



Liturgy Commission Summary Notes
St. Joseph Parish – Classroom Bldg. 11-20-2014

Liturgy Commission Members

- Fr. Dennis Robb, *Pastor*
 - Cathy Wiswell, *Liturgy Coordinator*
-
- Ron Andris, SJ
 - Linda Gavin, SJ
 - Ann Marie Henninger, QA
 - Denise McClain, QA *Music Liaison*
 - Jackie Middaugh, SJ
 - Suzanne Ryan, QA
 - Vern Smith, SJ
 - Lorenz Sollmann, QA
 - Marci Thomsen, QA
 - Donna Wiese, QA

Members Absent

- Jan Morgan, QA
- Kim Bennett, SJ

The meeting was started with prayer at 6:30pm. There were no guests in attendance.

I. Member Packets

- a. *Sourcebook 2015* was provided to members.

II. Advent Preparation Review

- a. Entrance procession is the major change this year. Donna Wiese is recruiting Advent candle-bearer families for QA. We have no one recruiting families for SJ. Jackie Middaugh and Linda Gavin volunteered to recruit.
 - i. Lists to Cathy by 11/25.
- b. New ideas/suggestions:
 - i. Father has requested that posters/flyers in the narthex of each church be limited to parish events/activities specific to Advent. We can re-hang ‘regular’ posters after Christmas.
 - ii. Blessing of Expectant Mothers – on Gaudete Sunday (12/14) or Feast of the Holy Family (12/28). Father and Cathy will consider this.

III. Lent

- a. Idea: Close Ordinary Time with **The Burning of the Palms** – perhaps alternate parishes.
 - i. On Fat Tuesday (i.e. Mardi Gras) in the evening.
 - ii. Mass starts with fire pit outside the church.
 - iii. Burn old palms as the “last Alleluia” is sung
 - iv. Can prepare the ashes for use the following year on Ash Wednesday.
- b. Season is unique and significant in the Church’s calendar – it is a penitential season.
- c. Lenten reflection books into narthex of each church prior to Lent.
- d. Our focus should be on the penitential character – the ‘goodness’ of sparseness.
Suggestions:
 - i. Minimal décor.
 - Perhaps two altar candles max.
 - Basic, simple, plain-color purple banners.

- No bells rung during Lent – including church bells
- ii. Simple entrance procession.
 - Short procession – no lay ministers except lector (if deacon is absent).
 - Procession stops at step and presider begins Mass there.
- iii. Music during Lent – ideally *a capella*.
 - Discussion ensued regarding challenges of *a capella*.
 - Consider instrumental entrance hymn.
 - *Kyrie* sung like a short litany – place focus on the meaning of the *Kyrie*. Father talked about his preferences. More to come later on this.
 - Period of silence following the *Kyrie*.
 - Consider options of saying the Opening Prayer at the step or at the presider chair.
 - Focus on simple, familiar music throughout the Mass for the season of Lent.
- iv. Laetare Sunday
 - Sprinkling rite as a connection to our Baptism.
- v. RCIA
 - Consider prayer cards highlighting the people being received into the Church this year – hand out at beginning of Lent so parishioners can pray for them.
 - Dismissals – focus on when to do them (Sunday Masses preferred) and the music for the dismissal.
 - Importance of Lent in the RCIA journey – our focus should be centered on this aspect.
- vi. Lenten Activities to continue:
 - Friday soup suppers – emphasize simple, home-made soups. Focus on sparse, not elaborate meals.
 - Friday Stations of the Cross – Father and Cathy to discuss in regards to concurrent Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.
- vii. Other new ideas to consider:
 - Evening Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours during Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament .
 - Symbol of Lent – hand out nails to parishioners. Lorenz will research.
 - Symbol of Lent – small pocket-size crucifix – Father talk about significance of the cross at some point and then have a give-away for parishioners.
 - A Liturgy on the Liturgy – devote a special night to the recitation of poetic readings regarding the various parts of the Mass. Lorenz has the ‘script’.
 - Tenebrae service on Good Friday @ 3:00pm – in the darkened church.
- viii. Things to ponder for Holy Week:
 - Reinforcing the idea that it is one liturgy from Holy Thursday through the Easter Vigil (the Triduum).
 - Our focus is the Church’s teaching on the liturgy during Holy Week.
 - Avoid public devotions during the Triduum.

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

Meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm.

Next meeting: February 2015 – Cathy will email specifics. **Prayer for next meeting:** Marci Thomsen.

Respectfully submitted by Cathy Wiswell.