

# Liturgy Committee Meeting

Tuesday, April 13, 2010, 7:00 p.m.

## Attendance:

Dan Morris, Mary Lou Caldwell, Cecilia Chang, Mary Ellen Hennig, Ed Johnson, Janice LaMotte, Cynthia Rohrs-Carter, Totsie Taylor

Absent: Tom Kemnitz, Dick Sherman

## Review of Holy Week and Easter:

### Palm Sunday:

Palms were fresh - came from a new vendor with free shipping. Large outdoor palms are donated by parishioners, to be cut just before use, as they dry out quickly.

Long gospel reading: Father Greg prefers no sung response during Gospel. For musicians: just a chord to introduce "Jesus, Remember Me" is sufficient. Comment: It is important for the congregation to participate, doing the "crowd" parts.

9:30 Mass started outdoors, and almost everybody was outside. Portable sound system was used. In the future, we may use the school's portable sound system and put the speakers on high stands. Another idea: microphones in the sanctuary project into the vestibule, so one singer could sing into it. It is possible to use a corded microphone by stringing the cord down the side driveway to the front of the church. Need to leave a few musicians outside to keep the congregation singing there. May need song sheets for outside, so congregation has words.

### Holy Thursday:

Environment: The chapel was closed, and that seemed to work well.

Washing of Feet: Again, there was an extra person to get feet washed, and not enough seating. Someone who was to get her feet washed came late, so Totsie had solicited another person. Father Greg left the sanctuary to get another chair for the 13<sup>th</sup> person, who was left standing.

Suggestions for future: Have the small stools placed on each end of the benches in case this happens again. Totsie will get the name and phone number of each person who volunteers and talk to them personally (not just the head of each parish organization, as the information she sends is sometimes not conveyed to the volunteers). The volunteers need to come 1/2 hour early. The words the presider uses, so as not to invite everyone up for this rite is: "Those who have been asked/designated to have their feet washed..."

Music/Worship Aids: The music was glorious, and use of the string quartet was especially beautiful. It was suggested to put the song numbers up on the wall

as not everyone got a worship aid. The church was very full, so needed 500 worship aids.

**Hall for Altar of Repose:** Totsie averted a problem, as the boy scouts were using it for their activities. Need better scheduling and communication to clarify who gives permission for their activities.

Dan needs to assign a candle lighter for the choir vigil lights so it can be done faster when the choir leads the way out towards the Hall.

Question: tabernacle door in the hall left open or closed?

### **Good Friday:**

**Setup:** It was difficult to find the ladders - need to keep them in the same place each year. The extension ladder needs a new rope. A new 12 foot ladder is needed - either an extension ladder or an A-frame ladder.

**Meditations** led by Deacon Ron Hansen were finished before 1:00.

**Veneration of the Cross:** the walnut cross had been repaired.

The procession for veneration went smoothly. It was important to have two ushers, one on either side, to assist people. The cross was on the edge of the first step, so people did not have to climb any steps.

**Taize Service** in the evening: Next year, it will be scheduled at 6 p.m. to allow more time for the team setting up for Easter to work afterwards.

There were about 200 people. The church was very dark - difficult/impossible to see worship aids. Next year, at 6 p.m., it will be brighter outside.

Need a facilitator or ushers for veneration of the Cross, as this part took very long, and people tended to come up just one at a time, even though an announcement was made beforehand inviting them to come up two at a time.

### **Holy Saturday/Easter Vigil:**

**Preparation:** It was suggested to keep the doors closed and ask people to stay out of the church before the service.

The new Easter Candle is gorgeous! Totsie chose it.

Need to find a better way to light the Easter candle. Use a taper first.

**Mass:** One reader was missing - Dan read in his place.

Need to ask lector to read the intercessions.

Since this was the largest group of people joining the church we have ever had, (34 people), the ceremonies went very smoothly and quickly. The whole team was very well coordinated. It took 2 and 3/4 hours altogether.

It would be good to have the script a day or two beforehand, so people could practice it. Fr. Greg creates the script.

### **Easter Sunday:**

**Environment** was absolutely beautiful!

Suggestion to hang the ceiling drape a little lower so the chapel people can see the song number board. It would be helpful to announce all the song numbers (except Communion) anyway, on a big holiday.

**Signs/Banners** to direct people to Hall: Mary Egan suggested this, as people

seem to need help finding the Hall. There could be some kind of markers like ribbon or balloons along the way, too. Where to place them? An usher wearing a badge could be used to direct people outside, near rectory. We may need a general/permanent sign showing our entire layout, with a "You are here" indicator.

**Masses:** Masses were at 8:00 a.m. in the church only, and at 9:30 and 11:00 in both the church and hall.

Ushers need to be sure the church is really full before turning people away.

**Hall:** Both Hall Masses were totally full. Father Peter didn't like his microphone. Otherwise, the sound system (piano, other microphones) worked well. Next year, the 9:30 group could do the music in the hall, to change off with the 5:00 Sunday group.

**Eucharistic ministers:** There was a shortage at some Masses. For big holidays, ministers need to be contacted in person beforehand. If they can't commit for sure, they should not be scheduled.

**Bulletins:** Paluch sent only 800 instead of 1200 bulletins, and we ran out. We probably need 2000 for the big holidays.

**Clean-up/Take-down:** The ushers in the Hall organized the song sheets, which was very helpful. But taking down the altar and decorations in the Hall is a lot of work. Dan did much of it himself and needs helpers for the future.

### **Sound System:**

The companies that came out to assess our facilities and make recommendations have submitted a proposal which totals about \$30,000. There are some possible parish donors to pay for (part) of this. The plan will include new microphones, a system for the chapel, a satellite control in the sanctuary, and extra support/speakers for the back rows of the church (because of the organ pipes).

The congregation needs to be encouraged to sing out. Many people do not sing. Also, we need to encourage people not to leave Mass early. Idea: explain the beauty and importance of each part of the liturgy.

### **Baptismal Font:**

There is a possible donor for a new font. Other parishioners could be invited to add to the funding, so that many can be part of it.

The font is a symbol, as is the ambo and the altar, etc.

Building constraints include the furnace air return and the concrete floor, which would probably preclude laying plumbing pipes. The unit would have to be self-contained.

The font should fit our church decoration and style.

Dan showed a slide-show of fonts. Several people on the committee liked one style with a small waterfall.

### **Next Meeting:**

**Tuesday, May 4**, 7 p.m. in the rectory. Please bring your planner and look at the post Easter season. Please let Dan know of any items you would like on the agenda.