Worship Commission Meeting

14 September, 2023

**PRESENT:** Althea Burrier, Beth Campshure, Martha Endejan, Patty King, Maggie Meyer, Fr. Edward Sanchez. Harry Schneider, Brian Seel, Ben Skifton, Joanne Streeter, Lisa Sutton, Paul Thelen

**EXCUSED:** Mary Ketterhagen, Judy Pollard, David Ransom

The meeting was opened with the members praying together.

Advent/Christmas Review:

* There were a lot of spiritual opportunities available throughout Advent, including many opportunities for Reconciliation. The *a cappella* chants used during Advent were well received. Paul stated that the Entrance and Communion antiphons sung by the musicians would probably be continued again next year, and perhaps during Lent also.
* Almost everyone who attended the Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve found it to be a very spiritual and intimate experience, with the Sanctuary lit only by candles. While the Seminarians, let by our intern Redmond, did a great job with the music, Fr. Edward would like to have the music more organized next year.
* Attendance at the early Christmas Eve masses (4pm) was back up near pre-Covid numbers, but the other masses were down a bit from the pre-Covid numbers.
* The early evening (6 and 8pm) masses that were held at ORS and PBVM on New Year’s Eve will probably not be held next year as they were poorly attended.
* There will be clarification about the 7am Mass on Christmas Day at Sacred Heart if it is to be in Spanish again next year.

New Plan for the Holy Family and Sacred Heart Choirs:

* The Sacred Heart choir only has a couple of men now, and the Holy Family choir is short sopranos. Many of the Sacred Heart members would like to have the opportunity to sing some more challenging music and also to sing every week. On a trial basis, the choirs will begin to practice together on Wednesdays at Holy Family. They will alternate singing at the 9:00 AM Mass at Sacred Heart and the 10:00 AM Mass at Holy Family. Any member of either choir is welcome to join in every week.

Adoration:

* Fr. Edward advised Lisa that the Hispanic Community will continue Adoration on the 1st Saturdays of the month from 10:00pm to 5:00am. The Hispanic Men would like to begin Adoration on the 4th Saturdays from 9:00pm to 5:30am.
* Lisa asked about the possibility of having a designated time to collect rosaries and scapulars that are no longer used. There was considerable discussion about this possibility, because people often bring boxes of items from homes when a family member passes away, or things that are received in the mail. Often these items are just left laying around at the churches, or handed off to Lisa or the staff. Several possible solutions were raised. As far as collecting the items, perhaps designate a Feast day to have them dropped off. As far as making use of them, perhaps contacting Trisha or Amanda to see if they could be given to families that needed them. A lot of them come in needing repair. Althea stated that she can repair the chain, but if beads are missing she wouldn’t be able to do anything with them. Lisa is to look at options for a date and prepare some sort of announcement. Fr. Edward if going to look at the tub of items that was left off in the Choir room.
* Paul advised Lisa that there is ~$4000 available in funds designated for Adoration,

Statues that need Repair/Painting and Religious Items in Holy Family Basement (from closed sites):

* Maggie stated that there are a number of statues around that need repair and/or painting. Paul stated that Dave Seif has done repair and painted a number of statues for Holy Family. The statue of St. Patrick in the St Patrick room at Holy Family needs repainting and repair.
* Harry mentioned that there are a lot of religious articles in the basement at Holy Family that had been inventoried and were to be disposed of but are still there. Fr. Edward and Harry will look these over and come up with a plan.

Tabernacle Placement at Holy Family:

* Discussion continued regarding the possibility of moving the Holy Family Church tabernacle behind the altar. One obstacle would be the placement of the sanctuary lamp.
* Paul contacted the original iron artist about the possibility of enlarging the artistic iron that holds the Sanctuary lamp at its current location. The quote he was given was >$20,000. It is possible that it could be mounted on the stone wall at the back of the Sanctuary as is, without enlargement. Fr. Ryan asked Paul about the possibility of a stand similar to the Paschal Candle holder. Paul advised that it would probably be in the area of $40.000. The suggestion of another artist making a knock-off holder was rejected by the committee.
* There was discussion on other options, including mounting the candle on the pillar adjacent to where the Tabernacle would be placed.
* The discussion will continue. There is no rush, as this is not a required move.

Strategic Plan:

* Paul prepared a summary of the Worship Commission objectives in the Plan. All members were asked to review the objectives and comment on them. Reply All to Paul’s e-mail that had the summary attached.

Topics brought up at the Last Meeting:

* Singing at weekday masses:
  + Fr. Edward will bring up to the Priest team about letting the congregation know when they are entering church. Most people didn’t feel it was a problem if everyone didn’t stand at the same time. Beth commented that it just would be nice to have everyone doing things the same way.
* Daily 7am mass:
  + The question was raised of adding a Monday and Wednesday AM weekday Mass at Sacred Heart, at possibility at 8am. It was felt that 2 sites and different times would be confusing. Pros and cons of having the 7:00 AM Mass Monday through Friday at Holy Family Church were also discussed.
  + Before any further discussion or action could be taken it would be important to make sure there would be enough ministers (lectors, servers/Sacristans, Eucharistic Ministers). Beth will contact the current and previous ministers to see if there would be interest. It should be noted, that we don’t want to take ministers from the noon Mass at St. Mary! A lot of the ministers that used to serve at the 7AM Mass when they were daily have retired due to age and/or health.

The year ahead: Lent/Triduum-a wish list:

* Holy Thursday and the Easter Vigil will be held only at Holy Family. There will be a Good Friday service at every site. The 6:30pm service on Good Friday last year was not well attended. The 7am mass on Easter Sunday at Sacred Heart will most likely be in Spanish.
* There was discussion about the number of crosses to be used for veneration at the Good Friday service. Multiple crosses would shorten the process, but are they appropriate? Fr. Edward and Beth will investigate.
* Special events and services for Lent:
  + The Priest Talks will continue.
  + 12 hours of Reconciliation will be repeated.
  + Patty stated that the “Arise” experience was good. Fr. Edward suggested that Cor Jesu, held the 1st Thursday at PBVM was a similar experience.
  + Tenebrae at ORS will be celebrated again this year.
  + Morning Prayer on Holy Thursday and Good Friday.
    - This has not been well attended-many fewer people since Covid. Numbers weren’t great pre-Covid, but better than post!
* The next 3 years are designated for Eucharistic Renewal in the Archdiocese. Each parish is to expand what they are doing. What is Holy Family planning to do to be more Eucharistic? Fr. Edward suggested that this be a separate discussion or on the agenda for the next meeting.
* Use of incense:
  + Patty reported that last weekend, a lady came in, attending mass for the first time in a long time. She was invited by a friend. Upon entering, she was met with the smell of incense and said she would have to leave because she was allergic to incense. There was some discussion on how to handle the use.
    - Use frankincense that doesn’t have some of the other additives that produces a negative reaction in some people
    - Have masses designate as “High” and “Low” and always use incense at those designated as “High”. This would be posted on the website.
  + Paul stated that the inventory of incense on hand has been allowed to get low in order to look at alternative types.

Patron Saint Feast Days:

* The next Patron Feast Day will be celebrated April 23, at ORS. Plans are already underway for a dinner/fellowship on the 3rd Sunday in the Easter Season.
* Sacred Heart will be celebrated on the 3rd Friday after Pentecost, June 16, this year. There will be an evening mass that day.
* St. Peter will celebrate on June 29 with an 8am mass.
* PBVM will celebrate on November 21. We can discuss that further at the next meeting.

Future meetings, 9am, in the Board Room at Holy Family:

* Saturday, April 15
  + This will be before the Archdiocesan Eucharistic Congress, allowing for some discussion.
* Saturday, September 9
* POSSIBILITY, Saturday, July 15. That is on hold for right now.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30am.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Campshure