Worship Commission Meeting November16, 2015

Attendance: Fr. David Mowry, Lisa Grisolia, Tom Kaiser, Mary Pat Vanderlaan, Dave McCaffrey, Lucy Milar, Peg Cello, Jim Viola, Mary Lou Rafferty.

Faith Sharing: We read from Psalm 93 and the Gospel of John, Chapter 18. Both had “Kingship” as a theme (Feast of Christ the King). The kingdom of Jesus is not of this world. Jesus was born to testify to the truth and everyone who belongs to the truth listens to His voice. The psalm sang out “The LORD is king; he is robed in majesty.”

Minutes: Minutes were approved.

Parish Council: Brian Schroeder of the Office of Diocese attended the November 10 Council meeting to discuss the implementation of the “Framework of Pastoral Action” which focuses on how each parish can implement works of discipleship, evangelization, and charity. Till now, the Parish Council has discussed charity, and now will move to discipleship and evangelization. Their charge was to bring these themes to the commissions to make these concepts more actionable. Father David said that Worship Commission (WC) is doing very well.

Leadership Night: Matt Posen did a great job talking about mercy and Lucy will send around his slides.

Year of Mercy: Father David will do a letter for the Parish Newsletter of the Year of Mercy. Due date for Newsletter articles is November 23.

Lucy suggested that we do articles about Saints who are associated with mercy. It was agreed that we would do these monthly in the newsletter. Lucy will gather a list of ideas and share the list with the subcommittee (Lucy and Mary Pat – any others)? She will do the first article ASAP and after review will get to Maria by November 20.

Mary Lou mentioned that Linda has a CD with lots of information (Week by Week through the Year of Mercy with articles and images for the bulletin, so we are covered there.

Mary Pat shared the information from the Diocesan “Christ is our Hope” magazine relating to the Year of Mercy. It includes pictures of the nine Pilgrimage Churches (including IC) and a list of special days of prayer during the Holy Year of Mercy which Pope Francis will observe. Mary Pat will review the special days and recommend about one opportunity per month where we could do evening prayer. She will need to also check the calendar. A subcommittee was formed (Mary Pat, Tom, any others?). These prayer services could be advertised across the Diocese so that people could come “on pilgrimage” to our Church, and thus gain a plenary indulgence during the Holy Year of Mercy. Father David suggested we figure out how to plan and choose readings so that we can minimize the number and versions of worship aids.

Father David announced that Bishop Conlon will be at IC on December 8 for the ICCP 9:40 AM Mass. There will also be a vigil Mass on December 7 and an evening Mass on December 8 (time?).

We then discussed the idea of having an “opening of IC’s door” similarly to the Opening of the Holy Door at St. Peters in Rome and at Cathedrals across the world. We thought we could use the inner doors in the church to symbolically welcome in the Year of Mercy on December 7 (and perhaps at other regular Masses on December 8).

If we only do it on the 7th, for the evening Mass on the 8th, the Lector could announce before Mass that this is the Year of Mercy, and that we symbolically opened the door wide as one of the Pilgrimage Churches of the Diocese on the Vigil. Father David will check on this and the other ideas when he meets with Father Tom on November 17, and let us know. If it is a go, Father David will also include this in his December Newsletter. If it is a go, we need an announcement to Linda by 11/24 for the Priest to announce at the weekend Masses of 11/28 and 29, and 12/5 and 6. Mary Lou will draft up the Lector’s announcement to be read on 12/7 and 12/8 (to Father David). Tom will draft up the bulletin article to be posted in 12/5 and 6 (to Linda by 11/24).

Year of Family: The second Year of Family Prayer Service was held on October 27 at 7:00 pm in the Church. There were about 30 people in attendance and it was a beautiful event.

We had a discussion on how to close out the Year of Family. It is due to end on the Feast of the Holy Family which is December 26/27. We agreed that a special blessing at all the Masses would be appropriate. It is too late to get this into the Christmas bulletin, but we can get it into the December 19/20 bulletin. Tom will draft up the bulletin article and get it to Linda by December 9.

Christmas Caroling: This is planned for December 12, after the 5:15 Mass. ICPP choir will participate and Lisa has 4 young women from York who will also sing. Dave and Jim will arrange for the hot chocolate and cookies. Jim will work with Jeff to figure out who will light up the tree. Plan is to sing 4 Carols (O Come All Ye Faithful, Hark the Harold (then Father David will say a prayer) Silent Night (light the tree) and Joy to the World. High school children will pass out the song cards (Lisa will make the cards).

Discussion on Ecumenical Prayer Service: Father David met in October with a small group of ministers in the area to discuss the proposed plan and gauge interest for Ecumenical Prayer Service on January 19, 2016. Those in attendance suggested that Father David attend the wider ministerial association of Elmhurst to get others engaged with this idea. He therefore attended the ministerial association lunch meeting at St. Peter’s on November 4th. Although they expressed a desire to talk about future collaborations, nothing concrete came out of the meeting and due to lack of interest, Father David recommended to the subcommittee (which agreed) to cancel plans. Without the other local leaders promoting it, it made no sense for us to proceed. Jim Viola informed the Spirito Singers, and Mary Pat will follow up with a note to the original small planning group.

Liturgical Ministers: There will be a retreat for all ministers at St. Charles Borremeo from noon till 6:00 PM – St. Charles, Visitation, IC and Mary Queen of Heaven are all invited. Peg, Tom and Jim should distribute to their list serves.

Maria expressed concern that when families sign up to serve together, if they cancel, it causes problems with coverage. If family is not going to make it, they need to get “a family’s worth of substitutes”.

Father David closed the meeting with a blessing. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Next WC meeting is scheduled for Monday December 21 – but we all agreed that we would not have a December meeting. Next meeting is January 18, 2016 at 7:00 pm.