

CCBC Pastoral Council Minutes January 20, 2026

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. Father Emmanuel and members Darryl Honas, Diane Seiler, John Forester, Chuck Graves, Mason Eck, Darin Hern, and Secretary Carol Ricke were present. Bev Miller was absent. Special guests Mary Pat Eck, Allison Eck, & Kevin Cox were also present.

Father Emmanuel began the meeting by leading the council in prayer.

Mary Pat Eck and Allison Eck gave a nice presentation on the Catechesis of the Good Shepard. They explained that it is a Montessori-type method for children ages 3 and up. It is a scriptural and liturgical approach to religious formation. They are both trained in the method, and plan to offer it to ages 3-6 at St. Boniface.

Kevin Cox, from Wehby Digital in Kiowa, provided the council with information about creating a Church Directory. He can provide printed and digital versions of the pictures and directory. Each parish will need to set up a day for families to get their pictures taken. Price includes \$500 to build the book, \$35-\$50 per family for sitting fees and one picture (price is based on number of families), and \$23 per printed book. We thanked Kevin for his presentation.

After reviewing the minutes, John Forester moved to accept the minutes as presented, and Chuck Graves seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Parish Reports

St. Boniface reported that Mary Pat Eck was leading a family religious program. Wade Eck was baptized at Mary Pat's home parish in St. Louis.

St. John reported that they had a live nativity before Christmas, and they had one baptism.

Holy Rosary reported that they had a Christmas program and dinner, and PSR started back up in January.

Father Emmanuel's Report

Father announced that the Bishop is coming on Thursday, February 5 @ 5:00 p.m. at Holy Rosary for a development dinner. Leadership/involved parishioners from each parish will receive an invitation. The visit is to build awareness to what our diocese is doing. Holy Rosary will provide fried chicken and potatoes. They asked the other parishes to provide salads and desserts. An RSVP will be requested.

Father announced that a representative from Unbound, Fr. Vittorio Boria, a Capuchin friar from Denver, will be coming to visit all three parishes on February 21-22. Fr. Boria will be available to hear confessions 30 minutes before each Mass and will be the celebrant at each parish. Medicine Lodge will host a soup supper for him. Unbound allows parishioners to sponsor children, young adults and seniors to make education accessible for aspiring students or to assist those in need.

Father gave some information about Blest Art, and asked when a good time would be for them to visit. It was decided that we would invite them to come in October.

New Business

September 12 is the date for the 75th Dodge City Diocese Anniversary celebration in Dodge City. Father explained that each parish should have their own celebration. Holy Rosary chose June 13 because of the

Immaculate Heart of Mary; St. Boniface chose June 14 because of the feast of St. Boniface; and St. John the Apostle chose Mary 27 because that is in conjunction with Confirmation in Kiowa.

Kay explained that the diocese wants each parish to do a Census. She suggested that we gather information at the same time the pictures are taken for the new Church Directory, but we will compile the information into a separate document/booklet for all parishioners.

After further discussion, Diane Seiler moved that we accept Kevin's proposal to create our directory. John Forester seconded the motion, and the motion was approved. Dates selected for pictures are as follows: March 1 in Kiowa; March 8 in Medicine Lodge; and March 29 in Sharon.

Kay asked if there were any local families in need of support from the Emergency Relief Fund. It was determined that there was not a direct need at this point.

Mass times for Lent were discussed, and the following schedule was decided:

Ash Wednesday – Feb. 18
8:00 a.m. at St. Boniface
5:00 p.m. at St. John
7:00 p.m. at Holy Rosary

Holy Rosary will have Eucharistic Adoration after Ash Wednesday Mass.

Penance Services
March 17 – 6:00 p.m. – Holy Rosary
March 19 – 6:00 p.m. – St. John
March 20 – 5:00 p.m. – St. Boniface

Holy Thursday – April 2
6:30 p.m. – Holy Rosary

Good Friday – April 3
1:00 p.m. – St. Boniface
3:00 p.m. – St. John
5:00 p.m. – Holy Rosary

Easter Masses – April 4 & 5
Vigil – 8:00 p.m. – St. Boniface
Sunday, 8:30 a.m. – Holy Rosary
Sunday, 10:30 a.m. – St. John

Kay asked about the Chairman selection for 2026. After discussion, it was decided that Kay would remain the Chairman for this year.

The next meeting will be on April 21st at St. Boniface at 6:30 pm.

Father closed the meeting with a prayer, and we prayed the Hail Mary together.

~Submitted by Carol Ricke