



Liturgy Commission Summary Notes

Queen of Angels Parish – St. Benedict Room 2/25/15

Function of the Liturgy Commission: To give ideas for various Liturgical seasons, including Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter and Ordinary Time.

Liturgy Commission Members

- Fr. Dennis Robb, *Pastor*
- Cathy Wiswell, *Liturgy Coordinator*
- Ron Andris, SJ
- Ann Marie Henniger
- Kim Bennett, SJ
- Suzanne Ryan, QA
- Denise McClain, QA *Music Liaison*
- Lorenz Sollmann, QA
- Jackie Middaugh, SJ
- Marci Thomsen, QA
- Jan Morgan, QA
- Donna Wiese, QA

Members Absent

- Jackie Middaugh, SJ
- Suzanne Ryan, QA
- Marci Thomsen

The meeting was started with an opening prayer at 6:35pm. There was 1 guest in attendance.

I. Old Business

1. Review of Advent/Christmas Liturgies

- St. Joseph members had a concern regarding completion of church decorations including the manger and the amount of flowers. Concerns are to be reported to Admin as soon as possible so that any needed changes or correction may be made. When planning begins for next year, these concerns will be reviewed again.
- A suggestion was made by Cathy that Christmas flowers for both parishes be purchased together. The question was asked regarding how the flowers are paid for? It was answered that, normally the flower envelope donations cover the costs of the flowers at both parishes.
- Members of both parishes stated that they really liked the “empty” crib which was placed on the altar steps @ QOA and in the church at St. Joes. It was asked if the “empty crib” could be up for a longer period of time? This

presents a challenge when there is a funeral and the crib has to be moved in and out. The straw seems to be the biggest obstacle. No decision regarding length of using the “empty crib” was made.

- The review of the Advent Candle procession was very positive. The consensus was that this was something the group would like to see continue next year. Father said that it was not too crowded in the narthex even the last week of Advent. The feedback from the Candle Bearers was positive and many expressed thanks for being asked to participate. . It was mentioned that the procession “looked beautiful viewed from the choir loft.” There was a discussion regarding the pace of the procession. It is to be stately walk .It was suggested that perhaps a reminder should be added to the schedule of All those processing.

2. Instrumental Entrance Hymns

- There was a consensus of both parishes that the instrumental music had a positive effect on the “Advent” atmosphere.

3. Christmas Eve Masses

- 4 pm Mass: this Mass was well attended. Members enjoyed the children being invited to meet Father at the Manger and help bless it. Father said that this was unplanned, but went well. A member mentioned that at another church, the Priest took the opportunity to ask for a Christmas gift for himself, which was that everyone attending Christmas Mass would continue to attend each Sunday.
- 9pm (Midnight) Mass: Mass started in darkness, suggestion was to start the lights coming up a little earlier so that the second verse of hymns could be read. The Prologue was read a little slowly, perhaps change timing a bit. It was asked if Mass could be at midnight. Father’s response was that in his experience, Midnight Mass was not well attended and many attendees were not parishioners.

4. Darkness, Prologue, etc.

- The review of Advent Darkness was very positive. Members who attended for the first time said that “it was a quiet period in an otherwise hectic season”, all agreed. Father stated that he enjoyed the peacefulness and change of pace of the music. Attendees from Sequim are looking forward to adopting Advent Darkness at St. Joes next year. It was reported that overall attendance was somewhat less than last year even though there was more publicity this year. It was suggested that each attendee/member invite another family/person to attend with them next year. It was stated that, “once you get there the experience is really special.” “It was an oasis in the midst of a too busy time.” It was also suggested that announcements/encouragement/endorsements could be made from the ambo at Mass next year. There was a brief discussion about starting earlier in the evening and perhaps having more silence/less music. No decision was made regarding these items. Lorenz asked if those who attended several sessions picked up on the change of music and lighting – some did, some did not.

II. New Business

1. Change of meeting day

- Father asked that the meeting dates be moved to Thursdays so that Father Kasonga could attend. The consensus was that future meetings will be held on Thursdays at 6:30pm.

2. Holy Week

- To keep the focus on the specialness of the Holy Week liturgy, Father wants to change daily Mass times for Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday from 8:30- Noon.
- Procession of Holy oils will be done by 2 parishioners per vessel who are in some way, by their studies or ministries, associated with the particular Holy oil i.e. **The Oil of Catechumens**, to be brought up by an RCIA member and sponsor; **The Holy Chrism Oil**, by someone who will be Confirmed and teacher/sponsor; **Oil of the Sick**, by persons in the Outreach Ministry for example. There was a discussion regarding placing the oils in a large enough container/vessel so that they are clearly visible during the procession and when they are placed in the Sanctuary. Various ideas were brought forth; no decision about a specific method was made.
- The “washing of feet”, cast a wide net of participants which will be representative of the entire parish, men, women, young adults. Father would like participants names and ministry to be announced as they come up to get their feet washed.
- We were reminded that the Triduum is one liturgy and our celebration should reflect that. There was a discussion regarding an Altar of Repose. It could be set up in another room to which the Tabernacle has been moved. The length of prayer at the Altar would be 1 hour. It was stated that this “liturgy” has not been well attend in the past. Perhaps an explanation, of the liturgy, could be given in the bulletin prior to this to encourage participation.
- To emphasize the “specialness” of Holy Week, Father asked that the Rosary not be prayed aloud before Mass. His goal is to keep the liturgies focused and not lengthy. He mentioned combining Parishes for Good Friday Liturgy at a future time.
- Developing a “worship aide” was discussed. Denise volunteered to look into this. Father and Cathy asked that the aide be developed for both Parishes. A worship aid from another Parish was reviewed by Father and Denise. It contained mostly music. Our discussion revolved around “do we want more than music”; how many pages; what is the purpose of an aide; who will make needed copies and put the aid together. No decision was made regarding this.

- Palm Sunday: the readings will be in 3 parts and read by Father, Deacon & lector, or Father and 2 lectors. Each will be assigned a section to read. The congregation will participate silently for this reading.
- Music: Denise is working on assembling choirs and musicians. She needs to have experienced musicians as time for “teaching” and rehearsal is short. A discussion regarding Lenten music, the use of bells at the Altar and other Lenten changes took place. Lorenz will connect with the Altar Servers regarding bells; Father will clarify his needs at the music ministry meeting tomorrow, Feb. 26.
- Easter Vigil was discussed. Father stated that the service will be shorter than in the past. There was a discussion about where the liturgy started, do we need a cordless mike; what happens if it rains; what is used to contain the fire; how do we sing and process? The number of readings will be the same as last year. Father requests a different lector for each reading i.e. 4 readers. The lighting was discussed, nothing was decided.

III. Closing Prayer & Blessing led by Father Dennis Robb.

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30

Next meeting: to be determined

Respectfully submitted by Donna Wiese