



St. Francis de Sales Faith Community

148 W. Main Street

Lake Geneva, WI 53147

Prayer and Worship Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 16, 2008

Attendance: Greg Buchberger, Carl Mancini, Sarah Gray, Joanne Gasperik

Meeting began at 6:30.

Greg led the meeting as a Chairperson for the P&W Committee has not yet been found. A staff member cannot be the Chair of a Parish Committee, especially when the staff member is an Ex-officio member of the Committee. (Chair, Vice-chair, and Secretary are all needed) We are in need of someone(s) to chair both the Prayer & Worship Committee, as well as the Art & Environment Committee.

Discussion about the upcoming Mass of Anointing of the Sick... Volunteers are needed to help greet and seat people in the church as they arrive. Joanne agreed to help in this endeavor. We will rope off every-other row so that Fr. Terry has room to move between the pews for the Anointing and Laying On of Hands. The Luncheon following the Anointing Mass is being provided by the Hilltoppers.

Taizé Prayer. Many good comments have been received from parishioners who were very moved and felt that Taizé prayer should be done more often... monthly maybe? Discussion followed. Again, help is needed by at least 2 or 3 people each evening to help set-up and take-down. Greg will oversee the prayer and music for the service. Greg will set some dates and then try to recruit some volunteers to make this opportunity possible. **We need volunteers to step up to make these kinds of prayer opportunities available!**

Youth Mass. Comments shared about the good response the Youth Mass has received. This endeavor seems to be working well. Concerns shared about growing divisions in the parish by separating the youth out of the Sunday assembly. As this is a special Mass that only happens 7 times a year as part of Youth Ministry, the hope is that this endeavor will simply help the youth who attend to be more connected and participate more fully when they attend regular Sunday liturgies.

Eucharistic Minister Coordinators. This concept was introduced last year at the Evening for Liturgical Ministers, as a "solution" for some of the abuses currently happening. The Coordinator would arrive early, make sure the Bread & Wine are out on the Gifts Table, and that the Credence Table is set for Mass. This person would also make sure all of the Eucharistic Minister Crosses are handed out, and would help to wash the sacred vessels AFTER Mass. – After mailing to all 80 EM's, making 20-30 phone calls, having only 6 EM's agree to serve in this capacity, and hearing many unsupportive and angry comments, we are unsure how to proceed. Discussion followed. The general consensus was that we let this sit for a while, and try to address some of the issues directly: encouraging ministers to come forward before Mass to take a cross, making sure EM's are quiet, reverent, and respectful when washing the vessels, that the sacrarium is being used to rinse all vessels, reminding them to use soap, etc. This is a very sacred ministry and needs to be done with respect and reverence.

Discussion of All Souls, the Month of November, honoring those who have died. In addition to the Sunday Liturgy, which has some changes (from the Roman Missal) on All Souls to more resemble a funeral Mass for all who have died, some other ideas were discussed. Tables will again be set-up and Parishioners invited to bring pictures of their beloved dead, to honor them during the month. The Book of Dead will be displayed for all to inscribe the names of all those dead they wish to pray for. The bulletin will hopefully include an article and prayers on how to honor the dead, and suggestions on how to pray for the dead at the cemetery. Cemetery Day is also November 2. Possibly some sort of recognition for all those who serve in the care of those who die: Nurses, Hospice, Bereavement Committee, Servers, those who supply the Luncheon after funerals, Musicians, etc. Also, a funeral Banner may be made to be used in the church during Funerals, possibly with the words, "I have called you by name."

Prayer for the Election. There will be a prayer vigil on November 3, the night before the election. Event is being organized by parishioners. This is an opportunity to pray for the election, our country, and our leaders, and is not an opportunity to promote a specific candidate.

Evening for Liturgical Ministers. Two opportunities are being offered this year, which were in a mailing which went out to all 250 Liturgical Ministers. **1)** So far only 10 people have RSVP'd for the Evening in Hales Corners with Richard Fragomeni on October 27. Registration is due on Sunday, October 19. We had hoped that more people would be willing to attend this evening, as Fr. Fragomeni is an expert in the field of Liturgy and Eucharist, is a gifted speaker, and is nationally recognized as a professor and teacher in the Church. **2)** The Evening for Liturgical Ministers here at St. Francis de Sales is scheduled for Sunday evening, November 7. So far only a few have registered but we hope that more of our ministers will come and join us for this evening of fellowship, prayer, and reflection. The evening begins at 5:30 with Potluck, and will be finished by 7:30 p.m.

Other upcoming events:

- Saturday, November 1 – All Saints Day (not a day of Obligation this year. Mass is at 8:00 a.m.)
- Sunday, November 2 – All Souls (see info above)
- Thursday, November 27 – Thanksgiving Day (Mass at 8:30 a.m.)

- First Sunday of Advent – Sunday, November 30
- Advent Evening Prayer – Tuesdays, December 2, 9, 16, 23
 - o Scripture Study following with Fr. Terry
- Advent Reconciliation Service – Sunday, December 14 @ 2:00 p.m.
- Christmas Eve Mass: 4:00 p.m. – Church, 4:15 p.m. – Parish Center,
10:00 p.m. Midnight Mass (prelude starts at 9:15 p.m.)
- Christmas Day Mass: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.
- New Year's Eve (VIGIL for Mary, the Mother of Day) – 4:30 p.m. Mass
- New Year's Day (Mary, the Mother of Day) – 9:00 a.m. Mass

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

GJB