

**Minutes for Liturgy Committee Meeting. February 12, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the St. Clare Office.**

Present: Father Michael Flanagan (ex officio), Katherine Christensen, John Wallhausser, John Roché (ex officio), Hilda Castro, Carol de Rosset (Parish Council liaison).

The meeting began at 6:33 p.m.

I. Rita: Liturgy Project

Rita had been going to speak to the Liturgy Committee about a liturgy project, but she did not come to the meeting.

II. Lent planning

a. Father Michael informed the committee that Peggy Patrick had volunteered to set up the sanctuary environment for the first four weeks of Lent. Katherine mentioned that we needed to set down some parameters, such as that standard altar candles would be needed, and she wondered whether we have what we need in terms of altar cloths, etc. Father Michael asked Katherine to contact Peggy to work out these issues.

Hilda mentioned that in Hispanic churches, there are often special decorations during Lent. Father Michael said that Laetare Sunday might be a good Sunday for these special decorations. Hilda will speak to the Hispanic community about doing this.

b. Father Michael said that he would insert an extra minute of silence following Communion during Lent.

c. The Ash Wednesday 7:00 p.m. mass will be bilingual. Hilda asked how many Spanish readings there would be in the Ash Wednesday 7:00 p.m. mass. Father Michael said that the first reading would be in Spanish, and maybe one petition would be, too. Hilda said she would find readers.

d. John Roché noted that we would need a program for the 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday service.

e. This is the schedule of Ash Wednesday masses:

- 8:00 a.m. St. Clare (Fr. Michael)
- 12:00 p.m. St. Joseph Hospital (Fr. Michael)
- 12:00 p.m. Danforth Chapel (John R.)
- 5:00 p.m. Mt. Vernon (Fr. Michael)
- 6:00 p.m. McKee (Rebecca Koury)
- 7:00 p.m. St. Clare—bilingual mass (Fr. Michael)

The Lenten communal penance service is Thursday, March 26. Father Patrick Stewart will be here to help.

f. Katherine added that a bulletin insert would be needed for Lent and Holy Week, which would include all of the liturgies and other activities (fish fries, Hispanic dinners, Stations of the Cross,

etc.). Hilda suggested emphasizing that fast/abstinence means no meat of any kind. All of this information should be translated into Spanish and posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex and in Friendship Hall.

g. Katherine had spoken to Cora and Nancy Ryan about the Peace and Social Justice Committee's thinking regarding the parish's Lenten offerings this year. They had said they would like for it to be more an activity than just raising money. Activities would be primarily for the benefit of the Catholic Action Center and would involve collecting items needed. Hopefully the youth of the parish could be involved with this. Rather than divide the Lenten collections into three this year (for local, global, and diocesan needs), perhaps this year we could focus just on one thing, and put more emphasis on activities rather than money collection. We need to make the parish aware of this year's goal, and provide a space, perhaps in the narthex (in front of the San Damiano cross), to assemble collected/donated items.

Katherine suggested preparing a one-page bulletin insert of what is needed, where to put it, etc., along with the web address of the Catholic Action Center.

Nancy Ryan had also suggested that a flyer or bulletin insert be prepared regarding the minimum wage bill. Father Michael suggested that the Peace and Social Justice Committee write up something regarding this, to inform the parish.

h. There will only be one Fish Fry this year, due to the parish kitchen not meeting code. Proceeds from the Fish Fry will go to Catholic Relief Services in the Congo. There will only be one Hispanic meal, as well. Dates for the Fish Fry and Hispanic dinner need to be set; this needs to be discussed with Parish Council.

i. Katherine asked whether it would be a good idea to have a server training during Lent, before Holy Week. It was noted that Mark Bramlage will join Liturgy Committee meetings in the future and train Altar Servers.

j. There are no Scrutinies this year.

k. If there are going to be Stations of the Cross this year, different groups in the parish will have to lead them. Hilda offered to lead the first one. They will be on Friday evenings at 6:30 p.m., and the first one will be on February 27. Parish Council should be involved in helping schedule people/groups to lead Stations of the Cross. John Roché mentioned that the Berea College students could lead one.

### III. Other business

a. Father Michael stated that he will begin doing one Spanish mass per month at St. Clare, on the third Sunday of each month. Father John Curtis has agreed to do the mass in McKee on the third Sunday of each month, to allow Father Michael to do this. The first one will be on March 15. (One exception is July...Father Michael will be in Ireland the third Sunday of July with his family; therefore he will do the Spanish mass on July 26 instead).

b. Katherine mentioned that there is a new sacristan, so all the sacristans need to get together to insure that they are all on the same page.

c. Katherine mentioned that it would be nice to have a clean-up day for the church and grounds during Lent. She asked that the Parish Council consider this and find a date.

d. Moving the confessional: it is awkwardly placed; a lot of people don't know about it; you have to wait for the choir to finish warming up before you can go to confession. We need to investigate what is possible in terms of moving it (perhaps to where the closet is now), considering such things as what will it cost; what about the things there right now; etc.

#### IV. Preparations for Holy Week

a. We should have sign-up sheets for the various ministries during Holy Week. John R. said he would forward copies of last year's sign-up sheets to all committee members.

b. Father Michael stated that all the Holy Week masses will be at St. Clare. Father Walt Bado has agreed to do an Easter Mass at Mt. Vernon at 9:00 a.m.

Katherine wondered whether we should invite people from Mt. Vernon and McKee to participate in our Holy Week liturgies. Fr. Michael agreed it would be a good idea.

c. John Roché has prepared the sanctuary, etc. for Holy Thursday in the past. He is willing to do it again this year if no one else offers, but would welcome help.

d. Katherine said that the confirmation class should be encouraged to go to the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral (March 28 at 10:00 a.m.). Fr. Michael suggested this be added to the bulletin of liturgies/activities during Lent/Holy Week.

e. John Roché suggested that scripts and programs for special masses should be ready for the Liturgy Committee to look at beforehand. Then, copies of everything should be kept so that we can evaluate their effectiveness later.

f. Katherine noted that we need to consider what is involved in evaluating liturgy (more than "I liked this" or "I didn't like that"): what does each liturgy call for, and how well did we do in achieving that?

Carol noted that it can be difficult to evaluate quality, or to separate quality from personal taste. Are there objective ways we can evaluate quality?

John Wallhausser mentioned that he thought the music should have a sense of dignity and reverence. We shouldn't simply duplicate the music that is omnipresent in the secular world; it should not be entertainment.

John Roché agreed that the music should not have as its goal being either spectacle or performance.

Katherine noted that sometimes the music is pitched too high and much of the congregation is unable to sing it; or sometimes the musical notation is too difficult for the congregation to sing.

John Wallhausser asked whether there were any good readings on the drama of the mass. Suggestions were Baltazar; *Spirit of the Liturgy*, by Ratzinger; and Romano Guardini's *Sacred Signs*.

Father Michael suggested that we have evaluations for the upcoming liturgies ready by the next meeting. He also stated that he hopes to use some of the *Homiletic Directory* suggestions in masses in the near future.

John Roché noted that it would be helpful for us to follow set criteria during our liturgy evaluations: speaking in turn, not interrupting, etc.

g. Since Liturgy Committee has one more meeting prior to Holy Week, specific planning for Holy Week can take place then.

The meeting ended at 8:05 p.m.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, March 12 at 6:30 p.m. in the Office.

*Respectfully submitted by Carol de Rosset*