

**St. Mary of the Hills
Worship Commission
January 20, 2018**

Present: Mary Bomarito, Hugh Buchanan, Holly Foldessy, Dan Greig, Mary Pat Soisson, Fr. Stan Ulman

Old Business:

- Christmas/Holiday masses were beautiful and went very well.
 - Attendance was down from last year. This may be due to Christmas Eve falling on a Sunday as well as the exceptionally cold weather and snow fall.
 - Traffic following the 4:00 pm and 4:15 pm and prior to the 6:00 pm masses continues to be an issue. Several options were discussed including moving the 6:00 pm mass time to 6:30 pm, creating a shuttle between the park and St. Mary's, and asking the police department for traffic control assistance. Since the 6:00 pm mass is also the children's pageant, it was thought that changing the mass time would adversely affect that program. A shuttle service would require volunteers to man the shuttles. Police assistance with traffic control between the 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm masses would likely be the best option. Also, it would be helpful to have volunteers assist with directing parking in order to speed up the process.
 - The Matthew Kelly book give-away was well received. There were plenty of books left over, in part due to the reduced attendance figures.

New Business:

- Lent
 - Ashes will be available in the chapel on Ash Wednesday during the day.
 - Fr. Stan indicated that he is working with the Men's Fellowship group to come up with a theme. Once it is announced, Dan will work with Holly to implement thematic details.
 - There was discussion about whether to include an "explanatory mass" as part of the Lenten masses. It was noted that since we will be doing serial preaching with an emphasis on specific topics, it may not be the right time. A suggestion was made to consider it as a follow-up to Lent or during a Monday evening mass.
 - There are several calendar items specifically pertaining to Lent that need to be updated. Dan is working with Mike to resolve them.
 - Stations of the Cross will be available Fridays in Lent at noon and at 6:15 pm.
 - The Anointing Mass is March 5th and the communal penance service is scheduled for March 13th. Dan will follow-up with the office to secure additional priests for these events.

- Fr. Stan announced that there will be a scripture service and Blessing of the Throats for the Feast of St. Blaize on Saturday, February 3rd at 9:00 am. There will be no blessing at the 4:00 pm mass.

-Youth Mass-There was discussion on the proposed date of April 7th. It was noted that April 7th is the weekend following Easter and falls during spring break. Mary Pat will contact the Youth Commission representative with this information to firm up the date. An alternate date is April 14th. It was stated that schedules for all ministries have been released through May, 2018 so we will need to know their plans in order to communicate changes to our volunteers.

-The parish Go Green initiative was discussed with an emphasis on Christmas decorations. Currently we use live trees, non-led lights, and flowers. We need to evaluate if the use of artificial trees, led lights, etc. would be more "green." Holly will research the costs, storage issues, replacement timeline, and ecological benefits. It will take time to fully assess the issues involved.

Ministry Reports:

Evangelization Committee Report

- Hugh is assisting with music for the Discovering Christ program.
- Mary volunteered to help with adoration set-up for the retreat on March 10th. More information to follow.

No additional ministry reports due to time constraints.

Next meeting is February 17, 2018 at 8:00 am.