



Our Lady of the Black Hills – Mass Times Information Packet

Our Lady of the Black Hills Parishioners,

My name is Cathleen Denekamp and I am speaking on behalf of the Pastoral Council. I am here to share with you some changes that are beginning to take place in our parish in regards to mass times. For several months now the Pastoral Council, along with the Leadership Commissions, have been addressing issues that have arisen regarding mass times and faith formation. We are looking at adjusting the Sunday mass schedule to better meet the needs of our growing parish and faith formation programs. The Saturday Mass schedule will remain untouched. We feel these changes will give the church the opportunity to offer more flexibility for faith formation and other parish events. For example, we are looking at offering faith formation on Sunday mornings and possibly another session of classes on Wednesday evenings.

To aid us in finalizing mass times, we would like your input. Please complete the survey that is available in the bulletin or online at olbh.org or on our Facebook Page. On the survey, we would also like to know if we offered classes on Wednesday evening if your family would be interested in attending. And as always we are looking for catechists, so if you are experiencing a calling to share your faith, please mark a day that you can help and share your contact information and someone will reach out to you soon.

Thank you for your time and God Bless!

Cathleen Denekamp, Pastoral Council Chair

Mass Times Survey

We need your opinion! Help us out by completing the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NGHW7SF> or complete the survey attached in the bulletin and place it in the basket in the gathering space.

June 14, 2018

Leadership Night Report

Our Sacred Purpose

Our Lady of the Black Hills exists to proclaim the Joy of the Gospel to all creation and to transform lives with the Father's mercy.

Vision

Build with the Mercy of the Father

Pastoral Council Meeting – June 21, 2018

Present:

Administration Commission

Present: Erik Haakedahl, Lorinda Collings, Katie Harwood, Abby Philbrick, Audrey Montileaux

Council and Commission Members

Pastoral Council

Fr. Andrzej Wrosteck
Deacon John Osnes
Deacon Greg Sass
Cathleen Denekamp-Chair
Wade Rhodes-Vice-Chair
Brad Blauvelt
Reeny Wilson
Lorinda Collings
John Gehlsen
Audrey Montileaux
Aric Dyczek
Deb Steele
Nikki Dyczek
Katie Harwood – Recorder

Administration Commission

Aaron Johnson– Chair
Audrey Montileaux – Vice Chair
Lorinda Collings
Erik Haakedahl
Susan Pribil
Abby Philbrick - Recorder
Katie Harwood

Evangelization Commission

Joni Osnes – Chair
Stacy Tate
Jean Hohm-Vice-Chair
Deb Steele
Eileen Desmond
Audra West

Social Justice Commission

Reeny Wilson - Chair
Derrick Siemieniak
Elizabeth Siemieniak
Barb Landers
Robert Dyczek
Nikki Dyczek

Worship Commission

Lorraine Ptacek– Chair
Brad Blauvelt – Pastoral Council
Todd Phillippe
Jim Landers

Stewardship Council

John Usera
Andrew Boyd
Amanda Horn
Matt Gottlob
Deacon John Osnes

Discipleship Commission

Deacon John Osnes – Chair
Joni Osnes - Recorder
Deacon Greg Sass – Pastoral Council
Brenda Czmowski
Teresa Thompson
LaChel McCollar
John Usera
Stacy Tate

Leadership Night Commissions General Meeting Minutes

The commissions met as a whole group to discuss the option of getting rid of the 6pm Sunday mass and going back to having two Sunday morning masses. All commissions met together to brainstorm the pros, cons, questions and suggestions. We began the meeting as a whole group and then broke out to allow each commission time to have discussion. We then shared as a whole group. Below are the results of this meeting.

Pros

- Sunday AM Masses may increase attendance for mass and faith formation
- Music rotation amongst masses may be option
- Wednesday faith formation could have option to go to adoration
- More interaction with other parishioners with overlapping in time of masses and faith formation on Sundays
- Consistency for scheduling of holiday mass times
- Option to have events after the 11 am mass- potlucks, church celebrations, KC breakfasts
- Sunday afternoons returned to families
- Options for adult/parent interaction while kids are at class
- Beneficial for families with kids that attend split masses; We would probably be able to offer child care for both morning masses
- Church available for other events on Sunday PM (Christ Life, etc.)
- Kids involved in singing in morning mass
- Lower risk with people driving in dark (especially fall/winter)

Cons

- Enjoy the option of attending 6PM mass at home parish
- 1 ½ hours is too long for faith formation programs
- 7:30 am too early for mass time
- Will there be parking conflicts?
- Struggle to reach all families with current schedule
- Will the musicians be stuck to one mass or will there be a rotation?

Questions

- What is cost to change the sign?
- Could the Sunday mass move up to 5pm?
- If Faith Formation (partial or whole) moves to Wednesday, what does this impact?
- Would there be future options to have new schedules? For example, 2 sessions on Wed.?
- Where does this put the Confirmation groups?
- Would it impact RCIA?
- Is there space for all classes to meet?
- How do we use survey responses? What should be on survey? 2 choices?

Suggestions

- More dynamic faith formation rotations to keep interest
- Strongly suggest surveying parishioners (cards at mass/Facebook survey/email)
- Wednesday afternoon/evening option for faith formation
- Stay at home parishioners could attend Level 1 CGS with home school
- If this starts we would make the change Labor Day
- We would speak at masses to inform, put info in bulletin, email etc...
- Faith formation could be 70-75 minutes with 15 minutes of music time- FUN!

Stewardship Council - 6/14/18

Present: Matt Gottlob, Deacon John Osnes, Fr. Andrzej Wyrstek Absent: Andrew Boyd, Amanda Horn, Dr. John Usera

The Stewardship Council reviewed the possible goals for the upcoming year that were suggested in the November 30, 2017, and April 5, 2018, letters from the diocesan Office of Stewardship. The parish must respond to these suggestions before the Stewardship Office will recommend OLBH to Bishop Gruss for designation as a Hospitable Parish. Each goal was assessed and preliminarily assigned to an OLBH commission or committee for action/response. The preliminary assignments will be forwarded to the OLBH staff for their consideration.

Social Justice Commission – 6/14/18

Present: Barb Landers and Nikki Dyczek

Ideas presented during the group discussion. Goals submitted following last month's meeting.

Administration Commission – 6/14/18

Present: Lorinda Collings, Aaron Johnson, Abby Philbrick, Susan Pribil, Audrey Montileaux, Erik Haakedahl, Katie Harwood
The Administration Commission reviewed our goals and determined that beginning in the next session of Commission meetings, September, we will have many of the goals completed or in process. At that time it will be necessary to reassess and determine new goals. We will also review the Parish equipment list for updates.

Evangelization Commission – 6/14/2018

Members Present: Stacy Tate, Jean Hohm, Audra West, Eileen Desmond, Joni Osnes

Members met after large group discussion to finalize goals for next year. Goals will be submitted to Katie Harwood to be presented at Pastoral Council. Next meeting September 13, 2018 at 5:45 pm beginning with Evening Prayer.

Worship Commission – 6/14/2018

Present: Brad Blauvelt, Jim Landers, Lorraine Ptacek

In discussion on mass time changes: 9 AM music ministers would likely serve at 7:30 AM or 8 AM—those asked said 7:30 AM was too early/preferred 8 AM. 6 PM music ministry would most likely serve at 10:30 or 11 AM—those asked preferred 10:30 AM. 11 AM was perceived too late. Questions arose: 1. Is an hour and a half necessary/too long for children’s rel. ed.—would 1 hr. work; 2. Will families stay & attend 11 AM mass; and 3. Would 8 AM and 10:30 AM mass times work or just too close together? All agreed 6 PM mass attendance significantly dropped off when youth stopped meeting at the church on Sunday nights/ Also, that some people prefer Sunday night services. Group agreed that all issues must be taken into consideration for mass time changes & done in the best interests of our overall community.

Worship Commission Goals: 1. Increase participation in Adoration; 2. Increase part. at Masses; 3. Presenting History of OLBH brochure; 4. Continued Healing Services; and 5. Increasing personal prayer life of community, will be finished in detail and presented by the end of the month.

Discipleship Commission Meeting Summary

Date: May 15, 2018

Members Present: Fr. Andrzej, LaChel McCollar, Dcn. Greg Sass, Dcn. John Osnes, John Usera, Brenda Czmowski, Stacy Tate, Rhonda Gehlsen, Teresa Thompson, Joni Osnes.

Guests: Megan Hamer and Cathleen Denekamp (Pastoral Council Chair)

Rhonda Gehlsen was introduced and welcomed as the new Coordinator of PreK-12 Faith Formation. Joni Osnes reported on the adult faith formation activities and participation during 2017–18. John Usera reported on RCIA and RCIC activities and participation. Fr. Andrzej reported on individual Confirmation and a family he is working with for sacrament preparation.

The commission discussed the Pros/Cons (Opportunities/Challenges) of phasing out traditional formation program and offering only Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS) for Pre-K-5 faith formation. After discussion, the commission unanimously endorsed doing so.

CGS Pros/Opportunities	CGS Cons/Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CGS more interactive • About relationship w/Christ • Adult facilitated, student led • Highly trained catechists • Use fewer rooms • Use fewer catechists • Less confusing • Remove elite vs. common perception (CGS vs. traditional) • Better sacramental preparation • More parental involvement • No curriculum shopping (minimal consumables) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodating students who have not experienced CGS into higher levels • Higher training cost • Recruitment of catechists willing to train • Retention of trained catechists • Distribution of trained catechists across levels • Very specialized resources (\$\$\$) • Dedicated rooms (atriums cannot be used for other activities/meetings) • Need “big picture” vision • Flexibility with respect to growth of parish

The commission then discussed the Pros/Cons (Opportunities/Challenges) of changing Sunday Mass times and its impact on faith formation. With respect to faith formation activities, the commission unanimously recommended that the Sunday Mass times be changed to 8:00 and 11:00. This schedule will allow a 1½-hour period between Masses for faith formation.

Pros/Opportunities of Changing Times	Cons/Challenges of Changing Times
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allows more options for formation times • Opens Sunday afternoons for family activities • Better for chief catechist (i.e., priest) • One trip for catechists on Sunday 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:00 & 10:30 limits adult formation (curriculum usually requires 1½ hours) • 8:00 & 11:00 okay for adults • Scheduling of 2 or 3 sections of each PreK–5 class (availability of rooms, catechists, and children)

The commission will meet in August to discuss faith formation plans for 2018–19.

Mass Times Survey

Please return to the basket in the Narthex.

***1. Which Mass time do you prefer?**

- 7:30 & 10:30 AM
- 8:00 & 11:00 AM

***2. What time would you like to enroll your child for Faith Formation?**

- Sunday Morning (following the first morning Mass)
- Wednesday Early Evening (approximately starting at 5 PM)
- I do not have children in Faith Formation

3. Would you be interested in being a Catechist on Sunday mornings or Wednesday evenings?

- Sunday Morning
- Wednesday Evening

4. If you are interested in being a Catechist, please provide your contact information.

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

*These questions are required.

There will be an in pew survey next weekend.