

Liturgy Committee Minutes
January 10, 2019

Members Present: Underlined

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| <u>Greg Hansen</u> , Server Coordinator 18-20 | <u>Sharon Beach</u> , EMHC Coordinator 17-19 |
| Vacant, Past Chair | <u>Scott Wallner</u> , Chair 17-19 |
| <u>Denis Hynes</u> , Lector Coordinator 17-19 | <u>Julie Ortloff</u> , Business Manager |
| <u>Lee/Carol Wolf</u> , Usher Coordinator 17-19 | <u>Chuck Lauer</u> , Sacristan Coordinator 15-17 |
| <u>Father Greg Miller</u> , Pastor | <u>Jason Prigge</u> , Music Coordinator |
| <u>Meghan Stretar</u> , Faith Formation Coordinator | <u>Karen Schellinger</u> |
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Prayer

Old Business:

The October 11, 2018 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved as written.

Evaluate the All Saints (Oct. 31) and Mary the Mother of God (Dec. 31) liturgies. All Saints, was well attended, but competing with the Abbey service and Halloween was not recommended. Mary the Mother of God, was not as well attended as the previous year (about 50 less). Possibly weather and icy roads deterred attendees? With imminent parish clustering changes, it was decided to table further discussion until the ACC plans are more finalized.

However, it was recommended that holy days of obligation be noted as so in the bulletin with area mass times.

Evaluate Advent liturgies. The Reconciliation service was well-liked, parishioner led, well attended, and was described fairly in the bulletin so people understood it was not going to be communal penance. Also, during Advent, we utilized just a worship aid, which people liked. We also had families volunteer to light the advent candles weekly, which was well received.

Evaluate Christmas Eve liturgy. At 400+ attendees, it was noticeably fuller! The Christmas Pageant was wonderful. We ran out of worship aids (had printed 300). The choir had additional microphones, as requested, and we didn't hear complaints about not being able to hear the choir.

Evaluate Faith Formation liturgies. So far, all the Sunday Faith Formation masses have been consistently attended (100+). They are wearing name tags, which is catching on, and being more welcoming of one another. Class masses have been working out well. Meghan is encouraging families to do liturgical ministries together.

New Business:

Appointment of a Vice Chair: Discussion. No one stepped forward at this time, but members were asked to continue to think about it.

Recruit more Mass Servers: Recommendations: post in bulletin, personal invitations, talk to 3rd and 4th graders about signing-up, send home a job description with kids, encourage parent/child serving teams.

ACTION: Julie will type up a job description/invitation for Meghan to send home with Faith Formation students. An invitation in the bulletin for new Servers will also be published.

Establishing a Greeter Ministry: Sell it as a NEW ministry, it is different than being an usher. Welcoming mass attendees is so important and leaves a great impression. How can we get folks to sign-up and when? Suggestions for implementation: Personal invitation, bulletin announcement, Fr. introduce from the pulpit, write a job description, etc. **ACTION: Julie will type up a description and sign-up sheet for the bulletin board. Father Greg will address from the pulpit encouraging people to sign-up.**

Sacristan Concerns Voiced: 1. A couple of Sacristans have commented that they do not feel comfortable or trained to be responsible to lock-up and building after mass but have been left alone to do so. **ACTION: A staff member will be responsible to secure the building (lock all the doors, turn off lights, prop open bathroom doors, etc.).** 2. The sacristans are trained to count the scored pieces of bread for communion. However, recently

there has been much more left-over for the sacristan to consume after communion. Discussion about how some people can only have a small piece, the communion minister should watch the line and give out more as able (per discussion at training). **ACTION: Julie will monitor, possibly score smaller pieces, modify sacristan training possible.** Father Greg mentioned that the communion minister who stands closest to the Ambo will be the minister of BREAD. Communion Ministers should be notified of this change. **ACTION: Julie will email communion ministers.**

How to Promote Children's Envelopes/Stewardship: People have questioned why most weeks there aren't any children offerings. In part, the envelopes are different now, they are not assigned, rather available to pick up at mass. The new envelopes are not just intended for financial contributions, they are focused on good deeds or acts of charity. The new envelopes are located near the bulletins and by the children's Gospel puzzles. A children's collection is important, even if we have few children. **ACTION: Father will offer a separate children's contribution call at the Faith Formation Sunday masses. Meghan will provide a separate station for kids to pick up envelopes and pencils before mass.**

Mass Attendance Assessment: Some discussion about the consistency of mass attendance improving during Advent. Faith Formation masses have been well attended. We talked about Evangelization and where is the other ¾ of our parish? We must improve the quality of our liturgies. Being joyful, participating parishioners will attract and evangelize others. Father Greg shared about the ACC planning and an option including St. Joe, Collegetown, both Campus Ministries and the Sisters of St. Benedict clustering.

Lent and Easter Planning: Logistics were discussed:

Reconciliation: April 11th at 7:00pm (first reconciliation too)

Ash Wednesday: Wed. March 6th at 8:00am

Palm Sunday: Saturday, April 13th at 5:30pm

Holy Thursday: Thursday, April 18th at 7:00pm

Good Friday: Friday, April 19th at 7:00pm

Holy Saturday Vigil of Easter: Saturday, April 20th 8:00pm

Easter Sunday: Sunday, April 21st at 8:30am

Suggestion for Lent/Easter planning: Goal to open young and adult minds and hearts to others and make room for God in our lives. Focus on three main principals (Fasting, Prayer, Almsgiving) in a positive and forward-thinking way to prepare and thrust us into Easter and beyond with momentum. Offering weekly suggestions for fasting, prayer and almsgiving initiatives that correspond to the weekly gospel readings. Also, following a journey theme weekly to the various gospel locations and involving the youth by offering a passport of locations to be stamped weekly. Coordinating décor, community listing of weekly initiatives accomplished, and regular discussions at weekly breakfast and community meals. Father Greg recommends taking this idea further and expanding the journey to include the entire season of Easter, making it "the great 90-pilgrimage". Discussion included requesting a worship aid again, for Lent, Holy Week and Easter liturgies. Important to include kids and adults on the same pilgrimage. An uplifting theme, in contrast to the sometimes dark, barren, dry, and sacrificial time lent can be. Egg shakers for kids and choir at the Easter liturgies was also suggested, along with possibly some sort of cross with candles for each week.

Foot Washing: The six confirmation students will be asked to attend Holy Thursday and have their feet washed and then to wash the feet of two community members feet. **ACTION: Meghan will notify the Confirmation students of the details, and make sure they are prepared to participate.**

Confirmation: Our joint confirmation liturgy will take place on Tuesday, April 30th at 7:00pm in Avon at St. Benedict's Church. **ACTION: Meghan and Jason will establish a rehearsal date which will be published, and students/families notified.**

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting date: Thursday, May 2, 2019 7:00pm