesus

established His church on the authority of the apostles (see Matthew 16:17-19). The dogmas that they declare are not matters of opinion but are divinely inspired. If we trust Jesus, we can trust the teaching authority of the church He established.

The dogma of Mary's Assumption does not limit theology but enhances it. Now that I know that this is a definitive article of our faith, I can play in the theological sandbox and wonder about different details. *Did Mary die or fall asleep? What significance does her bodily assumption have on the hope of our bodily resurrection?* Questions like these and more crop up when the Church gives us dogmas to ponder.

The new idea that has come to mind this year as I ponder this mystery of our faith regards Mary's sleep/death. The document *Munificentissimus Deus*, written by Pope Pius XII in 1950 declaring the historical belief of Mary's Assumption as dogma, only states that *when Mary's earthly life was concluded...* It never states whether she died or fell asleep or what. Pondering this mystery, I realized that regardless of how this looked, her body and soul never separated.

The separation of our body and soul is really what constitutes death. This is a result of Original Sin. Mary was preserved from Original Sin by her Immaculate Conception (another dogma of the Church). However, her departure from earth looked, her body and soul stayed united.

Fun stuff. Dogmas are *theological non-negotiables*. Because we can definitively count on them, we can get creative in contemplating the mysteries of our faith. This is what children do. And we, as children of God, can enjoy the theological playground of Christianity thanks to the authority our Lord gave to His *one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church*.

Ranch freely.