

Report for St. Ignatius Parish Pastoral Council

Liturgy & Music

November 2018

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Summary & Role:

- To serve our parish community at large by creating a prayerful, welcoming environment for worship of our Triune God through thoughtful planning, training and rehearsal that honors the different flavors of our liturgical seasons and celebrations.
- To plan and provide music at all weekend Masses and more
- Church “environment” i.e. seasonal altar decoration
- Train and schedule lectors, Eucharistic ministers, hospitality, altar servers (adults and children), sacristans.
- Consolation/funerals; weddings

Leadership & participants:

- Music Director (Sandi Holland) creates a music plan months in advance for weekend and holy day liturgies. The plan is posted on Dropbox for musicians to view and/or download and print at home. Sandi also emails team members directly.
- The musical settings for our responses (i.e. Holy, Memorial Acclamation, Amen) change seasonally.
- All weekend liturgies have the same music selections except the school liturgy with children’s choir (9:30 am once per month) and the Second Sunday Young Adult Ensemble liturgy (second Sunday of the month 5:30 pm)
 - All weekend Masses feature at least one paid professional cantor and keyboard player; 7:30 AM always organ; 9:30 AM adult choir; 11:30 AM small ensemble
- Director of Liturgy (Alan Nissila) manages everything except consolation ministry (Terrie McGraw) and wedding coordination (Sarah Hamilton).
- Eucharistic ministers have a “captain” at each liturgy to manage last-minute assignments and to help fine tune the skills of the newer ministers
 - People who want to take communion home to a loved one can call and ask to do this
 - Delivering the Eucharist to other homebound or sick: FOLLOW UP WITH M&O
- Consolation: We do liturgy planning for funerals but we no longer have a bereavement group at SI; people are referred to Kaiser, Mercy, etc.
 - “Martha Ministry” is a service to provide a reception after a funeral. This is considered Mission & Outreach, not Liturgy. Currently not active because the Garden Room is in use as school staff room. We expect to re-start a Martha Ministry after construction is complete. {FOLLOW UP WITH M&O}
- Weddings: paid coordinator

- Sacristans: paid for weekend Masses and special occasions. (Robert, John, Sarah) They open the church and doors, get wine and bread ready for consecration, make sure worship aids are in place, check in and out the scrip sales box, tidy up in back, secure the collection money, help set the altar.

Budget:

- Music: most of money goes to pay qualified, experienced musicians; also instrument maintenance such as piano tuning; music copyrights
- Liturgy: day to day expenses, sacristans, seasonal décor. Big ticket items approved through Business Manager (such as a new digital soundboard)

Communication:

- Lectors and Eucharistic ministers are scheduled using dedicated online software; preferences, blackout dates, and finding subs are communicated by email and online.

Where we struggle:

- Hospitality Ministers: except for 7:30 and 9:30, barely visible at Masses
- Altar Society, a group of volunteer women, cleans the Mass linens and does some light cleaning of the church. Altar Society is struggling to retain enough members to do the work. School families are now volunteering for some of these duties.
- Music: would like to increase participation in sung prayer at all Masses, both weekend liturgies and school liturgies. Fine tune new sound system. Encourage more and better rehearsals for the contemporary young adult ensemble so they can sing more than once a month
- Liturgy: Identify potential ministry heads who have skillset to balance “rules” with “pastoral approach” to build up and affirm volunteers involved in ministry

Idea for improvement:

- Hospitality Ministers: not enough people; no clear leadership structure, invitation, or roles. Lots of potential here.
- Security: Right now, the plan is to call 911 for emergencies but there is no clear plan or training for dealing with more common, ordinary disruption from mentally ill person entering off the street during a liturgy.
- Have a standing invitation into lector and Eucharistic ministries? Right now there is no ongoing recruitment; maybe once a year a call goes out, or if the Director is getting low on volunteers
- Invite people with particular skills to assist with seasonal decorating (Advent/Christmas, Palm Sunday/Holy Week/Triduum/Easter). Alan would welcome volunteers for sewing, fabric design, flower arranging, etc.