

CCBC Pastoral Council Minutes

September 1, 2020

The Catholic Churches of Barber County Pastoral Council met at 7:00 p.m. at St. Boniface on September 1, 2020. Chairperson Kay Koger called the meeting to order with members Father Mark Brantley, John Forester, Bev Miller, Chuck Graves, Rayann Rucker, Anne Schreiner, Darrin Hern, Diane Seiler, and Daryl Honas present. No one was absent.

Father Mark began the meeting by leading the council in prayer. The minutes of the April 2020 meeting were approved.

Parish Reports:

Parish representatives reported on their activities since the last meeting, still very limited due to the ongoing Covid restrictions.

Diane reported that Holy Rosary has not had any funerals, baptisms, or other major events.

Rayann reported St. Boniface held First Communion for a couple of children and had recarpeted the exterior steps at the church. She also said Roman Blick's funeral would be held later in September.

St. John reported they had First Communion for two children and Confirmation for one. The Kiowa Knights have permanently discontinued their Bingo program. St. John will have a Taco Booth in Kiowa on Labor Day.

Pastor's Report/New Business:

Father Mark reported that he has been pleased to see enrollment in eOffering growing steadily, and he continues to encourage greater participation. He asked council members to share with parishioners how online giving benefits the parishes through greater financial stability and predictability.

Father said it is time to begin regular Adoration and Confession again, and dates were set as follows:

Wednesday, September 23 at 7:00 p.m. at Kiowa

Saturday, October 3 immediately after 5:00 p.m. Mass at Medicine Lodge

Wednesday, October 14 at 7:00 p.m. at Sharon

Wednesday, November 18 at 6:00 p.m. at Medicine Lodge

Father proposed holding a 6 to 7 week pre-Advent adult education program at Medicine Lodge on Tuesday nights. All agreed this was a good idea, and exact dates will appear in the bulletin.

Father asked for members' thoughts about his idea of hosting an "Ask the Priest" evening or evenings where people could ask him questions on a wide range of church-related topics. Council members welcomed the idea, so Father will propose more specifics at the November council meeting.

Father Mark also presented an idea for enhancing our Catholic fellowship through an event incorporating fun and faith, such as an adults' night out playing "Catholic Jeopardy" and serving adult beverages. The council welcomed this idea also, and dates will be determined at the next meeting. Father thought a winter evening might be the best time to schedule something like this.

The council discussed various options for a Lenten program next year. All agreed the 2020 Lenten Retreat exceeded expectations, but Father noted retreats given by outside presenters can be very expensive, so it's likely not feasible to hold one every year. Instead, he hoped we could encourage participation in a video or streaming series for next Lent. Bev suggested Dr. Brad Petry's "The Catholic Teaching on the End Times." Other ideas were also mentioned, and more discussion and a final decision will take place at the November meeting.

There was some discussion of church cleaning procedures during Covid. Obviously each parish has different needs, but all thought each church is doing its best to meet guidelines.

Father reported that three doors will soon be replaced at the rectory. The existing doors are hollow core, and the replacements will be much more energy-efficient solid doors. The next project at the rectory will be replacing basement windows as the current windows are single pane glass and some are cracked.

The council agreed to continue the Mass rotation that had been established by the council a couple years ago, so beginning the weekend of November 29, St. Boniface will have Mass Saturday evening at 5:00, St. John will again have Mass Sunday morning at 8:30, and Holy Rosary's will move to Sunday morning at 10:30.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, November 17, at 7:00 p.m. at Holy Rosary.

In closing, Father led the council in the Hail Mary.