

## Liturgy Commission Meeting - December 4th, 2018

### Attendance

- Berta Alvarado
- Matthew Anderson
- Joe Costantino
- Strad Engler
- Rita Rodriguez
- Carol Russo
- Mary Lou von Euw

### Day for Liturgical Ministers

- The program was well-received by the commission
  - The opening meditation was prayerful
    - Text taken from "Liturgical Words, Gestures, and Objects"
  - Some difficulty in hearing when we were gathered around the baptismal font
    - For a Lannon Chapel program, it's best when the presenter has a microphone
    - Friary Room acoustics are poor
- What comes out of this?
  - Book of the Gospels
    - To be displayed in the entrance of the church before mass
    - After the procession, to be placed flat on the altar
    - After the Gospel reading, the book is to be placed in the ambo
    - To be implemented on the Second Sunday of Ordinary Time, January 20th
- Follow up program: Saturday, March 16th
  - All three spaces are reserved
  - Perhaps to compose a wrap up letter for bulletin to generate interest
    - Take pictures at the upcoming event for future publicity
  - For parishioners, in the bulletin, offer an explanation/meditation on individual liturgical objects
    - To help renew our focus on what we see and experience at mass

### Witness Talks

- Stefano, STM student, is convening a group of 6-8 who are interested in becoming a "preaching group"
  - They're in discussion of what that looks like, composing a proposal
  - Stefano is graduating after the end of the academic year; given the people involved, the group will likely survive his departure
- There's a difference between a Witness Talk and a Homily
  - Requires that people understand that distinction
  - Perhaps to offer a future invitation to a liturgy commission meeting

### Liturgies in Review/Looking Ahead

- Thanksgiving
  - 70 or so people, many non-parishioners in attendance
  - Minister scheduling worked fine
- Advent
  - Second year for a non-traditional wreath
  - Bulletin article to run on third Sunday of Advent: reflection by Maria Termini regarding her trip to the border

- Immaculate Conception
  - Constant Contact to go out to the Parish this week reminding them of the 10am, Upper Church time/place
  - Are ministers being scheduled on the software yet?
    - Our only requirements are 2 Eucharistic Ministers and maybe 2 lectors
    - Will send out a request for Christmas ministers
    - No baked bread
- Our Lady of Guadalupe/Second Sunday of Advent
  - Frs. Cesar/Rodrigo
  - 2 lectors, 4-5 ministers signed up
    - How to we coordinate with the Spanish speaking community who wish to serve?
    - Rita to secure gift bearers
  - Matthew B. is sacristan that afternoon: Joe will ask him to arrive early and help fill the coordinator role
- Christmas
  - 4pm
    - Upstairs
      - Full complement of ministers as at the 10am
      - Upper church will be locked at 3:50pm, people will be directed downstairs
    - Spillover mass downstairs
      - Separate priest, separate ministers to schedule
      - Minister scheduling requirements: one lector, two Eucharistic ministers, coordinator; skeleton crew
  - 6pm, 12am
    - Full complement of ministers
  - Christmas Day masses
    - Schedule ministers as on Sundays
- Mary, Mother of God
  - Similar in scope to Immaculate Conception
    - Perhaps even less attended
- Epiphany - January 6th - Bilingual Mass

### **Assorted Notes**

- Listening Sessions/feedback
  - To create conversation, challenge for one another
  - Attendance is encouraging: there is discomfort yet they are still engaged
  - How well prepared are the facilitators for potentially difficult conversations?
  - Some ideas have to be challenged; made realistic given the size of the parish and our available resources: staff and clergy
    - "Parishioner-driven is insulting"
      - Some may feel abandoned by the clergy
      - "The priests should keep office hours"
- Bilingual Liturgies
  - Idea presented: have the upstairs 10am be bilingual, eliminate the 12pm Spanish mass
    - Would help solve coordinator scheduling issues at the 12pm mass, there are only two coordinators

- Bread
  - Gary Toth will be leaving stepping down from his current role
    - To be succeeded by Amy Larson
    - Strad will be monitoring the written reports
  - If scheduling remains difficult, looking to have people bake for multiple masses a weekend
    - Spanish community is stretched thinly; difficult to be able to schedule bread bakers
  - Low-key recruiting effort hurt bread baking volunteering numbers
    - Took place during the news breaking regarding abuse crisis, Fr. Bob
    - Recruitment effort is best when tactile: hands on demonstrations
- Minister scheduling software
  - Would like to have a report generated for the number of masses where we lacked a minister
  - Michael to schedule ministers for 12/8, 1/1
- Hospitality ministry
  - Presented last Advent that our existing volunteers arrive early; welcome arrivals
  - Has been attempted repeatedly in the past without success
- Storm notifications
  - Scheduler for the day can email the ministers for that mass
    - Does a staff member then have to contact that scheduler?
  - General advice: encourage people to use common sense about traveling in inclement weather; if BC is closed, it's a good indicator that we'll be closed
    - Will make sure Michael knows of the procedure to notify
- Flu season
  - No specific changes regarding cup, sign of peace

### **For Next Meeting**

- Put together a game plan, post-Christmas recruitment
  - Could we do a recruitment effort later in Lent
    - Ash Wednesday, March 6th
    - Could be planned in conjunction with PGC, CORI intake
    - Ideally, two recruitment events yearly, maybe quarterly
- Our priorities: Recruitment, Coordinators,...
  - Revisit the coordinator model next Fall
    - Very thin pool of ministers
    - There is some frustration over continued inconsistencies in practices between the masses
      - Same people being asked to fill the coordinator-assigned roles
  - For the Liturgy Commission to review the coordinators duties/best practices and realize their implementation
    - Present positively: we're looking for ways to include new ministers
    - If the changes aren't happening, then the sacristans can take over some of those duties