

**PEACE OF CHRIST PARISH
LITURGY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

April 7, 2015

Attendance: Elaine Becker, Father Tim Brown, Drew Desmarais, Terry Keach, Sally Krowl, Gloria Marlett, Augie Misiurewicz, Dave O’Keefe, Wendy O’Keefe, Father Bob Schrader, Jeanne Picone, Grace Zanche

Absent: Janet Andrychuk-Tedesco, Melissa Mang, Anne Ross, Suzanne Stack, Sister Marlene Vigna

We began the meeting with a prayer led by Drew.

The minutes of the March meeting were approved as submitted.

Review of Recent Events

Lent

- *Sunday Environment* It was noted that the Quiet Signs did not necessarily make a big difference, although some improvement was noted. Sally suggested that perhaps more is needed, eg: an announcement 5 minutes prior to the beginning of the liturgy or bulletin reminders. Father Bob suggested that a theme be selected for each week and that small sheets with thought-provoking notes could be provided before Mass for meditation and that the homily could expand on these.
- *Stations of the Cross* – Gloria noted that between 25 and 30 attended each week.
- *Retreat* – Father Bill Graf was well received. Positive remarks were made about it being easier to attend three days in succession rather than one evening for several weeks.
- *Day of Penance* – Father Bob said that attendance was up from last year but not as great as the first year.
- *Candidate/Catechumen preparation* – Sally noted that it was nice to be able to get to know them a little better since they were dismissed from St. Ambrose site every week. It was suggested that in the future photos of catechumens and candidates might appear in the bulletin, perhaps also with some information about them, so the entire parish could get to know them. Drew noted that an entire family has already come forward to be part of next year's RCIA program.

Holy Week

Palm Sunday

- Father Tim and Drew recommended that for the 5:00 pm Mass at St. Ambrose will NOT include a procession from Dailey Hall. Many for this liturgy are late arrivers and often are not POC parishioners and don't even know where Dailey Hall is.
- There was some confusion over palms at St. John at the 11 am Mass. Some were piled at the doors, some had been left in the pews so that many did not have them during the Mass. wave them as part of the procession. Next year we will need to give clearer instructions for the distribution of the palms. Ideally, palms can be picked up when entering or the ushers should be asked to pass them out
- following their blessing but before the procession enters the church.
- Dave asked members to consider whether the memorized Proclamations of the Passion had been a little too dramatic than appropriate. During discussion it was noted that there are many different “scripts” published for the presentation of the Passion. Father Bob also pointed out that the actions and movements are very helpful for those proclaiming the Passion in remembering their lines. The choices of how the Palm Sunday Passion will be proclaimed at each Mass are published in the bulletin so parishioners can choose which Mass to attend.

Morning Prayer

- About 10-15 persons attended.
- Terry noted that the prayer sheets need to be checked. He had the unfortunate experience of having a page missing from his and didn't know he was supposed to begin a hymn. The sheets have been in use for several years and in some instances are outdated (eg: some include the term “Yahweh,” which has been removed from liturgies for several years.

Holy Thursday, Mass of the Lord's Supper

- Presentation of the Oils went well, although Blake didn't know to step up and face the congregation when presenting his. It was recommended that a brief practice prior to Mass might be helpful. Augie agreed but said that it is difficult to get them participants to come early or attend a practice.
- The Transfer of the Eucharist to St. James for the Exposition went very smoothly this year.

Good Friday

- Terry suggested that the windows should be opened beforehand if it is a warm day since the church has been uncomfortably warm for Good Friday the past two years.
- Otherwise everything went very nicely.

Ecumenical Tenebrae

- Those who attended said it was very beautifully done and quite different from what we are used to.
- A single minister extinguished the candles which our staff thought was an excellent idea because there is often uncertainty as to whether or not to extinguish a candle following a reading.
- It was noted that the service included a quite extended period of silence.
- Selected readings included scripture passages as well as poetry for each theme.
- Music consisted of just a pianist, a soloist and the congregation and was quite effective.

Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil

- Drew suggested that the staff should meet briefly to block out the rehearsal before the actual rehearsal on Wednesday to ensure it runs more smoothly.
- Lectors should rehearse at a separate time so that everyone doesn't need to listen to them practice.
- Father Tim asked that we rethink doing all seven of the readings and psalms since it makes the Liturgy so long. Dave noted that he had seen several groups/people leave before the actual Mass even began. It was decided that next year we will only do 3 or 4 readings and inform the parish that the Easter Vigil will be shorter and more "user friendly."

Upcoming Events

- During Eastertime we will be doing a Sprinkling Rite each Sunday before the Gloria.
- The Gloria is prayed at weekday Masses during the Octave of Easter
- Divine Mercy Sunday -- April 12

- Good Shepherd Sunday – April 26
- Youth Participation Mass – April 26
- No School Mass on April 30

Other Business

Letter About Interfaith Dialogue – Gloria shared a letter she had received from Betsy McDermott regarding the formation of an interfaith relations group with the Muslims of our community. It was suggested that Peace of Christ might pair with the Islamic Cultural Center on Culver Road near Main Street. Augie said that he had received a similar request and had forwarded it to the Peace and Justice Committee as it seemed to be more under their umbrella of interests. The Committee agreed and Gloria will handle her request accordingly.

Next Meeting : May 5, 2015

Please read in the Sourcebook pp. 210 and 211 on Ascension Thursday and pp. 219 – 222 regarding Pentecost in preparation for this meeting.

Prayer: Dave O'Keefe

Future Meetings & Prayer

June 2 – Picnic