

CCBC Pastoral Council Minutes

September 13, 2022

The Pastoral Council of the Catholic Churches of Barber County met at 6:30 p.m. at Holy Rosary in Medicine Lodge on September 13, 2022. Chairperson Kay Koger called the meeting to order with Father Emmanuel Kosikumah and members Bev Miller, Chuck Graves, John Forrester, Rayann Rucker, Anne Schreiner, Diane Seiler, and Darryl Honas present. Darrin Hern and Dakota Dohrmann were absent.

Father Emmanuel began the meeting by leading the council in prayer. Bev moved and Darryl seconded approving the minutes of the June 2022 meeting, and the motion passed.

Parish Reports:

Parish representatives reported on their activities since the last meeting:

Holy Rosary reported a visit from and reception after Mass for Father Emmanuel's bishop from Ghana, Bishop Gabriel. The Monday following, Bishop John Brungardt celebrated Mass at Holy Rosary along with Bishop Gabriel and several other priests, and lunch was served immediately after. The Deanery meeting and supper for ten priests were also hosted. Diane reported that the Parish School of Religion under Director Cheri Dohrmann will begin on September 14.

St. Boniface had one funeral, Phyllis Randels. Rayann reported that the process of selecting replacement curtains for St. Boniface continues, but now they are adding fresh paint to the project. The Parish School of Religion has a new Director, Sandy Ricke.

St. John hosted their annual Taco Supper on Labor Day. Bev reported that they are working with Hopps Sound of McPherson to replace and improve the sound systems in the church and hall. PSR under the direction of Lindsey McMoran will begin soon, and finally, the parish has a new member with the birth of a baby girl to Tiffany Green.

Father Emmanuel reported that Bishop John will be here the weekend of October 1st to install Father Emmanuel in all three Barber County parishes; Holy Rosary will host a parish supper after Mass on Saturday and St. John will host a luncheon after Mass on Sunday.

Father asked about possible Confirmation in 2023, and council members agreed to find out if we have candidates ready to be confirmed. Father again expressed a preference for a joint celebration of the sacrament if there are candidates from more than one parish.

Another issue he raised concerned the ACTS retreats in Great Bend, asking that each parish send at least one representative to this faith enrichment opportunity. The women's retreat is in late October, the men's in late January. Kay expressed strong interest in attending and will see if there are others interested in going as well.

Father discussed the issue of Mass intentions. He said he's noticed that in the United States it seems Mass intentions are generally limited to the dead, and that while having Masses said for the souls of the departed is entirely appropriate, it is also appropriate and beneficial to offer Mass

intentions for the living, in thanksgiving or in supplication. He encouraged us to promote the practice of Mass intentions for the living in our parishes. Some council members noted that in many parishes the cantor announces the intention at the beginning of each Mass, and all agreed that this would be a welcome practice to adopt locally.

Kay handed out the Mass rotation schedule we had adopted in 2018, and members agreed to continue following it. Beginning the first Sunday in Advent, November 27, St. Boniface will have Mass on Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m., Holy Rosary will have it at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday and St. John at 10:30 a.m.

The council discussed upcoming holy days with Father, and agreed on the following schedules: **November 1, All Saints Day**—Vigil on October 31st at 5:30 p.m. at St. John; November 1st at 8:30 a.m. at Holy Rosary; November 1st at St. Boniface at 6:00 p.m.

December 8, Feast of the Immaculate Conception—Vigil on December 7th at 5:30 p.m. at St. John; December 8th at 8:30 a.m. at Holy Rosary; December 8th at St. Boniface at 6:00 p.m.

Because Christmas and New Year's fall on Sunday this year, the regular Mass schedule will be followed, so Christmas Eve Mass will be at 5:00 p.m. at Sharon, Christmas morning at 8:30 a.m. at Medicine Lodge and 10:30 a.m. at Kiowa. For the Feast of Mary, Mother of God on January 1st, Mass will be at 5:00 p.m. at Sharon on December 31st, and on January 1st at 8:30 a.m. at Holy Rosary and 10:30 a.m. at Kiowa.

Kay asked if anyone had any issues or concerns they wanted to share about the recent change of Tri-Parish secretary, who is now Dakota Dohrmann. Everyone agreed that things seem to be working out so far.

Before the close of the meeting, Father informed the council he will be away October 19-24 and Fr. Dwight Birket will substitute for him at Holy Rosary on Saturday, but Father Emmanuel will be back for Sunday Masses. There was also a brief discussion about the proper way to resolve concerns about any church matters, with Father Emmanuel asking that we remember and follow the long-established Catholic chain of command, which means that the parish priest should be informed of any and all important issues, and not undermined by being circumvented.

The next Pastoral Council meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. on January 10, 2023 at St. Boniface.

The meeting was closed with Father Emmanuel leading us in the Hail Mary and Glory Be.