

Liturgy Committee Meeting
February 5, 2015 – 6:00 p.m.

Members present: Fr. Nils Hernandez, Terri Strutt, Linda Miller, Linda Bacon, Lilia Tinderholt, Blanca Schroeder, Joanne Enyart, Julie Heitland. Absent members: Deb Smith, Barb Ruff, Connie Leete

The February meeting of the Liturgy Committee was held in the McCauley Center at St. Pat's Church in Monona at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was opened with a prayer lead by Julie Heitland on Reflecting on Goals with a focus on "Where Do We Want to Go?" The minutes from the January meeting were approved as submitted.

Fr. Nils lead a faith formation session that was a continuation of the opening prayer/reflection. The goal is our relationship with God the creator, Jesus the redeemer, and the Holy Spirit the sanctifier who make up the Holy Trinity. Surrounding all of this is the love that we receive from them as it radiates to us like the sun. The goal is to understand this love, but it is a big challenge. The love will take us through the Trinity to heaven. This love helps us to understand the sacred mystery of the Holy Triduum, which includes the passion and suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus. The Holy Triduum begins with the opening song/chant on Holy Thursday and continues for 3 days until the final dismissal and song at the Easter Vigil. These 3 days are 1 continuous unit not 3 individual services. The Holy Triduum reveals the love God has for us with his death on Mt. Calvary. The resurrection allows us to enter the 8th day of the Lord – the 2nd coming or Parousia. All of this is necessary for our salvation. The Holy Triduum is the same celebration of sacrifice regardless of the presider. The Holy Thursday celebration shows the power of service that was instituted at the Last Supper by Jesus.

Fr. Nils lead a discussion on organizing people to lead the Stations of the Cross on Wednesday afternoons at 5:30 in each parish. There will be 5 sessions at 5:30 and the last one at 6:45 with the Faith Formation students. Each parish will find people who are willing to do this. Fr. Nils will get the books to the parishes once he selects the one he wants to use at all locations.

Following refreshments served by St. Bridget's members a discussion of the procedures to take place for the Holy Triduum was held. Fr. Nils has selected all the music for the Holy Triduum and is asking for a cluster choir to help lead the music.

Deb Smith has been asked to be assistant Fr. Nils for the Holy Thursday service to be held at St. Mary's at 7:00 p.m. to make sure everything is ready and the people who are participating are present. She will also instruct them on what to do and when. All those who are asked to be part of the services are asked to arrive about 20 minutes early for instructions.

We went through the layout that Fr. Nils has put together for each part of the services. The washing of the feet will consist of 3 males from each parish and the Hispanic community. The procedure for the blessing of the Ambry, presentation of the oils and the Eucharistic Gifts was discussed. There is to be instrumental music during times when there is movement when no singing is scheduled. Following the prayer after communion, the Blessed Sacrament will be processed through the church and removed to the altar of repose in the chapel for those who wish to pray

in adoration may do so in silence for 30 minutes following the service. All are asked to depart in silence. Fr. Nils will work out the details for stripping the altar.

Barb Ruff has been contacted about leading practices at St. Pat's for the cluster choir and will set up a practice time. It was discussed that a late Sunday afternoon or early evening would be best. Fr. Nils would like many voices present for all the liturgies. Barb will organize the practices but each parish will provide their own leaders/directors for the service.

The Good Friday service will be held at St. Pat's at 6:00 p.m. This is a very simple service with the reading of the Passion, adoration of the cross, and communion. There will be a Spanish service at 7:30 p.m. at St. Bridget's as well.

The Easter Vigil will be held at St. Bridget's at 8:30 p.m. per the Archdiocesan office based on sunset. Mary Koopman has been asked to assist Fr. Nils with the preparations for this celebration. She will make sure that all participants are present and aware of when they need to do their part. The choir members will need to have flashlights with them to see the music, as well as a flashlight at the ambo for the lectors and cantors as the church will remain dark until the Gloria is sung. At this time the lights will be turned on and the altar will be dressed. Trumpets will be used with the music at key points for this service. Fr. Nils is still working on the details of who will sing the Exultet as it is very long and too much for 1 person to handle.

Fr. Nils touched on the training sessions for all extraordinary ministers that are being planned for this spring. Fr. Nils, Andrew, and Deb Smith will get together to work on the details and set the dates. An email will be sent when details are set. Some of the training will be done during the Faith Formation time with the students who wish to be involved. Fr. Nils will be bringing back the ringing of the bells at the consecration.

St. Mary's will be responsible for refreshments and prayers for the next meeting on March 5th at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was closed with the recitation of the Hail Mary at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Heitland, secretary