

**Combined Parish Council Meeting  
At St. John the Baptist in Madrid  
January 23, 2020**

**Attending:**

Msgr. Aucoin, John Cardoza, Marika Donders (taking notes), Mark Miller, John Newtown, Patty van Patten, Mary Jo Rocker, Kelly Tiernan, Deacon Dan McGrath, Robin Miller

**Absent or Excused:**

Ron Burke, Michele Fitzgerald, Mary Loomis, Laurie McGrath, James Miller, Tom Nelson, Carmel Rastley, Christine Rutherford, Lynn Short, Barb Santamount, Sara-Day Schulz, Mark Scott John Tenbusch, Wanda Tyo, Anne Marie Young

**Discussion starting with Section III of the Book: what happens on Sundays**

Sunday is most important since it is when people are here and when most "church" happens

Topics are Welcoming, Music, and homilies...Any comments?

**MUSIC:**

Madrid used to have a choir and used to sing with the choir on Saturdays  
Helps congregations to get more out of singing

Waddington - we have never asked if people would like to join the music ministry, there has been no outreach

Madrid used to have a good choir. The leader of song left the church after a falling out... Attempts were made to bring her back without success. Also, Adriene Smith, used to lead music. She still attends.

Part of the problem is that we no longer music in schools. People don't sing anymore. It is no longer part of culture and people are uncomfortable singing. It is hard to get people to sing.

Mary has asked for people to come up and sing with her (it is hard to play and sing at the same time)

But people do sing in the congregations. Maybe because we don't have a choir, they feel like they need to sing.

Perhaps see if people want to sing for special liturgies (Easter/Christmas). There may be some who do not want to sing every Sunday but might be willing to come to practices for special liturgies. Perhaps, they can then also sing for a concert or sing at nursing homes as form of outreach.

**HYMNAL:**

Msgr. Aucoin passed around a copy of One in Faith Hymnal... a possible hymnal to replace the music issues.

Advantages:

Not replacing missalettes every year

Hymnal with the Sunday Readings ... permanent

Cheaper

Less waste

Numbers remain consistent

Drawbacks:

Print is smaller

Some people complain that the books are heavy

They don't fit in the missalette holders in Madrid

Question: do we want them? Which hymnal -- there are two other editions. Msgr. Aucoin will bring the other two options next time

In Colton, they have held up well

About \$20 each

Missalettes cost about \$6 each, but need to be replaced every year

Readings: Songboard with hymn numbers would need to have the page number of the Mass readings at the top

If you need additional music, we could use some service like CCLI and print music for mass (special occasion) or create our own song book

Hymnal is easier - stability, numbers stay consistent, accompaniment books would match.

Some people may want to buy their own

Or donate to the cause and get a plate in the book --- donated by ...

Lector may want to have their own copy

Name of the Church would be imprinted on the cover - again sense of permanence, it belongs to us ...

Msg. Aucoin would get a couple of additional copies as replacements for potential damage or loss.

Some churches held on to their missalettes to reuse when the cycle comes around again, but this is against copyright laws

Next time:

additional options of hymnals to look at

Perhaps create an ad hoc committee to weigh the pros and cons of each

Contemporary music is not really contemporary --- much of it was considered old 30 years ago.

Fewer composers

Some Churches use the chant versions (Malone...)

We need the decision on the hymnal by the summer in order to order in time for the next liturgical year.

There are some hymnals by the organ in Waddington without no readings that we considered when Msgr. Snow was pastor.

## **SOUND SYTEMS**

Lectors don't know how to use the microphone

David May will be coming in to look at the Madrid sound system. He has designed many parish systems in the diocese. He does come with a first-class price tag but has done marvelous things with sound systems at other parishes. He will work up a proposal for sound system in Madrid, including hearing aid linking which works with a receiver around the neck for coiled hearing aids.

Sound is difficult in churches. Many of our churches were not built for sound systems. Many churches used to have sound baffles behind the ambo to project the sound.

Sound systems with the tiny speakers can be quite hidden (no big ugly speakers)

We will need to re-train lectors to slow down and enunciate.

Some of the young readers at Christmas did very well. It depends on what they learned in school as far as public speaking.

Box that would house the guts of the sound system in Madrid would be in the Linda's office at half-wall height so it would be accessible ... where the copier is now.

## **LENT MOVIES**

Movies alternating between St. Johns and St. Mary's

As an alternative to bringing up the TV from the basement at St. John, we will need a projector and screen.

Msgr. Aucoin has a projector will purchase a new screen (that is easy to pull out)

HDMI connection to DVD player

The system does need a separate speaker (Dcn. Dan has a speaker that can be used)

Thursdays during Lent

Stations of the Cross at 6pm,

followed by Movie and Pizza Supper

Delivery in Madrid?? Hotel might. Or we can bring from Waddington.

Lot of people don't eat carbs ... perhaps crockpots soup and bread?

Marika brought movie books for Deacon Dan .

There are also Movie guides online <http://media.pauline.org/guides> for more current movies

## **HOMILIES**

Good length, current material such as movies and music and humor

Related to homilies and readers, we could use a new ambo with microphone attached in Waddington

The detached microphone is often not in line with the voice. A new ambo would solve some of that. But also need to train lectors to use the microphone. Ambo is there for 40+ years ... not very stable.

We also need to train the Saturday lectors to the fact that we sing the responsorial on Sunday

Discussion about the age of the ambo and sound system at Madrid

Homilies online - does anyone listen?

Patty had heard someone mentioned they listened. Marika listens when she has not been at mass in Madrid/Waddington

We can advertise the link on Facebook

Msgr. Aucoin needs to add google analytics on the website to see if there is any traffic.

## **PHYSICAL LOOKS OF THE FACILITIES**

Waddington needs new carpet - part of the Capital campaign plan

We picked a raspberry carpet to accentuate out the color from the mosaic

Would we consider tile as opposed to carpet?

Before renovation Waddington used to have a flat solid floor

Tile would change the acoustics which would require a reconfiguration of the sound system

Temperature issue? Would tile be colder?

New tiles are not the same as old tiles

Advantages would be that it is easier to clean - no stains

Quality of tile are okay for sound

Cleaning of Church Waddington is lacking ...  
Madrid has volunteers

Waddington and Madrid have small treads on the steps up to the sanctuary so those might be replaced  
The small steps would be easy to replace when we do the flooring  
If you take the carpeting off the steps they would probably be deeper

Banister in Waddington really should be on the other side of the ambo ... between the ambo and the organ. In  
Madrid the banister has been put in the basement. (there is lots of stuff in the basement ... )

**IDEA:** sending cards out after baptisms etc. There are kits for this. Family Circle in Waddington does send out cards for a wide variety of reason ... Good to follow up on sacraments

**Next meeting: March 12 in Waddington at 6:30pm.**