

Pastors

Saint Boniface is rich in Benedictine history. Priests from Subiaco Abbey started the parish and were pastors for 111 years. In 1998, when the Abbey was no longer able to supply a priest for Saint Boniface, Bishop Andrew Mc Donald, Bishop of Little Rock, assigned a Diocesan Priest as the new pastor. Fr. Bill Elser was appointed as pastor, and was at Saint Boniface until 2004. In that same year, Fr. Jon McDougal came to the parish as the second Diocesan Priest.

Assistant Pastors

In 1928, the first “week-end” assistant pastor was assigned to Saint Boniface. This was Fr. Louis Deuster. During the week he taught at Subiaco Academy, and on weekends he would go to Saint Boniface. He heard confessions on Saturdays and helped with the Masses on Sundays. He served in this capacity till 1932. Fr. Bede Mitchel was his replacement and held this assignment till 1938. The first full time assistant pastor was Fr. Ambrose Branz. Even though he was only at Saint Boniface for one year, it was under his leadership that the first Sunday bulletins were published.

Following Fr. Ambrose were Fathers Mark Berger, James Foley, Martin Fischer, Anthony Schroeder, John Walbe, Aloys Fuhrmann, Peter Sharum, and Bernard Schumacher. Some of these assistant pastors later became the head pastor. Saint Boniface lost its last assistant pastor, Father Bernard, in 1969.

Many churches were also losing their assistant pastors. Fortunately, changes brought about during the mid 1960’s from Vatican II, helped fill a small portion of their void. More lay ministry participation had been approved and even encouraged by the Catholic Church.

<i>Saint Boniface Pastors</i>	
Fr. Pius Boehm, OSB	1886-1887
Fr. Placidus Zarn, OSB.....	1887-1888
Fr. Bonaventure Binzegger, OSB	1888-1889
Fr. Ulrich Gehweiler, OSB	1889-1890
Fr. Pius Zwysig, OSB	1890-1902
Fr. Thomas Keller, OSB	1902-1910
Fr. Boniface Spanke, OSB	1910-1911
Fr. Basil Egloff, OSB	1911-1927
Fr. Peter Post, OSB.....	1927-1943
Fr. Mark Berger, OSB	1943-1945
Fr. Gregory Kehres, OSB	1945-1952
Fr. James Foley, OSB	1953-1959
Fr. Ignatius Broadmayer, OSB.....	1959-1959
Fr. John Walbe, OSB	1959-1961
Fr. Maurus Gerke, OSB	1961-1975
Fr. Hilary Filiatreau, OSB	1975-1984
Fr. Placidus Eckart, OSB	1984-1995
Fr. Stephen Eckart, OSB	1995-1996
Fr. Placidus Eckart, OSB	1996-1998
Fr. William Elser.....	1998-2004
Fr. Jon McDougal	2004 - Present