Worship Commission Meeting – March 28, 2017

Attendance: Fr. Christopher Lankford, Tom Kaiser, Mary Pat Vanderlaan, Peg Cello.

Faith Sharing: Father Chris blessed us and our meeting, praying that it be fruitful and that we be protected by Jesus and the Blessed Mother.

* Minutes: Several corrections to the minutes from February 21, 2017 – Liturgical Minister training was 3/7, not 3/10. Regarding WC participating as hosts for March 15th Eucharistic Adoration, it was decided that we would not be needed that day. Rather we will host on Holy Thursday’s Altar of Repose from 8 – midnight. Finally, Father Fragomeni’s name was misspelled, and he is from Our Lady of Pompeii, not St. Peter’s.

Parish Council: Mary Pat Vanderlaan, as the Parish Council member, reported out on the March 15 PC meeting.

Father Tom reported that about 475 people received the Sacrament of Reconciliation at the 18 Hours Confession at IC on March 10 and 11. MPTV recommended to PC that if we do this again next year, that WC and PC/Father Tom meet in advance of service to determine roles, schedules, etc. since there was some confusion about who was doing what. Father Tom had the following feedback:

* He received very good feedback and hopes to do this again next year. Many had been away from Confession for a long time, so it is good to have it available.
* Comments made that it was difficult to know when the back confessionals were available (there are no lights to indicate whether a person is in confessional or not). Next year, we need to better address this.
* The host transition was hectic and noisy. Father suggested additional training would be helpful and suggested that there be an “overseer(s)” who would be there at the change of shifts to ensure a good transition.
* Be sure the signage is correct (e.g. Polish, Spanish etc.).
* Need to do a better job of publicity – this year it was last minute. The newspaper and other parish notification was good, but need to have posted information around town (e.g. train station, restaurants and coffee shops, hardware store, etc.). He wanted someone to take this on, and I suggested WC.
* We need a consistent method to count the number of people who come for the Sacrament – this year’s approach seemed ad hoc.

IC may get another Transitional Deacon (as we have in the past). All PC and Commissions are invited to attend the Ordination on April 21, 2017 at 6:00 PM at the Cathedral of Joliet.

All Commissions need to focus again on the Pastoral Plan progress and programs and report back to the PC.

Ministries

* Liturgical Minister training March 7 and 11. Two Lectors and one Eucharistic Minister were trained. Tom will send out a pronunciation guide website, and Jim should post this to WC’s page.
* We got feedback that some lectors are not following protocol regarding going to the center aisle. Other EMs are bowing to the tabernacle rather than to the Altar. Tom and Peg will send out friendly pointers to their ministers.
* Liturgical Enrichment Day – Father Tom wants to see more participation from IC. There were very few ministers from IC, and over several hundred participants from other parishes.
* Ministry Day – When is the next Discipleship Sunday (Mary Pat will ask Maria)? We could have an announcement either before Mass during announcements or a special announcement after Mass to invite people to join our ministries. We thought we could do this 2 weeks before Discipleship Sunday.
* Altar Server coordinator – Maria is leaving her position as volunteer coordinator. No replacement yet. She expressed concern about the servers and the need for a coordinator. Father Chris will explore this further. Tom will ask that Jim search the WC pages to find the guidelines for Server Coordinator.

Lenten Reconciliation Service: This occurred as planned. Some comments in addition to those above:

* The handouts were good (reconciliation guide, info on windows and church, parish mission). There were too many guides, so next year we recommend we only need 250 copies.
* WC brought way too much refreshments. Next year, water, juice and small snacks (e.g. chocolate) would be plenty.
* Scheduling system had quite a few glitches as the roles were being transitioned from our expert Dave McCaffrey. Want to get this started earlier next time to ensure it is working and in order to get information and training out to the hosts earlier per comments above.
* It was suggested that there be a photo of each of the Priests available to help with directing the people. There was also suggestion of name tags or name plates that could be placed at the confessional stations for the priests. Also, name tags that say “Greeter” or “Host” so that people know who can answer questions.
* We could use temporary lights for the confessionals in the back like what we did with the remote-controlled candles at Christmas.

Holy Hours – We are still interested. Last years were part of the Year of Mercy. We could continue with this theme. It was suggested that we do quarterly beginning in July and October on the First Fridays of the month. Keep it simple – Maybe a theme could also be the Sacred Heart of Jesus in keeping with the First Friday. Exposition, Adoration, Benediction, Reconciliation and maybe the chaplet or rosary. We recommend that Respect Life Holy Hour continue as it has. Mary Pat will contact Deacon John and Tom Livorsi.

Other Lenten and Holy Week Services:

* WC has nothing out of the ordinary for Palm Sunday and Easter. Reminder that the Masses for Easter changed (9:30 and 11:30) due to WC recommendation last year about traffic.
* Holy Thursday – WC agreed to host the Altar of Repose from 8-midnight. We need 2 volunteers per hour. Tom will arrange for the volunteers. Mary Pat will ask Martha to arrange to have 50 of each of the window and church handouts to be placed in the racks in the back of church in case people ask about the history of the church.
* Music
* Other

Father Chris closed the meeting with a blessing. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Next WC meeting is April 24, 2017. Please note the date change.