

FOUR PARISH LINKAGE PASTORAL COUNCIL
Tuesday, August 1, 2017

Following Mass and Eucharistic Exposition at St. Mark Church, Fr. Tony convened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

Motion to approve minutes: Doug; 2nd/Cindy. Minutes approved. (Minutes recorded by Jeff Frazier and Karen Ferris.)

Comments by Fr. Tony @ the need for renewal in the parishes especially in the areas of stewardship, evangelization, serving parish families and the community.

Old Business

- Fr. Kevin is expected to join us on Wednesday, August 9.
- Office remodel update: Everblock walls were paid for by a generous parishioner.

New Business

- Fr. Tony introduced **Topic One – *Who are we? What makes our churches different from the other churches in our communities? If our parishes were not here in our communities, would they be missed?*** for discussion. Each of the four parishes took several minutes to discuss; then each reported results.
 1. **St. Patrick:** Catholic Church is the original church, community endeavors (Food Pantry, Knights of Columbus).
 2. **St. Mary/Ackley:** Oldest church in Ackley and largest, not as active as they would like, community endeavors, members are community leaders, lack of knowledge @ Catholicism in the community.
 3. **St. Mary/Eldora:** Traditional/providing spiritual guidance, music, parishioners from smaller communities, Crop Walk, Food for Needy, gatherings after Mass, known for welcoming visitors.
 4. **St. Mark:** Aim of Cluster to make disciples, strong Faith Formation, respect for others, outreach/hospitality need work, provide faith information via kiosk.

Fr. Tony assigned our “homework” for the November 7 meeting: Think about **Topic One** above and **Topics Two and Three:**

Topic Two -- *What are obstacles to renewal? What challenges do we face?*

Topic Three -- *What do our parishes have to offer? What do we do well? What can we do better to renew our homes, families, communities, and parishes?*

Fr. Tony wants feedback – talk to parishioners @ topics and if we have additional thoughts email him.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm – each parish council then met individually.

NEXT LINKAGE MEETING: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7 AT ST. MARK *beginning with Mass 5:30 and Eucharistic Exposition 6:00-7:00 and Meeting at 7:00 pm*

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Ferris

