Liturgy committee meeting

Church of Saint Mary, Alexandria

Thursday January 11, 2024

Present: Fr. Rick Aubol, Luke Vanoverbeke, Char Hanson, Deacon Tony Pasko, Stephanie Rutten-Ramos, Bonnie Bromen, Grace Lambert, Kevin Gorghuber, Sue McCulloch. Bill Verschaetse and Erin Takle via zoom.

1. Opening Prayer - “Come Holy Spirit” led by Luke.
2. Open Forum- Sue McCulloch asked about the possibility of praying the “Come Holy Spirit Prayer” either before or after Mass. After discussion, decision was made to table suggestion until decision made regarding Mike Sponsler’s “Mass Minute “proposal. Fr. Rick and Fr. Matthew are reviewing information.
3. Liturgist Update

Review of Christmas liturgies. Christmas eve Mass at St. Mary’s very full, overflow into Commons, and into Great Hall. Will evaluate whether another Mass needs to be added. Question whether additional Eucharistic Ministers need to be assigned. Grace expressed concern over lack of participation for hospitality especially at Solemnity of Mary. Stephanie suggested that for some of the liturgies (i.e Christmas and Easter) we go back to using sign up sheets. Bill suggested team captains be contacted to see how team members are doing with Ministry Pro. Luke mentioned that he is alerted if positions are still open so he can send out an email about open positions.

Palm Sunday Luke looking for readings that can be used for Palm Sunday and Good Friday where parishoners can participate and read parts. Also exploring different ways of doing Palm Sunday procession. Thinking of having Palm Sunday Mass at 10:30 a.m. to allow more time between services so parking, etc. not an issue.

Gift Bearers Considering having gift bearers sign up ahead of time. For baptisms, the family usually brings up the gifts.

Document Discussion Discussed whether to temporarily stop reviewing Desiderio Desideravi and reflect on Bishop Neary’s Pastoral letter. Fr. Fred pointed out that the Pastoral letter is oriented towards a reflective experience, more designed for small group discussion. Pope Francis’ letter addresses what is at the heart of sacramental life. After discussion, it was decided we would continue with Desiderio Desideravi. Char will present sections 36-40 next meeting. Stephanie volunteered to coordinate small study groups to discuss Pastoral Letter.

Committee Format Fr. Fred discussed possibility of having representatives on Liturgy committee not serving a ministry, “giving the pulse of the Mass”. Deacon Tony suggested that we post the names of the people on the Liturgy committee so we could be contacted with questions. Bill suggested that we as committee members try to seek out Mass attendees and get feedback. No specific action taken at this time.

1. Priest Update- Fr. Rick reported nothing new, no extraordinary things coming up.
2. Desiderio Desideravi- Grace lead discussion on Paragraphs 31-34.
3. Lent/Easter

Ash Wednesday-February 14

Stations of Cross 5:15 pm on Fridays

Living Stations -organizational meeting on January 28th. Will have 2 services. Parish Life will serve light meal after Mass so more people will stay for Living Stations.

1. Calendar of Events- Catholic Schools week later this month.
2. Closing Prayer

Meeting adjourned 8:10 pm

Respectfully submitted by Grace Lambert