WORSHIP & SPIRITUALITY COMMISSION

Minutes of Worship & Spirituality Commission

Thursday, November 4, 2021

Present: Paul Bobay, Pam Bourjaily, Joseph Glykys, Mick Langguth, Mary Kelley, Mike Kelley, Sandy O’Brien, Janet Steenlage, and Fran Zuber.

The prayer was led by Sandy O’Brien.

Approval of the September Minutes: Paul Bobay moved to accept the October minutes as written and Janet Steenlage seconded.

PAST EVENTS

**November 1 (Monday): All Saints Day**—9:00 a.m. Mass was held. The Mass was well attended, approximately 60 in attendance.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**November 13/14: Anniversary of move of St. Thomas More to current site—**EMs will carry in candles. Mary Kelley will send a note to the sacristans to alert them to notify the EMs.

**November 28: First Sunday of Advent—**Father Adam will bless the Advent wreath at the Saturday, November 27, 5:15 p.m. Mass

* An Advent Wreath home blessing will be added to the bulletin on the weekend of November 27/28 and possibly be continued throughout Advent.
* A note will be added to the bulletin the weekend prior to note that the blessing of the Advent Wreath will be done at the 5:15 p.m. Mass on November 27.

**December 8 (Wednesday): Feast of Immaculate Conception—**Masses at 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Mary Kelley will work with Katie Schneider to create a Signup Genius for ministry at these Masses.

**December 12: Confirmation Mass (Taizé)—**The 11:00 a.m. Mass on December 12 will be student led, Michelle Montgomery will organize the ministry for this Mass. Following the Mass there will be Taizé prayers and a luncheon that all parishioners are invited to attend.

**December 13 (Monday): Reconciliation 7:00 p.m.--**A simple dinner for the Priests attending this event will be held as follows: Mike Kelley will provide chili; Fran Zuber will provide cornbread; Janet Steenlage will provide veggies; and Sandy O’Brien will provide dessert. The dinner will be served in the basement at 6:00 p.m.

ART & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE – Mary Kelley

* Decorating for Advent will be done after the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Wednesday, November 24.
* Advent decorations will be taken down and Christmas will be put up on Thursday, December 23, after 9:00 a.m. Mass.
* Christmas decorations will be taken down and decorations for Ordinary Time will be done on Monday, January 10 at 9:00 a.m.

Mary Kelley is in charge of creating the Advent Wreath this year. Mary is recreating a design that was done previously by Carol Johnson. This design incorporates four stand-alone podiums with greenery for each of the Advent candles. Mary posed a question about starting with the empty podiums and adding a new candle/greenery each week. It was discussed that the empty podiums might look unfinished without the candles/greenery. It was decided that the display would start complete with all four candles/greenery. Mary is creating this display with artificial greenery so that the display can be used in future years.

PASTORAL COUNCIL NEWS – Pamela Bourjaily/Karen Hanson/Mick Langguth/Joseph Glykys

* There was discussion about the Stewardship Fair and confusion over the completion of the forms, should returning members complete the form or people who are new to at specific ministry.
* There was also discussion about which commission should include the Homebound Ministry.
* The Homebound Ministry discussion will be continued during the first meeting of the Commission Revitalization group that will be chaired by Mick Langguth, Parish Council President Elect. This group will meet in January and June, 2022, and work on putting together a matrix that tracks the lineage of the commissions and groups that work with them.
* The Commission Revitalization group will work on creating a matrix that will help clarify how all of the ministry groups working at St. Thomas More are connected.
* A Google Doc is being put together to allow a designated member of each commission to submit information for the social media platforms.

NEW BUSINESS

* Anointing of the Sick will be done on Wednesday, November 10, after daily Mass.
* Sacristans will start counting the number of attendees at all Masses. There is some discussion as to how the attendees in the parking lot will be counted so at this point the decision was made to count the people coming in for communion and we will discuss how to account for attendees who stay in their cars and do not come in. The count sheet is located in the Sacristy on the counter. This practice had been stopped because of COVID but will resume on the weekend of November 6/7.
* New books for the lectors are available. Costs for the books has increased so there will be a request for a donation of $15 for each book.
* Mike and Mary Kelley asked if an announcement that ushers are needed for all Masses could be added to the bulletin or announcements. Sandy O’Brien will follow up and ask about adding an announcement. This announcement would direct interested people to contact Mick Langguth or Mike and Mary Kelley. The updated W&S Commission website has contact information.
* An additional collection for flowers will be taken on the weekend of December 4/5. Maricarla Rohert has added a note in the bulletin.
* Maricarla Rohert has ordered the Advent daily devotional books and they will be put out for parishioners to take home soon.

ITEMS FROM FATHER CHUCK

Since Christmas Day is a Saturday, we will have the 9:00 a.m. Mass for Christmas Day and cancel the regular Saturday evening Mass. The Sunday morning (December 26) Masses will be the only Masses for the Feast of the Holy Family.

Also, since New Year’s Day is Saturday, a 9:00 a.m. Mass will be held in the morning for New Year’s Day, but we will cancel the Saturday evening Mass. Sunday Masses on January 2 will be normal for Epiphany Sunday.

*The 5:15 p.m. Masses that would normally be scheduled for Saturday, December 25 (Christmas Day) and Saturday, January 1 (New Year’s Day), will be canceled.*

The Sunday, December 26, and Sunday, January 2, Masses will follow the regular schedule and ministers will be assigned ahead of time.

LOOK AHEAD DATES

**December 24: Christmas Eve Masses—**We will return to Masses at 4:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Mary Kelley will work with Katie Schneider to create Signup Genius signups for these Masses.

**December 25: Christmas Day Mass--**Mary Kelley will work with Katie Schneider to create a Signup Genius signup for Christmas Day 9:00 a.m. Mass.

**January 1: New Year’s Day--** Mary Kelley will work with Katie Schneider to create a Signup Genius signup New Year’s Day 9:00 a.m. Mass.

**NEXT MEETING: Thursday, December 2, 2021**