

CCBC Pastoral Council Minutes

July 30, 2024

The Pastoral Council of the Catholic Churches of Barber County met at 6:30 p.m. at Holy Rosary in Medicine Lodge. Chairperson Kay Koger called the meeting to order with Father Emmanuel and members Diane Seiler, Chuck Graves, Mason Eck, and Karin Traffas present. Members Bev Miller, Darryl Honas, John Forester, Darin Hern, and secretary Mary Pat Eck were absent.

Father Emmanuel began the meeting by leading the council in prayer. Kay asked all the members present to review the minutes from the April meeting and bring any objections or corrections to her attention. Chuck moved the minutes be approved as corrected with Mason seconding; the minutes were approved as corrected.

Parish Reports

Parish representatives reported on their activities since the last meeting:

At St. John, four youngsters received their First Communion on May 5 with a reception following.

Holy Rosary held one funeral, Jackie Wood, as well as a Mass for Father's brother on May 4, the day of his burial in Ghana. The parish celebrated Father Emmanuel's 33rd anniversary as a priest with a Mass and parish dinner on July 13th. In addition, there was one baptism for the newest Dorhmann baby.

St. Boniface reports that they had two baptisms. The funeral for past Pastoral Council member Rayann Rucker was held. Karin Traffas announced that she has stepped down as the bookkeeper for St. Boniface and Carol Ricke will take her place. Finally, Sharon council members reported that Totus Tuus was a great success once again and the children loved it, although only one child from Medicine Lodge and no one from Kiowa attended.

Father Emmanuel's Report

Father informed the council that he will be going on vacation to Ghana around the 13th of September and will return around October 22nd. At this time, it appears Father Patrick will fill in for him while he's away, so daily masses and other normal parish activities will not be curtailed. While in Ghana Father Emmanuel will be trying to resolve a few issues with his immigration status as well as hosting the Vicar General of the Dodge City Diocese who will be visiting Ghana for a week or so during Father Emmanuel's time there.

Father asked Kay to read a couple pieces of correspondence. The first was from the diocese about a mission appeal visit by a deacon from the mission of Gallup, New Mexico to all three

parishes. This visit will occur the weekend of August 17-18. Another item from Bishop John requested volunteers to serve in various capacities during September's Eucharistic Congress in Dodge City, and the council suggested that Father announce this opportunity in all three churches for the next couple of weeks to see if anyone is interested. Father Emmanuel told the council that the same Catholic vendor/fundraiser who came last year to sell various religious items from the Holy Land wants to visit the three parishes again soon, and we agreed any time in the next couple weeks will work well.

The council briefly discussed how long to keep a deceased person listed in the faithful departed prayer section of the bulletin, and two years was set as the appropriate duration.

Old Business

The council discussed Karin's suggestion from last meeting for a volunteer appreciation event, and it was generally decided that next spring toward the end of the school year would be an appropriate time. The council will discuss specifics at coming meetings.

New Business

Council members discussed and established Mass times for upcoming Holy Days of Obligation.

Thursday, August 15—The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:30 a.m. – Kiowa

5:00 p.m. – Sharon

6:30 p.m. – Medicine Lodge

Thursday, October 31 and Friday, November 1—All Saint's Day

Vigil, October 31

6:00 p.m. – Kiowa

November 1

7:30 a.m. – Sharon

5:30 p.m. – Medicine Lodge

Kay requested that members be thinking of individuals who might be willing to help write for and maintain the website, and Mason said that in time he would be willing to help out.

The next meeting is at St. Boniface on November 19th at 6:30 p.m.

Father closed the meeting with a prayer and led the council in the Hail Mary.