

PEACE OF CHRIST PARISH LITURGY COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 6, 2015

Attendance: Elaine Becker, Father Tim Brown, Drew Desmarais, Terry Keach, Sally Krowl, Gloria Marlett, Augie Misiurewicz, Jeanne Picone, Anne Ross, Father Bob Schrader, Sister Marlene Vigna, Grace Zanche

Absent: Janet Andrychuk-Tedesco, Melissa Mang, Dave O’Keefe, Wendy O’Keefe, Suzanne Stack

The meeting began with a meditation on the reading of the day from the first letter of John led by Jeanne.

The minutes of the December 2 meeting were approved as submitted.

REVIEW of Recent Events

Adoration and Benediction of Blessed Sacrament – The first Fridays at St. Ambrose seem to have some increased participation. The third Wednesdays at St. James, however, did not generate enough attendance to be continued.

Solemnity of Immaculate Conception – The regular Holy Day schedule was followed, but was also a School Mass at St. Ambrose, with good musical accompaniment and participation that included the children.

St. Lucy Mass – The Mass was offered in Italian and Bishop Matano began his homily in Italian and finished in English. The Bishop said he enjoyed the celebration and would be most willing to come again.

Lessons and Carols – Jeanne reported that it was a very beautiful event with outstanding music. Those who attended were impressed by the collaboration of choir members from all sites, and especially enjoyed the Children’s Choir, which was assembled especially for the event. Terry noted that lots of practice went into the preparation. He suggested a special thank-you in the bulletin and from the pulpit for the dedication and time commitment of all the volunteer singers and musicians.

Christmas – There was good attendance at all the Masses, with enough seating for everyone at each site. It seemed that the schedule worked well (three 4 pm Masses; 11 pm and midnight on Christmas Eve; 8:30 and 10:30 am Christmas Day). Father Tim noted that at St. James “Joy to the World” concluded unfortunately with the “curse verse” –not an appropriately joyful ending to Christmas Mass. Terry agreed that the usual practice is to finish this hymn with some other verse. On the subject of organ music, Terry pointed out that the organ is a complex instrument and that its music sounds very different in tone and volume depending on where in the church one is sitting.

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God – There was some confusion about the time of Mass at St. John. The wrong time was noted in the 12/28 bulletin, although the correct time had been listed in the Advent/Christmas mailing. There was discussion on the pros and cons of making the morning Masses celebrating Christmas and Mary Mother of God at the same time. The issue will be considered early in the planning for next Christmas season.

Solemnity of Epiphany – Sung proclamation of the dates of moveable feasts in the coming year had been mentioned, but did not happen, as it takes extra preparation. Terry noted that there was an abbreviated proclamation at the midnight Mass. Also, he mentioned that Father Rosica had chanted the Gospel at the midnight liturgy, noting that he seemed to demonstrate perfect pitch!

Annual stats – A count of sacramental statistics (as sent to the Diocese) for Peace of Christ from July 2013 to June 2014 was noted: Baptism—41; First Communion—30; Confirmation—18; Wedding—12; Funeral—98. It was also noted that there were 13 regularly scheduled Masses at the three sites per week. This totals 676 Masses in 52 weeks.

UPCOMING Events

1/10 & 11 – **Baptism of the Lord**. Christmas season ends; Ordinary Time begins. Terry noted that the sprinkling rite should be part of the liturgy. Father Bob asked the staff make sure the correct prayers for the rite are included in the Presider's Book; they differ for each feast.

Three **training sessions** are scheduled for Extraordinary Ministers of Communion, one at each worship site: 1/11—1:30 at St. Ambrose; 1/14—7 pm at St. James; 1/17—10 am at St. John. Letters announcing the times and locations have been sent to all whose names are currently on the parish list of ministers and visitors. New ministers are also welcome; all who want to serve in this capacity must attend, but may go to any of the sessions as the information will apply to all sites. There will be a theology portion; practical information and time to complete a biographical information form and sign a Profession of Faith. After the training, the diocese will issue authorization cards, which will be valid for three years and will be renewable.

1/17 & 18 – **Second Sunday, Ordinary Time**. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins. Drew distributed a summary of plans prepared by Melissa for youth participation in the 5 pm liturgy. Members of both youth groups will be servers, lectors, and will present the Universal Prayer and the gifts.

1/22 – **Church Unity Octave Service** will take place at Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on Winton Road at 7 pm. Sr. Marlene reported that area ministers of the Northeast Church Cluster recently met to plan the service; the details of the music still need to be finalized. Terry noted that this should be done within a week or 10 days. It was also noted that this is also the day of Prayer for Legal Protection of the Unborn.

1/24 & 25 – **Third Sunday, Ordinary Time**. This is the start of Catholic Schools Week. This month we welcomed a new principal for our school. This day has also been slated for a Catholic Relief Services collection to aid in fighting the ebola crisis in Africa.

1/29 – **School Mass** will be celebrated at 9:15 am.

1/31 & 2/1 – **Fourth Sunday, Ordinary Time**.

2/2 – **Feast of the Presentation of the Lord** (Candlemas) This will be a 7:45 am Mass at St. James.

2/3 – **Memorial of St. Blaise**. Blessing of Throats is traditional; Fr. Bradler is scheduled for 9:15 am Mass at St. Ambrose.

2/8 – **Fifth Sunday, Ordinary Time.** To mark Scout Sunday, John Boyle and Dan Kellogg will organize scouts to participate. At 2 pm in St. Ambrose, the **Ceremony of Remembrance** will be celebrated for those who have died without family. Sr. Marlene met with Sr. Beth LeValley and Rev. William Wilkinson to plan this memorial service. She reported that over the past year there were 19 burials at Oatka Cemetery of persons whose names will be included in the ceremony.

UPDATES & New Business

Cedarwood Towers – The 10 am Monday Mass will be resumed; the Wednesday 4 pm time was not workable. Residents were pleased with the return to the previous schedule. Augie and/or Sr. Marlene will serve as substitute ministers as needed for times when Fr. Bob is away.

The need for **lector training** has been mentioned. Drew said that sessions probably will be scheduled in the fall.

Universal prayer – The idea of a single team of petition writers—individuals whose petitions would be used at all three sites—was discussed. Fr. Bob and Fr. Tim noted that the petitions at all the sites are already quite similar, since they relate to the readings of the day. Sr. Marlene said that getting the petitions into the proper format is always an issue and must be done by Tuesday morning and submitted to Fr. Bob. It was decided that the current process will continue.

Lent begins February 18. Fr. Bob reported that a **three-day retreat** has been scheduled for 3/1-3, to be presented by Fr. Bill Graf. He will speak at all the Masses on the weekend of 2/28 & 3/1. Each talk of the retreat will be at 7 pm in St. Ambrose Church. Father proposed that on Monday, 3/2 there be a soup supper in Dailey Hall before the talk. The closing night (3/3) will be a Mass, with the homily as the concluding talk of the retreat.

Since that night (3/3) would have been the regularly scheduled meeting of the Liturgy Committee, a new meeting date and time needed to be selected. After discussion, the **March meeting** of the committee was scheduled for Saturday, March 7 at 1 pm.

Father also mentioned that bulletin announcements need to begin soon reminding parishioners to bring in palms to be burned for Ash Wednesday. Palms should be brought in no later than February 15. It is not yet known if there are plans for a Mardi Gras event this year.

Day of Penance is scheduled for Tuesday, 3/24: confession available 12:30-7:30 pm. The regular School Council meeting is scheduled for that evening at 7 pm. Fr. Bob and Fr. Tim will have to join that meeting in progress.

Jeanne closed the meeting by leading the group in saying the “Serenity Prayer.”

NEXT Meeting: 2/3 *Prayer:* Anne Ross

Future Meetings & Prayers:

3/7 at 1 pm—Gloria Marlett 4/7—Drew Desmarais 5/5—Dave O’Keefe