



Diocese of Cheyenne

Office of the Bishop

Decree of Modification: Parishes of Corpus Christi, Newcastle; St. Anthony, Upton; and St. Matthew, Gillette

In order to provide for the pastoral needs in the northeastern corner of the Diocese of Cheyenne, while seeking a proper balance of the pastoral load on the clergy serving these communities, there is a need to modify parishes. The history of how pastoral care has been provided in this area has varied over time.

Corpus Christi Parish in Newcastle was founded January 8, 1893. St. Patrick's Church in Moorcroft was dedicated on April 15, 1917, St. Anthony's Church in Upton was dedicated on December 22, 1917, St. Paul's Church in Sundance was dedicated on September 4, 1950, and St. Matthew's Church in Hulett was established on June 12, 1956 (after the old church building from Upton was relocated to Hulett and renovated). All these missions were originally part of the Corpus Christi Parish.

On September 24, 1966, St. Paul's in Sundance was established as a parish, and the missions of St. Anthony's in Upton, St. Patrick's in Moorcroft, and St. Matthew's in Hulett were made part of St. Paul's Parish. On June 1, 1969, due to a population shift, the parochial see was moved to St. Anthony's in Upton. On June 1, 1980, the pastor of Corpus Christi was also temporarily appointed pastor of St. Anthony's in Upton. On November 18, 1980, a new pastor was appointed for St. Anthony's in Upton, but St. Paul's in Sundance was incorporated into Corpus Christi in Newcastle. On June 1, 1982, St. Patrick's Church in Moorcroft became part of St. Matthew's in Gillette, dividing it from St. Anthony's in Upton, and the pastor of Corpus Christi became pastor of St. Anthony's in Upton and its mission of St. Matthew's in Hulett.

St. Matthew's Parish in Gillette was established on September 18, 1926. The parish was founded from Corpus Christi in Newcastle. Before becoming a parish, St. Matthew's started as a mission of Corpus Christi, then of Holy Name in Sheridan and finally of St. John the Baptist in Buffalo. On June 1, 1982, the St. Patrick's Church in Moorcroft and the pastoral care of the community was transferred to St. Matthew's Parish. Blessed Sacrament Church in Wright was dedicated on May 15, 1984 and is a mission of St. Matthew's Parish.

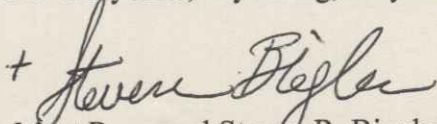
Because of the nature of the roads and the availability of priests, the current configuration does not meet the pastoral needs of the people and the demands placed upon the priests. Having discussed this matter with the Presbyteral Council and having received their affirmative advice on April 11, 2019, and having heard the pastors and the dean, I hereby merge St. Anthony's Parish in Upton into Corpus Christi Parish in Newcastle. Furthermore, I divide the mission of St. Matthew's in Hulett from Corpus Christi Parish and merge it into St. Matthew's Parish in Gillette.

St. Matthew's Parish in Gillette now incorporates all of Campbell County and the western part of Crook County, and Corpus Christi now incorporates all of Weston County and the eastern part of Crook County. The boundary in Crook County will be as follows:

Beginning at the point in northeast Crook County that is the intersection of the Wyoming State Line and the Belle Fourche River at the lowest elevation in the State of Wyoming where the Belle Fourche River leaves the state and enters into the State of South Dakota and following the river upstream to where it intersects with Beaver Creek; then following Beaver Creek to its intersection with Wyoming State Highway 24; then Wyoming State Highway 24 east until it meets Warren Peak County Road Number 100, then south on Warren Peak County Road Number 100 until it meets US Highway 24, just east of the junction of US Highway 24 and Wyoming State Highway 24; then west to the junction of US Highway 14 and State Highway 14; then continuing west on State Highway 14 to the Belle Fourche River; then following the Belle Fourche River to its intersection with Kara Creek; then southerly on Kara Creek to Interstate 90; then from Interstate 90 a direct line south to the border of Crook and Weston Counties.

These modifications are effective July 1, 2020.

Given in Cheyenne, Wyoming, May 16, 2020.

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The Most Reverend Steven R. Biegler, DD, STL
Bishop of Cheyenne



Jean M. Chrostoski
Chancellor