

Linkage Pastoral Council Meeting

Franklin Hardin Linkage

Monday, November 2, 2020, 6:30 PM

St. Mark Church, Iowa Falls

Minutes

Attendees

Staff: Fr. Kevin Earleywine, Mary Quinlin

St. Mary, Ackley: Jeff Frazier, Dave Keninger, Duane Sudtelgte, Doug Lindaman

St. Patrick: Terry Carr, Duane Kelch, Sue Rowen

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

St. Mary, Eldora: Cecilia Penning, Brian Krause, Lorelei Lake

Fr. Kevin opened the meeting with a prayer.

The latest Mass attendance counts were distributed.

Livestream equipment is still unavailable as it is in high demand because of COVID. Keith Barnett, the head volunteer on the project, recommends waiting for the turnkey package from Streamspot, so that service and support is easier and only involves one company. Mary has contacted Jeremy Jones, head of IT for the Archdiocese for ideas and guidance on how to proceed.

Fr. Kevin is facilitating a Bible study on the Book of Revelation on Monday evenings starting on November 9 at 6:30 PM. It will be held in the St. Mark parish hall, but attendees will also be able to view it on our website and the St. Patrick Facebook page via the livestream. No materials are necessary. There is a lot of interest in the Book of Revelation and also a lot of misconceptions, which Fr. Kevin hopes to clarify during the study.

Online giving - Mary demonstrated the online giving site. A typical arrangement might be to set up a recurring donation (to represent one's regular envelope giving) and then schedule out donations for holy days, such as Christmas and Easter. Religious Education fees can also be paid online. The donor can use a credit card or bank transfer. Each parish has its own portal and donations made on the portal are deposited directly to the parish's general fund checking

account. Donations are uploaded (or manually entered) on the giver accounts via reports sent to Mary.

The group discussed updating the pictorial directories as it has been five years since the last one. Lifetouch, the company which produced the previous one, is currently not taking pictures nor producing directories. The St. Mark council recommended that a new directory is not necessary. St. Mary Eldora may pursue photography options on their own. The consensus of the whole group was to revisit the idea in February with the hope of then setting up a plan at the May meeting.

The Christmas Eve Masses are always quite crowded, and now that we have half the seating capacity, it may present a challenge. The parishes in Eldora and Hampton have the best arrangement for having overflow in their entry or parish hall. Ackley and Iowa Falls face more challenges. Fr. Kevin requested that streaming of the Mass be set up in those two parish halls. The parish staff and liturgy committees should work it out to set up streaming, the sound is adequate for the large group, distribution of Communion is arranged, ushers scheduled to help with seating, etc.

Staff Updates - In September, Steven Chuy resigned from the Hispanic Ministry position and Rocio Chuy resigned as bulletin editor. These were linkage positions. A chart was distributed to show the differences in expenses for going from a full-time Hispanic ministry position to having a half-time priest, and for the bulletin editor duties being added into a full-time position. Brenda Strayer is now the linkage bulletin editor. Soiree Lara was hired as a part-time coordinator of Hispanic Ministry and the position will be St. Patrick only.

Next meetings: February 1, 2021 and May 3, 2021

Fr. Kevin closed the large group meeting with a prayer and the groups