

Catholic Churches of Barber County, Kansas

Fr. Mark Brantley, Pastor

December 19, 2021

Julie Warner, Secretary

Holy Rosary, Medicine Lodge

St. John the Apostle, Kiowa

St. Boniface, Sharon

Main Office: 620-886-3596

Office: 620-825-4361

Office: 620-294-5526

Emergency Cell: 620-886-0691 (No Text)

WEBSITE:

pastor@barbercountycatholic.org

www.barbercountycatholic.org

secretary@barbercountycatholic.org

4th Sunday in Advent

Thoughts on Today's Liturgy

Reading 1: Micah 5:1-4a From you shall come forth the ruler of Israel.

Reading 2: Hebrews 10:5-10 Behold, I come to do your will.

Gospel: Luke 1:39-45 And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?

Mass Schedule and Intentions

Saturday	18	5:00 p.m.	ML	Evan Withrow	✠	4 th Sunday in Advent
Sunday	19	8:30 a.m.	SH	Roman Blick	✠	4 th Sunday in Advent
Sunday	19	10:30 a.m.	KW	Jerry Blevins	✠	4 th Sunday in Advent
Tuesday	21	9:00 a.m.	ML	No Mass		4 th Tuesday in Advent
Wednesday	22	5:30 p.m.	ML	No Mass		4 th Wednesday in Advent
Thursday	23	8:30 a.m.	KW	No Mass		4 th Thursday in Advent
Friday	24	4:30 p.m.	SH	Joyce Ditgen	✠	Nativity of the Lord
Friday	24	6:30 p.m.	KW	Jaso Family & Kathy Gonzales	✠	Nativity of the Lord
Saturday	25	9:00 a.m.	ML	Dennis Larkin	✠	Nativity of the Lord
Sunday	26			Normal Sunday Schedule		The Feast of the Holy Family

Sacrament of Reconciliation by appointment

Reflection: Pregnant, Strong, and Faithful I love the meeting of Mary and Elizabeth, a rare depiction of pregnant women in Scripture. Both pregnancies defy social norms: Elizabeth is too old, and Mary is a young virgin. Salvation history depends on them, for each bears a miracle within her: John, the last of the prophets foretelling the Messiah, and Jesus the Savior, the Son of God.

Although art often shows Mary as fragile, she must have been sturdy and strong to climb those steep Judean hills. Then as now, pregnancy and childbirth are messy and dangerous, and these women are risking their lives to give birth to John and Jesus. We need to see them as pregnant for that reason, even though their state points to “the scandal” of the incarnation.

That scandal, that God relied on female flesh to come into the world, is often revealed in a paradox. We gladly celebrate Jesus' birth at Christmas, but images of Mary depicting her “baby bump” can be criticized as sacrilegious. Contemporary women, too, experience a dichotomy. As recently as forty years ago, married women teaching in Christian schools—both Protestant and Roman Catholic—were expected (and sometimes forced) to leave once their pregnancy became visible.

So let's celebrate Mary and Elizabeth—pregnant women, greeting each other with the words God gave them. Both are blessed because, against all odds, they believed that what God promised them would be fulfilled. Let us be willing to use the bodies God gave us to help bring Christ into the world. *Kathleen Norris is an oblate of St. Benedict.*

Word of Life

“Perhaps one of your friends has become pregnant unexpectedly. As someone who has been there, I encourage you to support your friend in her new journey of being a mother.” Learn ten tips at respectlife.org/support-her. USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities “10 Ways to Support Her When She's Unexpectedly Expecting”

***PLEASE EMAIL BULLETIN ITEMS TO JULIE BY NOON WEDNESDAY TO secretary@barbercountycatholic.org**

PRAYER INTENTIONS

For the Sick and Shut-Ins:

Lennes Rankin, Mark Huffles. Greg Pennock, Adalynn Amerin, Myra Dick, John Dohm, The Ringer Family, Earl Kuhn, Cortlyn Hill, Ella Rundle, Eileen Schmidt, Jerome Ricke, John Eck, Herb Landwehr, Jaunita Ricke, John Harding, Pete Eck, Hugh Rankin, Corona Hoch, Charlie Jo Warner, Mary Eck, Helen Eck, Sandy Ricke, Ruth Blick, Miles Sheldon

For the Faithful Departed:

Jerry Blevins, Mary Contrell, Phillip Simpson, Mike Lynch, Dennis Larkin, Joyce Ditgen, KaSondra Mantey, Mabel Boor, Amari Allen, William "Bud" Becker, Gwen Spade, Vernon Rinke, Joe Hrencher, Gerard Ricke, Evan Withrow, Gladys Christensen, Victor Blick, Roman Blick Jr, Eulanda(Butch) Criser, Steve Eck, Ernest Young, Deven Leis, Art Junger, Ted Hauser, Jim Ricke, Laura Seiler, Anita Patterson, Sue Smith, Mary Traffas, Betty Ricke, Walter Sedlak and all the souls in Purgatory. May they rest in perfect peace.

For the Military:

Triston Boor, Austin Stull, Jackson Petit, Christopher Coggins, Dylan Allison, Sheldon Hart, Bianca Lewis, Luke Fisher

Church News

Attention to our Catholic Men of all 3 Parishes

The KOC Holy Rosary Council #6618 is sponsoring a new ministry program designed for young married men. The Program, called *Into the Breach*, was designed by the Most Rev. Thomas J. Olmstead, Bishop of Phoenix (formally the Bishop of Wichita). It provides young men with the spiritual tools necessary to meet the cultural challenges that threaten today's Catholic families. We anticipate offering this program during a series of eight early mornings (before work) meetings (one each month) beginning in January. Yes, breakfast will be provided. Young married men from all three parishes are invited to attend. For more information contact Brian Withrow at 620-213-0391 or brianwithrow@rocketmail.com.

Holiday Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve Vigil, December 24, 2021 4:30 pm at St Boniface and 6:30 pm at St John the Apostle

Christmas Day, December 25, 2021 9:00 am at Holy Rosary

Topeka March for Life

The Diocese of Dodge City will be making a pilgrimage to Topeka for the annual IGNITE-Mass, Rally, and March for Life. We will leave on January 24th on a bus, spend the night, participate in the rally, then be back in Dodge City around 10:30 p.m. on January 25th. To register, please visit dcdiocese.org/offices/respect-life. Contact Emma Showalter at 620-227-1540 or dcyouth@dcdiocese.org for questions.

Ministry Schedule December 25th – 26th

Week 4	St. Boniface	St. John the Apostle	Holy Rosary
Lector 1	Carol Ricke	Chris Tharp	Loretta Boor
Cantor	Choir	Choir	Rodney Ringer
Lector 2	Daryl Eck	Danny Archuleta	Daryl Honas
General Intercessions	Jacob Eck	Danny Archuleta	Diane Seiler
Eucharistic Ministers	Daryl Eck Ann Schreiner Scott Dohm	Deb Helfrich Carl Helfrich Tammy Graves	Daryl Honas Charlotte Ringer Cheri Dohrmann Leroy Seiler Volunteer
Servers	Sidney Swingle Brenna Ricke Kendall Nelson	Volunteers	Derrek Randels
Musician	Kathy Dohm	Nikki Brattin	Kathy Dohm
Greeters			Mark and Loretta Boor
Sacristan	Doug Schmidt	Deb Helfrich	Daryl Honas
Rosary	Volunteer		Charlotte Ringer