

***Peace of Christ Parish
Liturgy Committee
Minutes
February 2, 2010***

Attendance: Janet Andrychuk-Tedesco, Judy Brawley, Father Brian Carpenter, Sally Krowl, Laurie Maier, Dave O'Keefe, Wendy O'Keefe, Father Bob Schrader, Sister Marlene Vigna, Father Bob Werth, Grace Zanche

The meeting was opened with a prayer lead by Father Brian.

Minutes of the January meeting were approved as submitted.

Review

1/19 Prayer for Christian Unity

Father Bob S reported that this ecumenical service was based on the Greymoor program. It went well and there was a nice choir turnout, particularly by our parish. It was noted that there does seem to be a better turnout when there is a meal involved, eg. soup suppers. It was also observed that the other congregations are very small compared to ours (only 40 families at St. Mark and St. John) that it isn't surprising that we outnumbered them. Grace suggested that perhaps something more social, eg. a holiday craft show, be attempted, not necessarily organized by Peace of Christ Parish. Laurie said that the Laurelton Presbyterian Church had done a Christmas Craft show and had solicited contributions from POC.

1/31 Catholic Schools Week Mass

There was a blessing of all Catholic school students and faculty present at all of the Masses following the Communion Rite. It didn't seem like there were many present, but Wendy did say that she had seen more students in the congregation that didn't necessarily stand for the blessing. Father Bob S suggested that we include all students in September for the blessing on Catechetical Sunday.

2/2 Candlemas Day

These liturgies did include the blessing of candles. Sally thought that this special feast doesn't get enough publicity, so attendance is light. Father Bob S gave a brief historical synopsis, stating that the feast used to be called the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus/Purification of Mary. It also used to be the official conclusion of the Christmas season. For this reason there is still the recommendation to bless mothers and pregnant woman in addition to candles; anything to do with new life. Perhaps this might be something to promote next year.

4/3 Easter Vigil

Sally read a letter received from Gloria Ulterino, who regretted not being able to attend this meeting due to a prior commitment. Her letter pertained to the memorization of the Exodus reading for the Vigil liturgy. She said that Melissa Rice and Ken Klem are willing to proclaim this reading if we should choose this option. Laurie stated that she had no objection to this as long as they are well prepared and are willing to attend the practice on the Wednesday of Holy Week. Father Bob S concurred with this decision and the committee agreed. Sally or Laurie will be in contact with Gloria to share this decision and stipulation.

New Business

2/3 Feast of St. Blaise

The traditional blessing of the throats will take place Wednesday 3 February at St. James and St. John. Father Brian requested a copy of the prayers for him to use at the St. James liturgy.

2/7 Scout Sunday

Laurie reported that, as usual, the scouts will be serving as altar servers and lector. This is the 100th anniversary of boy scouting. She is still attempting to find a girl scout altar server. There will be the blessing of Scouts and their leader at the end of the Mass. They are scrambling to form a Board together to reveal the qualifications of the 4 boys who have earned their Ad Altari Dei awards before the ceremony on March 6. These boys should be recognized at this Mass. There will be a full procession in including the flags.

2/16 Mardi Gras

This parish celebration will begin at 6:00 pm with the pancake breakfast/dinner. As last year there will be crafts for the kids, a parade, the burying of the alleluia, burning of the palms and Evening Prayer in the church.

2/17 Ash Wednesday

We are continuing to strive for simplicity of environment for Lent. Sally referred us to a Sourcebook article recommending this plan. Our Sunday liturgies should reflect common threads in music, subdued lighting, processional formats and sung Penitential Rite. No baptisms take place during Lent.

Laurie reviewed the past St. Ambrose practice where the presider and ministers rather than processing in, just quietly take a seat in the front and just rise when it is time to begin Penitential Rite. It was decided that this year we would use this form at all 3 worship sites. Father Brian wondered whether we should make an announcement to the congregation the week prior to enlighten them as to what to expect and why. It was decided that it was not necessary since the low lighting will set the tone and people have come to expect this.

Janet observed that she felt that the announcement this past Sunday regarding the Fruit of the Vine event and extensive remarks on their raffle seemed inappropriate when the Sunday focus should be on Liturgy and the Word and we have stated that our goal is to limit announcements as much as possible referring folks to the website and bulletin.

Father Brian wondered whether we had or needed a policy regarding such announcements. It was decided that at this point a specific policy was not necessary because for the most parts social announcements of this type are not all that frequent.

Janet also made us aware that there is a diocesan Evening of Reflection for liturgical ministers coming up as well as the annual Musicians Banquet on April 23. It will take place at the Museum of Science, with Bishop Clark as the guest speaker. She will be conferring with our financial person to see how much of the cost the parish can afford to contribute to our musicians' dinners.

Lenten Retreat

All speakers have been notified. Father Brian needs to know about what music is to be included in order to finalize the program that he is creating. He will discuss this with Janet.

Lent

Father Bob S distributed the Holy Week and Easter schedule that has been sent to the envelop company for inclusion in their next packet mailing.

Father Bob W spoke of the City wide ecumenical Stations of the Cross. The stations are walked through the neighborhoods with areas where violence has taken place or where hope is shown serving as the station locations. This year the Parsells Avenue area will be the focus. He will be attending a meeting with the GRCC where planning will take place.

New Roman Missal

Father Brian mentioned an online webinar being offered by the National Pastoral Musicians on Thursday, February 11 at 2:00 pm, regarding the New Roman Missal. He expressed interest in taking part in this webinar and wondered if anyone else were as well. Janet was and they will make plans to sign up.

Sally referred us to the Sourcebook, page XIII for comments on the changes. Father Bob shared a brochure he received promoting some booklets regarding these changes that he thought it would be good for committee members to have.

Afternoon of Reflection – Joan Workmaster

Plans still need to be made for this presentation. Laurie cited a workshop she attended last year presented by the Irondequoit churches which included both Joan and Father Bob Kennedy that was excellent. She proposed that we might consider designing ours around their presentation. It was decided that this was a good plan. We should try to plan our afternoon/evening to include both speakers but outside of the Lenten season. Rather than choose a date ourselves it was decided that either Laurie or Janet would contact Joan and ask that she consult with Father Bob Kennedy and choose a date(s) that would work best for them.

It was decided that we would make use of “Pledge Cards” this year for Lenten focus each week. Baskets would be provided with a different discipline each week, drawn from that Sunday’s readings (eg. work on desire or the Transfiguration). Parishioners would take a card each week from the basket and pray and meditate on that week’s focus discipline.

Father Brian shared some negative comments he’d received regarding hospitality. These were received from regular church goers who are active in the parish. They remarked that they still didn’t know the names of lectors and ministers of communion who they see every week, and also don’t know the names of those sitting in the pews around them. Father Bob W again suggested having people introduce themselves every month or two at the beginning of mass. All agreed that this continues to be an ongoing problem.

The meeting ended with the recitation of the Glory Be led by Father Brian.

Next Meeting: May 4

Future Meeting

June 1