

Date: 01/10/23

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: AMR

Present Members: Karen O'Rourke, Amelia Reesor, Jerry Passafiume, Nathan Hadsall, and Erin Hartman

Present Staff: Father Adam and Robert Garbarz

Absent: Ally Sandefer, Maranda Sandefer, and Tonja Logsdon

Opening Prayer

- Welcome Robert Garbarz as Director of Music & Worship!
- Special Acknowledgements
 - Teresa and Nathan Hadsall stepped up to do multiple Masses and Erin Hartman stepped up to secure musicians for the rest!
- Previous Minutes – Approved without changes, but on review:
 - Open Positions on the Team
 - Altar Server Coordinator
 - We are still in need of an altar server coordinator. This conversation led to a larger discussion on the particular need of increasing Ascension students' participation in mass, especially as altar servers. It was discussed that members of the Worship Committee could reach out to principal Terry Mulaney to discuss ways that participation could be increased, so that it is apparent there is a wider interest in having student involvement in the parish.
- Discussion/Planning Items:
 - Piety & Devotion Plan Proposal – Nathan
 - This was pushed to the February meeting due to the absence of many committee members.
 - Music & Worship
 - Robert has been settling into his new role and things have been going well so far. He has several ideas to introduce to the parish, including increasing the use of the entrance and communion antiphons.
 - Advent/Christmas Season Review
 - Thank you to everyone who assisted in decorating. A thank you message is going to be published in the bulletin as well.
 - Lent/Easter Season Planning
 - Ash Wednesday is on February 22, 2023. Mass will be held at 8:15 a.m., 12 p.m., and 7 p.m.
 - Easter is on April 9, 2023. Holy week does coincide with Spring Break this year.

- Maranda and Ali will select some options for the new paschal candle and will bring these options to the February meeting for the committee to vote on the final selection. Father noted that we may need to order one size up from last year's size.
 - Father requested that the same number of palms as last year be ordered.
 - A small committee will be formed to review last year's Lenten/Easter season, as we know there were some issues we wanted to address but do not remember what they were. Karen and Nathan will work with Patrick and Robert to review the notes from last year's meeting after Lent and Easter. They will also review videos from those services, etc.
- Ministry Scheduling Quarterly v. Liturgical Season
 - Robert noted that they have currently only scheduled ministers through Ordinary Time. No scheduling has been completed beyond February 19th. There was some discussion about transitioning to scheduling based upon the Liturgical Season. The Committee felt strongly that it would be most effective to continue scheduling on a quarterly basis.
- Pastor's Update
 - Christmas Season Recap
 - Father had some concerns with this year's Christmas Masses. The 4 PM Mass felt especially crowded and the lack of hospitality ministers helped add to the chaos. Father acknowledges that 4 PM will always be more crowded, but he would be more comfortable if he felt that the other Masses could be celebrated in the way they should be. The main issue encountered is that so many families attended the 4 PM Mass that then there was no support at the remaining masses. Ideally, Father would like 4 servers at each Mass, but generally 3 servers will meet all the needs of the Mass.
 - We discussed creating a Christmas subcommittee (similar to what is being done for Lent/Easter) to make sure all the needs for the Christmas season are identified. Then the Worship Committee members will work to make sure that their ministry areas are covered for the Christmas Masses.
 - Christmas 2023 will have the shortest turnaround possible. The schedule will be as follows:
 - December 23rd – normal Saturday Vigil Mass
 - December 24th – No 8:30 AM Mass
 - 10:00 AM Mass – 4th Sunday of Advent
 - Set-up for Christmas will begin immediately following this Mass (Christmas trees may be set up earlier, just not lit.)
 - Christmas Eve Masses – 4 PM (maybe), 7 PM, midnight
 - December 25th – 10 AM Mass

Closing Blessing

Next Meeting: February Meeting – February 7th, 6:30 PM, AMR