

Linkage Pastoral Council Meeting

Franklin Hardin Linkage

Monday, February 1, 2021, 6:30 PM

St. Mark Church, Iowa Falls

Minutes

Attendees

Staff: Fr. Kevin Earleywine, Fr. Frantz Augustin, Mary Quinlin

St. Mary, Ackley: Jeff Frazier, Dave Keninger, Scott O'Brien

St. Patrick: Terry Carr

St. Mark: Cindy Stalzer, Robert Warrington, Tom Atkinson, John Winkels

St. Mary, Eldora: Lorelei Lake, Alison Steiner, Dan Kadolph

Fr. Kevin opened the meeting with a prayer.

Fr. Kevin introduced Fr. Frantz Augustin, who will serve as our associate pastor until July 2022. Fr. Frantz told the group about his background. He is pursuing a master's degree while he is in the Archdiocese of Dubuque. Fr. Kevin noted that we are grateful to have Fr. Frantz helping with our ministry in the linkage, but we are also helping to build the Church in Haiti by providing this experience for Fr. Frantz.

Fr. Kevin spoke about the budget process for the fiscal year 2021-2022. A chart was distributed showing the elimination of the linkage Hispanic ministry position and the addition of a full-time priest. The goal is to have the budgets done by the next linkage finance council meeting on April 19, with pastoral councils approving them on May 3.

Mary provided a recap of the Vanco Online Giving program that began at the end of October. Mass attendance data/giving correlations and 5-year trends from the Archdiocese were distributed. The PPP loan received by St. Mark is still awaiting forgiveness. A second round of PPP funds is now available to entities that show a 25% reduction in income in any one quarter from 2019 to 2020. St. Mary Ackley and St. Patrick may be eligible to apply.

We are still working with Streamspot to source equipment so that a long term and manageable streaming solution can be implemented.

As in 2020, it may not be feasible to hold elections for pastoral councils this year. The Archdiocese has provided guidance and it is allowable for members to continue for another year, or if they would like to step down, a new member can be appointed by the current council to finish the term of that member. This will be discussed in the individual parish meetings.

Discussion of pictorial directories will be tabled until the fall of 2021.

Fr. Kevin spoke of some upcoming adult faith formation opportunities: a Lenten book study of *Rejoice and Be Glad* and a study of the four Gospel narratives. Fr. Kevin will also offer a study

on Monday evenings in March, both in-person and virtual. It will focus on four fundamental institutions of our Catholic Faith: the Eucharist, Mary and Marian devotions, the Church hierarchy and authority, and marriage.

Fr. Kevin spoke on the mission of the church and reflected on where we have been and where we are going after the past year's events. He shared a video clip from Word on Fire with Bishop Robert Barron. People are searching and for many, the effects of 2020 have deepened that search. Fr. Kevin asked all to reflect on the big questions, "Do we really believe that our faith has the answer? Do we live as if our faith is the answer for a broken world?" It is not a specific program or event, but creating a whole culture...starting with prayer.

Fr. Kevin closed the meeting with scripture (Isaiah 41:10) and a prayer.

Next Meetings: First Monday at 6:30 PM

- May 3, 2021.