

## Worship Committee Meeting Notes

February 3, 2021 – 7:00 AM

Attendees: Father Walter Stumpf, Deacon Jeff Hofacker, Mike Collom, Lynn Collom, Diana Van Straten, Jane Varick, Bob Varick

Absent: Kim Hofacker

Minutes prepared and submitted by Lynn Collom.

Meeting opened with prayer led by Father Walter.

### Christmas

- Masses
  - 2:00 PM Mass was the highest attended.
- Environment
  - Beautiful décor!
  - New remote control for lights worked well. Mike will look at providing two additional devices that are needed.
  - Bob suggested having a light shown on the manger as this would be helpful with the camera lighting. Father does not want a cord that could be a tripping hazard. Mike will look at options.
  - Father thought the trees seemed to become dry rather quickly, although Diana stated they were freshly cut before being setup.
  - Father Walter felt the artificial poinsettias mixed in with the live plants were a bit of a distraction.
- Music
  - All sounded good. Virtual choir music was well received.
- Other
  - Father Walter gave continuing approval of...
    - Santa Claus coming in after Communion and kneeling at the manger. He only would like an annual reminder that this going to take place and at which Mass.
    - Silent Night sung after Communion with the lights turned down. Again, just a reminder that this is going to happen at each Mass.

### Suggestions and comments from Father Walter

- Father would like the following feast days recognized or acknowledged in some way, possibly with décor:
  - St. Nicholas Day – December 6
  - Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe – December 12

- Father stressed the importance of the formation of liturgical organists/musicians for future. Deacon Jeff mentioned that the Diocese previously offered organ instruction and will inquire again about this (after the meeting, Jeff confirmed with the Diocese that they no longer offer this).

## **Lent**

- Stations of the Cross
  - Will be held every Friday during Lent at 6:00 PM.
  - Celia and her team are scheduling musicians weekly. The following names were shared and/or suggested as possibly participating: Father Walter, Deacon Jeff, Pat Coonen, Terese McKee, Olivia Baum, Jada Baum, Chelsa Iverson, Cole Froelich.
  - Celia will determine which version of stations will be used each week, and let Bob know the correct version to display.
  - Church will be open to do self-directed stations. Books will be provided; 'used' books will need to be left unused for two weeks afterwards.
- Ash Wednesday
  - Masses will be at 8:15 AM and 6:30 PM. Lynn and Mike will arrange for musicians (coverage confirmed after the meeting).
  - Father Walter and Deacon Jeff will distribute ashes per the Diocesan directive.
  - There will be no 'to go' ashes.
- Good Friday Reproaches
  - Music is on order for these per Father Walter's request. Plan is for Father Walter and Deacon Jeff to alternate singing the verses, cantor to do the refrain. Lynn will help with the preparation/learning as needed.
- Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil
  - We will wait for Diocesan guidelines to discuss/plan.

## **Media**

- Mike reported there was an issue with audio of the streaming of Sunday Mass a couple of weeks ago. The problem was with a connection and has been resolved. The Media team continues to communicate often to resolve issues as they arise.
- Father Walter commented that additional people need to be recruited and trained for the Media Ministry. No action taken at this time.

## **Music Ministry**

- Mike reported a noted problem by Lynn and Celia with the Yamaha Keyboard. One of the keys intermittently played louder than the others. He was able to contact a technician recommended by Heid Music and have the repair completed.
- Bob shared the following from the January 21 Diocesan live webinar:

***“If Parish is doing well on masking and distancing, it is okay to sing responses and songs. No hymnals or choir. At this time cantor and musician only”.***

Music during COVID-19: Our parish has followed the diocesan guidelines thus far. We will move forward with this updated guideline. Beginning on Ash Wednesday, we will again invite the congregation to sing. Song and response lyrics will be displayed on the media.

### **Organ**

- Prior to this meeting, Mike and Lynn met with Val Bartlein from Classic Church Organs to diagnose the problem with the noise coming from the organ, along with the age/general condition/possible repair of this instrument. Mike previously met with Val in 2015. At that time, his professional recommendation was that the organ had not only outlived its expected service life, but is significantly undersized for our current church space after being relocated from the old church. Mike also spoke privately with Father Walter prior to this Worship Meeting. Father expressed support for the possibility of a new organ purchase and informed the Pastoral Council and Finance Council. *Father Walter shared that the organ holds the pride of place among liturgical music as affirmed in the documents of the Second Vatican Council.*
- Mike presented the summary from the 90-minute meeting with Val, which basically resulted in the same conclusion and recommendation as in 2015 for a new organ, with suggestions regarding how to proceed and rally the parish around the idea. Mike also provided data on the technology timeline upgrades of our parish, and how a new organ fits into this. The next step is to schedule a parish meeting where Mike will share the technology overview and Val will share how the organ fits into our plan and answer any questions.

### **Other**

- Jane asked if daily Mass is canceled with a school ‘snow day’ cancellation. Father said daily Mass is normally not cancelled.
- Parish Penance Service will be March 10, 5:30 – 8:00 PM (rescheduled from March 24).

Meeting ended at 8:00 AM with prayer.

Next Worship Meeting is Wednesday, March 10, 2021, at 7:00 AM.