

A Future Full of Hope

Combined Parish Town Hall Meeting
St. Patrick Parish & Sacred Heart Parish
at Sacred Heart Parish
Monday, 23 April 2018 at 7PM

Passing the Torch



Pastor to Pastor

Opening Prayer

Almighty God, you are aware of our pastoral needs; assist us as we prepare for this time of transition for our parishes. May we welcome our new experiences and opportunities in a spirit of mutual trust, common prayer, and genuine faith. May our pastoral staffs and leaders be prayerfully attentive to the needs of our parish communities. May they seek prudent counsel, guidance, and advice in the spiritual and temporal care of our parishes. We thank you for Fr. Cole's leadership and wise counsel and ask your blessing upon him in retirement. May Fr. Trask persevere as a loving father, a gentle shepherd and a wise teacher, so that he may lead people to Christ, in whom we make our prayer this day. Amen.

Passing the Torch

Items For Tonight's Discussion

- ▶ 1. What We Heard on April 2nd
 - ▶ 2. What Has Been Decided
 - ▶ 3. The Next Initiatives
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What We Heard on April 2nd

Both parishes have concern
for the physical demands &
expectations
being placed on
Fr. Trask



**BURNING THE CANDLE
AT BOTH ENDS IS**

NOT SUSTAINABLE

**...FOR YOU
OR FOR THE WORLD**

What We Heard on April 2nd

- ▶ Can visiting priests be utilized for single-Occurrence Masses (Easter Vigil, Holy Thursday, etc.)?
 - ▶ Reconciliation Schedules are of interest.
 - ▶ Is 10:15 Sunday Mass a possibility?
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What We Heard on April 2nd

- ▶ Why were 9AM and 11AM not included in the poll?
 - ▶ Is there a solution for publishing the Mass schedule of both parishes?
 - ▶ What happens to the *Christmas Mass during the Night*?
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What We Heard on April 2nd

- ▶ Will Precious Blood continue to be offered at Mass?
 - ▶ What will happen to the Masses at Senior Citizen Homes or Nursing Homes?
 - ▶ Will the Deacon(s):
 - be keeping office Hours?
 - be preaching?
 - ▶ Will one Sunday Mass at St. Pat's be sufficient?
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What We Heard on April 2nd

- ▶ What will be the Sunday/Vigil Mass Schedules?
 - ▶ What will be the PSR Schedule?
 - ▶ What will the weekday Mass Schedule look like?
 - ▶ What about campers at Findley State Park?
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Sacred Heart: *Who could live with*

<i>“Who could live with...”</i> Surveys	Attendance 65	
4pm Sat & Late Sun.	55	84.62%
6pm Sat & 8:15 Sun.	18	27.69%
10:30 Sunday	51	78.46%
Weekday Eve. Interest	23	35.38%

St. Patrick: *Who could live with*

<i>“Who could live with...”</i> Surveys	Attendance 63	
4pm Sat & Late Sun.	24	38%
6pm Sat & Early Sun.	34	53%
8 am Sunday	59	93%
No Sunday Mass “preferred” poll taken		

ONCE AGAIN.....

ASK YOURSELF:

“What Can I Live With?”

Fr. Trask's ponderings:

- ▶ Entering into a shared pastorate is tantamount to being immersed into a blended family:
 - We're not the Brady Bunch, & no family has ever been.
 - Growing pains, a feeling of loss, and a sense of *"Why am I the only one who's making compromises?"* and/or *"Why are you always favoring them over us?"*
 - A blended-family transition/adjustment often takes at least 18–24 months. Patience, dialog/communication, & understanding are essential!
- ▶ Goal is to be realistic, equitable and objective in decisions, while also being realistic in what I can and cannot reasonably handle.

Fr. Trask's ponderings:

- ▶ Goal is to be realistic, equitable and objective in decisions toward both parishes ... balancing the fact that:
 - St. Patrick is losing one weekend Mass **in addition to** Mass time changes;
 - Sacred Heart only adjusting Mass times.
- ▶ With an awareness of each parish's wants, hopes, and desires, there's also the necessity of being realistic in what I can and cannot realistically handle.

Fr. Trask's ponderings:

- ▶ Since all are invited to attend any of the four weekend Mass I'll be celebrating:
 - St. Patrick parishioners are actually gaining one weekend opportunity to celebrate Mass with their pastor, and;
 - Sacred Heart parishioners are realizing two additional weekend opportunities to celebrate Mass with their pastor.
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Fr. Trask's ponderings:

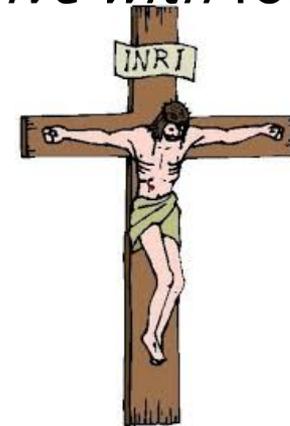
- ▶ The Mass schedule must be such that one priest can handle it. As your pastor, this responsibility falls solely upon me.
 - Major holiday Mass schedules must be planned as if I will be the only priest available to celebrate them.
 - Even if an occasional visiting priest might be recruited one year, it doesn't guarantee future availability. Best to plan for me to handle the entire Mass schedule.
- ▶ Even a 50/50 split of everything would still leave a percentage of people unhappy.

Fr. Trask's ponderings:

- ▶ But we don't want to have to drive to Wellington/Oberlin for Mass!
 - Why is it that we might need to drive?
 - We drive to Mass to encounter Christ in Word & Sacrament!
 - Consider all the times you get behind the wheel:
 - Drive to use a 50¢ coupon
 - Drive to Cedar Point
 - Drive to practice & sporting events
 - Drive a (grand)child to a dance, etc.
 - Your occasional trek to Wellington/Oberlin might serve to heighten your appreciation of the drive I'll make multiple times a day, and numerous times each week.
- ▶ Sensitivity to concerns voiced about the NBVM shared pastorate, while also not allowing that sensitivity to cloud decisions.

Fr. Trask's ponderings:

- ▶ Schedule has been revised multiple times in last 3 weeks as a result of prayer, discernment, and conversations with Fr. Cole, Deacon Daw.
- ▶ Parish Pastoral Councils of Sacred Heart & St. Patrick have offered great input for tonight's Town Hall Meeting.
 - While the final decision on the Mass schedule was not made in isolation, it was ultimately decided by me.
 - More than all others, the Mass schedule impacts me the most, and it needs to be one that *I can live with* for the next 16+ years.
- ▶ Change isn't always cherished, but at the end of the night ...



What Has Been Decided

- ▶ There will be two Sunday vigil Masses; one at each parish?
 - Rule of thumb: if <60% capacity at multiple Masses, consider reducing by a Mass.
 - At St. Patrick's, the Sat 5pm falls into this category.
 - When one sits closer to others, the reality of community (as well as the vibrancy of worship) are stronger.
 - While St. Patrick's 400-seat worship space could hold everyone at a single Saturday evening Mass, pastorally I feel it's essential to have a vigil at each parish.
 - We are not a single parish with two worship sites;
 - We are two vibrant parishes sharing a single pastor.

What Has Been Decided

- ▶ Will a single Sunday morning Mass at St. Pat's be sufficient?
 - Remember the *Rule of thumb*: if <60% capacity at multiple Masses, consider reducing by a Mass.
 - Saturday 5pm averages 125–150
Sunday 8:30am averages 200–275
Sunday 11am averages 90–125
 - Even with the maximum average of 550, 2 weekend Masses at St. Patrick's provides ample seating for 800!
 - Furthermore, there's the option of two additional Mass times at Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

What Has Been Decided

- ▶ How will single-occurrence Masses be handled (Holy Thursday, Easter Vigil, Christmas Mass during the Night, etc.)?
 - Approach needs to be balanced, and will be made on an individual case ... year-by-year ... basis.
 - What is the anticipated size of the congregation? Can it be accommodated within a single worship space?
 - Does the particular liturgy demand that:
 - it be celebrated solely in the “home parish?” ... or
 - is it appropriately celebrated jointly.
 - As in the Easter Vigil, where do the majority of the candidates consider home.

What Has Been Decided

- ▶ (Cont'd) Single-occurrence Masses ...
 - Should a combined inter-parish Mass be deemed appropriate (eg. Holy Thursday, Easter Vigil, etc), it'll only be on particular occasions and NOT the norm.
 - My commitment to 2 Saturday vigil Masses should indicate there's no agenda on my part to make us a single parish with two worship sites.
 - As I shared with the Sacred Heart PPC, the only way that'd change is if the Parish Pastoral Councils of both parishes verbalize a "groundswell from the pews" indicating that desire.
 - Such a dramatic change would ONLY happen from the "bottom up," not the "top down" – so to speak.
 - Any combined Mass would be the rare exception, and NOT indicative of any new norm!

What Has Been Decided

- ▶ Continued → How will single-occurrence Masses be handled (specifically Christmas)?
 - *Christmas Mass during the Night* is what the Roman Missal defines it to be: a Mass celebrated during the night.
 - Prior to Vatican II, the earliest a Mass could be held was Midnight, and thus the earliest the *Christmas Mass during the Night* could be celebrated was Midnight.
 - In 1967, when vigil Masses in the USA were permitted, the obligation of waiting until Midnight was no longer a requirement or obligation.

What Has Been Decided

- ▶ Continued → How will single-occurrence Masses be handled (specifically Christmas)?
 - *Christmas Mass during the night.*
 - Pope Francis celebrates *Christmas Mass during the Night* at 10pm (even though it's televised locally at midnight)
 - Bp. Perez celebrates *Christmas Mass during the Night* at 10pm at Cleveland's St. John Cathedral.
 - Sacred Heart/St. Patrick will have a combined *Christmas Mass during the Night* at the same local time as the Pope & our Bishop.
 - Location will likely alternate annually
 - Schedule and rotation TBD

What Has Been Decided

- ▶ What about Masses on days like Christmas Eve and Easter Sunday?
 - Extraordinary attendance is the extraordinary exception to bination (2 Masses in a day) limitation of Can 905.
 - Extraordinary attendance is >70% full at each Mass.
 - Christmas Eve: 4pm, 6pm, 10pm
 - Envision Easter 2019: 8AM, 10AM, and Noon at St. Pat's, Sacred Heart, St. Pat's
 - Fr. Trask will only be celebrating one Easter Vigil Mass

What has been decided

Will Precious Blood continue to be offered at Mass?

- ▶ Yes, providing there are sufficient extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion as well as Sacristans. Should there be insufficient ministers available, the option will not be extended at that Mass.
- ▶ While there may be occasional suspension of the cup for pastoral reasons, it will only be occasional and temporary.

Low-gluten hosts will continue to be an option at both parishes. The parish will provide them; individuals may NOT supply their own.

What Has Been Decided

Will the parish Deacon keep regular office hours?

▶ Deacons are:

- Ordained & assigned by the Bishop
 - Serve at the mutual agreement of the Pastor & Deacon
 - Are ministers of the Gospel:
 - *“Receive the Gospel of Christ, whose herald you now are. Believe what you read, teach what you believe, and practice what you teach.”*
(Ordination Rite of Deacons)
 - Will preach regularly at their respective parish on the same weekend
 - Are not paid for their service, though they receive an annual continuing education allowance (Max \$1000 for expense reimbursement only – receipts required)
- Minister according to these priorities:
 1. Family
 2. Job
 3. Parish
- We need to assess the best use of their time relative to their abilities and needs of the parish

Sunday & Vigil Mass Schedule



**“I suppose I’ll be the one
to mention the elephant in the room.”**

Sunday & Vigil Mass Schedule

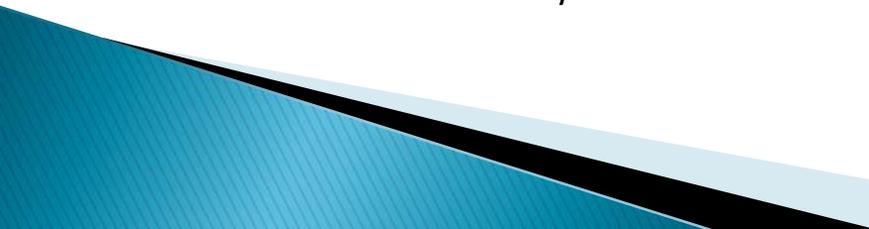
Saturday

- ▶ 4:00PM at Sacred Heart
- ▶ 6:00PM at St. Patrick

Sunday

- ▶ 8:15 AM at St. Patrick
- ▶ 10:30AM at Sacred Heart

WEEKDAY Mass Schedule Considerations

- ▶ Overnights at both parishes
 - ▶ Scheduled days at both parishes
 - ▶ St. Patrick presently enjoys an evening Mass
 - ▶ Sacred Heart parishioners (23) expressed an interest in an evening Mass.
 - ▶ Consistent morning & evening Mass times will make participation & scheduling easier for Mass goers.
 - ▶ Both parish bulletins will contain the complete inter-parish Mass schedule to help facilitate attendance/awareness.
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WEEKDAY Mass Schedule

- ▶ Mon 8:45am St. Patrick
 - ▶ Tue Fr. Trask's Day Away
 - ▶ Wed 6:30pm St Patrick
 - ▶ Thurs 6:30pm Sacred Heart
 - ▶ Fri 8:45am Sacred Heart
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- ▶ Complete Mass schedule with intentions **will be shown** weekly in both Parish bulletins.
 - ▶ Tuesday Masses celebrated at area parishes will be publicized (at least initially)
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Weekday Mass Schedule (Cont.)

Masses held off-premises (e.g. Kendal, Welcome Nursing Home, etc.)

- ▶ Due to pastoral demands (shared office hours, added workload, funerals, sick calls, etc.) under the Shared Pastor arrangement, it would be unwise to continue a regular schedule of these outside Masses.
- ▶ Eucharistic Ministers will continue to bring communion to residents of these facilities; Fr. Trask will continue to anoint patients as needed/requested.

What about Findley State Park campers/visitors?

- ▶ Pamphlets identifying local Mass options at OLHC, OLL, St. Patrick, and Sacred Heart.

PSR Schedule

▶ St. Patrick:

- Grades 1–6: Weds 4:00–5:10pm
- Grades 7–12: Sun 9:30–10:30am

▶ Sacred Heart:

- Grades 1–12: Sun 9:15–10:15am

Reconciliation Schedule

- ▶ St. Patrick
 - Wednesday: 5:30–6:20pm
 - Other times by appointment

- ▶ Sacred Heart
 - Thursday: 5:30–6:20pm
 - Other times by appointment

What about Holy Days of Obligation?

- ▶ St. Patrick has always had Holy Day Vigil Masses, but no Mass the evening of the day itself
- ▶ Sacred Heart has always had Masses the evening of the Holy Day, but no vigil Masses.
- ▶ Thus:
 - 6:30pm Vigil Masses will be celebrated at St. Pat's
 - 8:45am on the Holy Day itself at a TBA location
 - 6:30pm Mass on the Holy Day itself.

Next Steps

▶ ASAP:

- Printing new Mass schedule in the bulletin, clearly identifying 6/2/2018 as the start date.

▶ Mid-May

- Refrigerator magnets distributed publicizing new schedule

	St. Patrick Parish 512 North Main Street Wellington, OH 44090 ☎: 440.647.4375		Sacred Heart <i>Catholic Church</i> 410 West Lorain Street Oberlin, OH 44074 ☎: 440.774.6791
<u>WEEKEND MASSES</u>			
6:00 pm	Saturday		4:00 pm
8:15 am	Sunday		10:30 am
<u>WEEKDAY MASSES</u>			
8:45 am	Monday		
6:30 pm	Wednesday		
	Thursday		6:30 pm
	Friday		8:45 am
StPatrickWellington.com		SacredHeartOberlin.org	

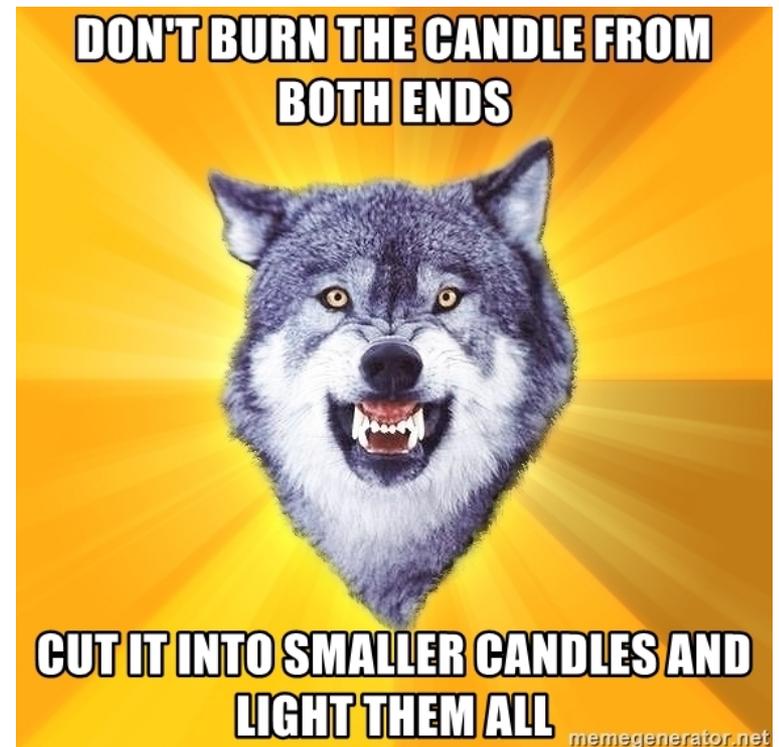
Next Steps

- ▶ June 2nd
New Mass Schedule begins
 - ▶ June 23/24
Fr. Cole's last Weekend Masses
 - ▶ June 30th/July 1
Fr. Trask begins serving as Shared Pastor and presides at all four weekend Masses.
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Things To Do

AREAS OF VOLUNTEERISM

- ▶ Begin *Liturgical Coordinator Ministry* at St. Patrick
- ▶ Create Open and Lockup procedures for both parishes – assisted by volunteers



Where Do We Go From Here?

- ▶ Are there questions you'd like addressed should we host a future Town Hall meeting?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

No questions or concerns were voiced.