

SPIRITUAL LIFE MINUTES, ST. JOHN PAUL 2/22/16

Members present: Tim Rougeau, Karen Ketcham, Pat Clairmont, Deacon Greg, Barb Armata, Mary Ann Wojtaszek, Robin Loughman.

Opening prayer was given by Deacon Greg.

Previous meeting's minutes were accepted.

Review of Lenten events schedule:

The first **Stations of the Cross** was well-attended, about 35-50 people, plus the St. Stan's students. This is 2:15 on Fridays during Lent, at St. Stan's church. On Good Friday it will be at Notre Dame instead. Tim and Pat will handle arrangements for readers, etc.

The **3-day retreat with Father Matt Alcombright** will be held on Feb 29, March 1 and 2, at Notre Dame, 6:30 pm. On Monday the 29th, confessions after Mass. On March 1 & 2, confessions at 5:30 before Mass.

A **Lenten Vespers and Prayer Service** will be held Sunday March 6th, 6 pm at Notre Dame. Tim said this will "showcase" some very nice Lenten music that is often overlooked. He expects it will take a half hour to an hour.

For Palm Sunday, Father intends to read the extra Gospel from the back of the church, then process in, and continue the Mass, like he did last year.

Holy Week: Father may be able to arrange a Reconciliation service.

Wednesday March 23rd, **Lamentations** (Gorzkie Zale) 6 pm at St. Stan's.

Holy Thursday Mass 7 pm at Notre Dame, which will include the washing of the feet of the Confirmation class. Mass will be followed by a procession to St. Stan's where there will be Adoration until 10 pm. We will encourage people to bring flashlights for the procession. For the Adoration the Blessed Sacrament should be on the side altar.

Good Friday: Stations of the Cross at Notre Dame (not St. Stan's) at 2:15, followed by the start of the Divine Mercy Novena. The Novena will continue at 3 pm daily at St. Stan's through April 2nd.

The Good Friday service this year will be 7 pm at St. Stan's.

Holy Saturday: Blessing of food in the St Stan's cafeteria at 9 am. Veneration of the Cross at St. Stan's, all day, at St. Stan's. We are unsure of the exact time the church will be opened, but mostly likely by 8 am. Easter Vigil Mass will be 8 pm at Notre Dame.

Easter Sunday: 8 am Mass at St. Stan's and 10:15 at Notre Dame. Diane Wyman and Tony Provenzano will be putting out Easter eggs for the kids on Sunday only.

The **Divine Mercy Novena** continues daily at 3 pm at St. Stan's through April 2nd. Divine Mercy Sunday is April 3rd. On Divine Mercy Sunday, Chaplet at 3 pm at St. Stan's. We may also have Benediction, if someone is available.

The Adoration Chapel will re-open at 6 pm on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 3rd.

Year of Mercy items:

After Lent, Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy beginning at 2:15 every Friday at St. Stan's.

Chaplet is said after every Wednesday morning Mass at Notre Dame.

The evening Mass for the first Wednesday this month will be part of the 3-day retreat with Father Matt, March 2nd, 6:30 pm, at Notre Dame.

The Philadelphia shrines tour scheduled for April 11-13 still needs a few more people. The other day trips to various shrines that Mary has been working on are on hold until the Philadelphia trip is finalized.

Relics of Saint Maximilian Kolbe will be in Chicopee and Holyoke in mid-June. Tim will put more notices in the bulletin about it.

St. Joseph's in Pittsfield and the Marian Fathers in Stockbridge both have a designated Door of Mercy.

Other: First Reconciliation will be at noon on Sunday March 13th at Notre Dame. First Holy Communion will be at noon on Sunday April 10th at Notre Dame.

New Business: the parish will continue having the Mother's Day and Father's Day roses in memory or in honor of loved ones. Roses will be available for

either Notre Dame or St. Stan's. Diane Wyman has made a flyer for the bulletin.

Tim said he spoke to Father Caster and confirmed he is doing our September mission.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday March 28th (the day after Easter).

Deacon Greg gave a closing prayer. Meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Loughman, secretary