

Liturgy Committee Meeting

Tuesday, May 5, 2009; 7:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Dan Morris, Cecilia Chang, Mary Ellen Hennig, Cynthia Rohrs-Carter, Totsie Taylor

Absent: Mary Lou Caldwell, Mabel Hoffman, Ed Johnson, Tom Kemnitz, Janice LaMotte, Dick Sherman

Prayer:

Led by Dan

Minutes:

The following comments were made about the last meeting's minutes (March):
In general, the liturgies during Lent and Holy Week went well.

Soup Supper on Friday, April 3 - about 30 people were in attendance.

Reconciliation on Friday, April 3 - about 75 people were in attendance.

Suggestion: that the regular confessionals on both sides of the church be available for confessions - more people may appreciate the privacy of a screen. Notable contrast between the number of people coming to reconciliation and the number at Mass on Easter.

Palm Sunday - shipment of palms arrived already dried up - may try another company next year. Not enough palms - suggest ordering 2200 next year. Dan pulled apart some donated local palms for the last Mass. Children's Mass at 9:30 with procession with palms went well. All Palm Sunday Masses were very well attended - many more people than usual.

Holy Thursday - Suggest that ALL MINISTERS arrive 1/2 hour before Mass for final instructions.

Washing of feet had 13 people and not enough room on the benches. Not all of the volunteers followed instructions to go to the vestibule before Mass, and we didn't know how many people there would be for the foot washing. Probably should have added the two short stools next to the benches beforehand.

Suggestion: have people who volunteered check in with someone before Mass and get a "tag" so that we know there will be 12 people. After washing of feet, long benches should be put back along sides of church rather than in front of the front pews, as they obstruct the flow at Communion time.

Contingency plan for altar of repose was the chapel (in case of rain), but it is preferable not to have the Eucharist in the usual place.

In spite of the announcement not to start cars in the parking lot when the procession with the Blessed Sacrament proceeds over to the hall, people did it anyway. The announcement is important to keep, though, for each year.

Good Friday - We still need to find a way to use pulleys to raise and lower things on the main sanctuary wall.

We have not found the origin of the tradition of covering the cross on Good Friday - further research will be done.

The procession with reverencing the cross went smoothly and quickly at both the afternoon service and evening Taize service.

Decorating for Easter on Friday evening - went from 8 p.m. till 11:30 p.m.

Suggest doing some of the decorating on Saturday morning.

The ladders were needed, and Dan had to go and get them from the convent.

Retreat for catechumens - which is on Holy Saturday morning from 9 -

12:30 presents some difficulties for those who want to set up the community center.

Easter season - rite of sprinkling - suggestion that presiders proceed up and

down each aisle (not just the center aisle) and also into the chapel in order to sprinkle everyone.

Divine Mercy Sunday - Some members of the Liturgy Committee felt that

we could have done more. What was done: informative flyer had gone into the bulletin on Palm Sunday, holy cards (donated) were in baskets at the church doors on Divine Mercy Sunday, and the picture of Divine Mercy was on an easel in the main sanctuary.

Suggestions: that the presiders speak about it at least briefly in the homily (no mention was made in the homilies or at any other point in the Masses this year); that part of the chaplet of Divine Mercy be recited at the end of each Mass; that an event on the afternoon of this Sunday be planned - such as a prayer service at 3:00 p.m., etc.

Suggestion: that a letter be sent to presiders beforehand, requesting that they speak, at least briefly, about Divine Mercy at the Mass.

Miscellaneous:

World Day of Prayer for Vocations was on May 3.

An announcement about it was put in the bulletin. Next year, perhaps more could be done.

One of the large gold communion cups (ciborium) got a dent.

Nobody knows who did it/what happened.

Pastoral ministers may take Communion for the sick on Good Friday, but not on Holy Saturday. Only a priest may give it as Viaticum for the sick or dying on Holy Saturday.

Health Procedures During Flu Season:

Our bishop has issued some directives, in conjunction with the county department of health, to safeguard people's health because of swine flu. Presiders will make announcements to this effect before Mass. We need more gel hand-sanitizer; all the stores are sold out. Mary Egan purchased two large boxes of sanitary hand wipes for the Eucharistic ministers.

Mother's Day - Sunday, May 10:

Musicians at the Masses are encouraged to do an Ave Maria. There will be a special blessing for mothers at all the Masses.

Ascension - Sunday, May 24:

There will be no change to the environment.

Pentecost - Sunday, May 31:

Red will be added to the environment. People can be invited to wear their traditional dress on this day. It will need to be announced/in bulletin several weeks in advance. All ministers will be blessed and recommissioned at the Masses. 9:30 Mass will be a children's liturgy in conjunction with the usual musicians. Following all Masses, the Ministry Faire will take place in the community center and adjoining area. Representatives from all ministries will be at the tables to provide more information about each ministry, and hopefully to encourage more people to join.

Trinity Sunday - June 7:

White is the liturgical color for the day. Suggestion: to group candles and flowers in "3's". The beginning comments from the music cantor can include a reference to the significance of the groupings in 3's. Dan will ask Father Chady if a baptism can be done during one of the Masses. Music will include hymns to the Blessed Trinity (often the last verse of songs).

Corpus Christi - Sunday, June 14:

White is the liturgical color for the day. The presiders are encouraged to speak about the significance of the Body and Blood of Christ, including the basic dogma - that it is the body, blood, soul, divinity of Christ, and not simply a symbol or a remembrance (which many Catholics are not really clear about). Also, presiders will speak about the proper way (ritual) for receiving Communion - the significance of a bow, the word "Amen", etc. Suggestion: to have a procession with the Blessed Sacrament (see sourcebook for details), have the newly baptized and confirmed in the procession. Father Allen Navarro (newly ordained) will offer a Mass of Thanksgiving at 11:00, and could be approached about the procession idea.

Father's Day - Sunday, June 21:

Ordinary time begins.

Special blessing for fathers at all Masses.

Sunday, July 5:

Suggestion: that a patriotic song be sung only for the recessional.

Miscellaneous:

1. Suggestion: that the opening comments made by the music cantors just before Mass begins be expanded a little, to introduce the theme of the Mass.
2. Dan oversees all Eucharistic ministers and lectors. No new names should be put on the list without his knowledge.
3. Eucharistic ministers should not touch people when giving a blessing, but rather just hold their hand up and say, "God bless you."
4. Lectors need to practice the names of those who are sick or who have died - sometimes there are gross mispronunciations.
5. Presiders should practice the announcements that are read at the end of Mass to improve flow, clarity, and delivery.

Next Meeting - Tuesday, June 2, 7:00 p.m. in the rectory.

Please bring your sourcebook. Please look over your sourcebook for the months of June, July, and August. Please let Dan know of any items you would like on the agenda before the meeting.

(There will be no meeting in July.)