

St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish  
Worship Commission  
Minutes of Meeting October 25, 2016

**Members Present:** Lois Latzy (Chair), Darlene Lewis, Beth Brink, Mike Gardner, Michelle Meyer, Christine Guerin, Adriana Inman, Corey Moore, Dawn Mansour, Susan Maddox

**Members Absent:** Paul Von Erden

**Ex Officio Present:** Jeremy Helmes (Pastoral Associate) and John Stengel (Recording Sec.)

**Ex Officio Absent:** Fr. Geoff Drew (Pastor)

I. Opening Prayer/Praying for Each Other – Lois opened at 7:03PM

II. Discussion of Chapter 2 of Lazarus at the Table

- A. Jeremy found it interesting how comprehensive the variety of kinds of things that are a threat to human dignity. He appreciates how thorough this comprehensive look at what it means to be a human person.
- B. Mike pointed out on page 13 that human dignity includes a special relationship with our Creator. If we just acknowledge every person is special it makes it easier to treat each person with dignity.
- C. Darlene commented that we find God in serving others and that we learn so much more about ourselves.
- D. Lois has been pondering what we can do to help those feeling the need for an abortion. How do you counter the pressure of society on those to have an abortion? What else can we do beside our prayers and marching?
- E. Abortion is not going to go away until the needs of the mothers are met. There needs to be a turning back to family and living the way Christ wants us to live. We cannot under estimate the power of prayer.
- F. Technology is creating situations where we are pulling humanity out of relationships. Human one on one contact is often replaced by the use of computers and smartphones.
- G. People need to have the basic necessities in order to have the freedom to be able to make other choices in life.
- H. Many people are very happy without the excess that is often found in society. Sometimes having too much can desensitize us to what is really needed. We should guard against giving for our egos instead of giving to truly help those in need.
- I. Christine wishes the Catholic church would be out doing more in the community to spread the Word of God.
- J. Corey talked about his reflections on what we do to pass our faith to our children and to future generations.

III. Presentation by Adoration Team

- A. Members of the Adoration team, Debby Kellner, Rose Wiedenmann, and Steve Eroskey were present.
- B. Adoration team is putting forth a stronger effort to promote and fill the hours of Adoration.
- C. Adoration team asking WC to consider adding another day of Exposition in addition to Thursday.
  - i. A few parishioners brought this idea to the Adoration team.
  - ii. Part of the St. Max mission statement is that we are Eucharistic centered and led by the Holy Spirit.
  - iii. Fr. Geoff recently wrote in the bulletin about prayer being our first resource and we should pray without ceasing.
  - iv. With another day of Exposition more people will be needed to cover the hours. We are not covering 24/7 the hours for Adoration at the present time.
- D. We have had some form of Exposition at St. Max for nearly 20 years.
- E. Monday is a day with a high number of Adorers already.
  - i. 20 committed Adorers on Monday and 12 of those are between the hours of 9:00AM – 8:00PM.
  - ii. The feeling of the Adoration team is that it should not be difficult to cover the hours for Exposition on Monday.
- F. Debby suggested that trying it during Advent or Lent might be a good way to start.
- G. Jeremy likes Monday because we have RFY classes and the classes may decide to participate from time to time as part of their class time.
- H. Debby stated that the Adoration team would love to be able to conclude Exposition on Monday with a Holy Hour, but it would not be a condition for having the additional day of Exposition if it is a problem.
- I. Jeremy has spoken with Debby and Kathy Hinger about strengthening Exposition by adding some prayers and scripture readings during the day. Advent may be a good time to add the extra day of Exposition to

give it a try. Advent may also be a good time to try adding some prayers and scripture readings during Exposition.

- J. People come to our chapel from other areas outside of our parish, and are so grateful for the chapel being open 24/7. Debby has heard stories of it being a refuge for many people.
- K. Some people are afraid to come to Adoration because they are not sure what they should be doing. Jeremy pointed out that there is no right or wrong way to pray during Adoration.
- L. Adoration team looking at some scheduling software designed for Adoration. Steve is looking at an app designed by the company that designed the St. Max app.
- M. Steve played a recording of Fr. Larry Richards answering a question on his radio program. He requires everyone working in the parish as a leader or who is an EMHC to do a Holy Hour every week.
- N. The Adoration team is also looking for input on how to encourage people to want to take an hour to help fill up all the hours.
- O. Jeremy will talk with Debby and work out how to proceed with adding the extra day of Exposition.

#### IV. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes from September 27, 2016.

- A. Minutes approved with changes to be submitted by Mike to John.

#### V. Pastoral Associate Report

- A. WC section of the Parish Annual Report
  - i. Every year the parish prepares an annual report and places it in the Modern Saint.
  - ii. Each quadrant of the parish prepares a section. The report is not meant to be a report on the workings of the WC, but rather a report on what our parish does in regards to worship.
- B. Hamilton-Fairfield Symphony will be performing again this year. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> year they have performed at St. Max.
  - i. The music director, Paul John Stanbery has composed a new piece, "I, Maximilian", which is dedicated to our parish for the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. Maximilian Kolbe's martyrdom.
  - ii. The St. Max hand bell choir will perform with the orchestra.
- C. Rebecca Peltier has been hired as Coordinator of Children's Initiation
  - i. She is preparing for our first class which will be Nov 8<sup>th</sup>.
  - ii. She will be part time, 8-10 hours per week.
  - iii. She is a former religion teacher and has worked for Dynamic Catholic.
  - iv. She has been a parishioner since 2011.
  - v. She is embracing new technology and finding ways to engage millennial parents. The approach at St. Max is to provide adult catechesis to the families to equip the parents with the tools to prepare their children for the Sacraments.
- D. The change of the location for CLOW to the Large Conference Room has been well received and seems to be a good change.

#### VI. Continuing Business/Projects

- A. Discussion and Recommendations: Section 2 of Fr. Geoff's Observations
  - i. Lois has written up the decision made at the last WC meeting on the first section and will turn it in to Fr. Geoff.
  - ii. Hiatuses between membership terms.
    - 1. Jeremy thinks we need to improve the discernment process to get more people involved.
    - 2. Darlene thinks that it is not a good idea for the same people to serve back to back on the same commission, but okay to serve on a different commission.
    - 3. Michelle suggested that maybe not waiting 3 years to serve again, but maybe 1 year.
    - 4. Jeremy suggests members review the section and weigh in at next meeting if they feel strongly on a certain topic.
    - 5. Lois asking members to send their comments on items from section two that they feel strongly about to her by November 4<sup>th</sup> and she will compile a list for the next meeting.
- B. Chapel reconfiguration update
  - i. Discussion of the new chapel reconfiguration proposal that will be presented to the PC.
  - ii. The WC is asking the PC if they are open to the concept of this new proposal and how they would like to proceed.
  - iii. This proposal represents the consensus of the WC that the old proposal from five years ago is not going to work and that this new proposal reflects the results of the work of last year's WC and the trial configuration from last spring.

- iv. There are no objections to the written proposal by the WC members present, so it will be sent to the PC. The leadership of the WC and Jeremy are willing to meet with the PC to clarify this proposal and answer any questions.
- v. Jeremy suggested that Lois reach out to Chris Brown, chair of the PC, and see how he would like to proceed with the proposal.

VII. New Business

A. Proposal: Name change from Worship to Worship and Sacraments

- i. This proposal would change the title of our quadrant of ministries to “Worship and Sacraments” to more accurately reflect the types of ministries within the quadrant.
- ii. Jeremy does not think it is necessary to add Divine Worship to the name. The name would become longer and we are not about any Worship other than God.
- iii. There are no objections to the name change, so Lois will sign the proposal and send to the PC.

B. Items related to WC from October PC Meeting – Beth attended meeting

- i. Beth felt awkward because she did not have an agenda.
- ii. Beth provided feedback to PC from the WC about the chairs being moved in the gathering space.
- iii. PC asked Beth about the WC recommendations from the first section of Fr. Geoff’s Observations. Beth told PC she had nothing to report at this time.
- iv. PC asked Beth if the volunteers for handing out bulletins was a WC item.
  - 1. A member could not find a bulletin after Mass.
  - 2. Handing out bulletins is the responsibility of the greeters.
  - 3. Bulletins are located in the information rack and in boxes in the vesting sacristy.
  - 4. There is no clear sense of where the bulletins are located if no one is there handing them out after Mass.
  - 5. Jeremy is exploring options for racks.
- v. PC brought up the question of should commission meetings be on the same night for the timeliness of reports to the PC.
  - 1. This issue was studied 2-3 years ago and it was decided there are too many logistics issues trying to have all the meetings on the same night.

C. Preliminary Planning of the Liturgical Minister’s Luncheon

- i. Scheduled for January 29<sup>th</sup>.
- ii. Catering
  - 1. Bibibop Asian Grill seems to be a good choice.
- iii. What do we want to accomplish at the luncheon?
  - 1. WC needs to decide what we want to accomplish at the luncheon and the best way to accomplish our goals for the luncheon.
  - 2. Several ideas were discussed and will be discussed again at the next meeting.

D. Worship Commission Advent Party

- i. Lois willing to have a party, after Christmas is better than during Advent.
  - 1. The party has traditionally included WC members, ministry leaders and spouses.
  - 2. Tentatively set for the evening of January 7th at 7:00 PM.

VIII. Closing Reflection - Jeremy

- A. We should focus on being thankful for all the work of the WC, our ministries, and all the work of our parish in regards to worship and the sacraments.

IX. Meeting adjourned at 9:08 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

John Stengel, *Ex Officio* (Secretary)