

PEACE OF CHRIST PARISH LITURGY COMMITTEE MINUTES OCT. 6, 2015

ATTENDANCE: Janet Andrychuk-Tedesco, Fr. Tim Brown, Terry Keach, Sally Krowl, Melissa Mang, Gloria Marlett, Augie Misiurewicz, Dave O'Keefe, Wendy O'Keefe, Jeanne Picone, Anne Ross, Fr. Carlos Sanchez, Fr. Bob Schrader, Sr. Marlene Vigna, Grace Zanche

ABSENT: Elaine Becker, Drew Desmarais

Meeting was called to order at 7:07 by Gloria.

Opening prayer was led by Sally.

Minutes of September meeting approved as submitted.

Respect Life Month/Children's Sabbath Weekend: Wally Ruehle of the Peace and Justice Committee reported that there would be a petition for the Children's Agenda at all the Masses on Oct. 17-18. The petition is a call to increase state funding for the Children's Agenda and also to put paid family leave into state law. Peace and Justice Committee will place petitions in all the pews at all three parish sites and also will collect the petitions. Barbara A. Mattle, CEO of the local child care council, will be invited to do the Ministry Minute at all the Masses. The Youth Ministry Mass is at 5 PM on Oct. 18 and is a link to Children's Sabbath. Melissa Mang has youth group members prepared to participate in the Mass.

Addition of events to liturgy calendar: Discussion followed about adding an annual 9/11 memorial Mass to the calendar.. It was agreed that since there is a Mass every day, whatever day the anniversary falls, special remembrances could be made through the Prayers of the Faithful. Other suggestions were to remind parishioners at the Sunday liturgies prior to 9/11 to attend Mass on that day, plus a reminder in the bulletin. An evening prayer service is another possible remembrance. Fr. Schrader also said that we could send thank you cards to police and firefighters as a way to mark the occasion.

October events: Hispanic Heritage Month is proceeding well; parishioners and choir members are learning the response. The Pet Blessing went well but attendance was less, probably because it was held at the time of the Buffalo Bills game.

Music Ministry: The Combination Choir began rehearsals. It will be singing at the Mass of Remembrance; the Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service and at Lessons and Carols. The Bell Choir is in its third year and has some new members. Terry and Janet reported that the Bell Choir requires a dedicated space to properly accommodate the bells and bell tables. Presently the bells are placed on music stands which are not appropriate. Terry inquired about the possibility of removing pews behind the choir space at St. Ambrose in order to achieve the needed space. Fr. Schrader said the area in question needs to be looked at and the committee will discuss this at the next meeting.

Year of Mercy: This has been declared by Pope Francis for the year beginning Dec. 8 until Advent of 2016. The Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy should be the focus. Also introduced was the "Door of Mercy" concept, which is part of the traditional observance of a jubilee year. The symbol of doors offers an opportunity to teach the Works of Mercy and to show what the parish is doing in the way of mercy in its various activities. A sub-committee will explore possible ways to present this concept; Jeanne, Grace and Anne volunteered to meet, plan and present ideas at the next meeting. Fr. Schrader pointed out that the parish could focus on the Corporal Works during Advent and the Spiritual Works during Lent.

New business: Melissa presented a Liturgy Lesson Plan for a family faith formation gathering in May, to be held at St. James. Members of the Liturgy Committee are invited to participate in this gathering to explain the different ministries involved in liturgy. Further discussion and specifics of who will participate are postponed until the January agenda. Also discussed was the rehearsal (on Nov. 14 at 11 AM) in preparation for the celebration of First Penance on Saturday, Dec. 5.

Ecumenical services: Sr. Marlene reported that the Thanksgiving Service will be held at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on Winton Road on Tuesday, Nov. 25. The Church Unity Octave Service has been scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 20 at St. Mark and St. John Episcopal Church.

October events: Jeanne reminded members that October is the Month of the Rosary and that groups meet to pray the rosary at St. Ambrose and St. John (when the choir practices and the church is open). Also, that the Feast of the Holy Rosary is celebrated on Oct. 7. Wendy noted that on Oct. 8, SJN students will celebrate a Pet Blessing by bringing their stuffed animals to Mass. Anointing of the Sick will take place at St. Ambrose at 1 PM on Oct. 25

November events: All Souls Day being a unique commemoration in the liturgical calendar, there should be a brief informative message in the bulletin about this. The Mass of Remembrance will be celebrated on Saturday, Nov. 7 at St. James. The Thanksgiving Mass is at 9 AM at St. Ambrose. An Advent sub-committee was formed (Janet, Terry, Gloria and Anne) and will present suggestions for the season at the November meeting (Advent begins Nov. 29.)

December events: The usual holyday schedule of 6:30 AM at St. James; 12:10 at St. Ambrose and 7 PM at St. John will be observed for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception (Dec. 8). A penance service is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 19, 11:30 AM at St. Ambrose. (Refer to calendar page for subsequent December dates)

Old business: There was brief discussion about the need for training new lectors and other ministers and “refresher” sessions for others. Fr. Schrader suggested we invite Joan Workmaster to teach new recruits as well as address matters that need correction. It was recommended that all members approach and invite parishioners to become ministers. Pastoral staff can identify what ministers are needed at each Mass and recruit from those that regularly attend at that time. A “liturgical ministry fair” can be considered at another time.

In honor of the Month of the Rosary, Sally led the closing prayer: “Hail Holy Queen.”

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50.

Next meeting: Nov. 3 at 7 PM. Prayer: Wendy