

**St. Clare Liturgy Committee Meeting**  
March 12, 2015, 6:30 p.m., Parish Office

Present: Father Michael Flanagan, Katherine Christensen, Ed Forester, John Wallhausser, Carol de Rosset, John Roché, Hilda Castro. Guest for part of the meeting: Larry Sabo.

The meeting opened with a prayer of thanks for bishop-elect John Stowe.

**New bishop**

Father Michael reported that our new bishop's emphases are worship, service, and implementing, as Pope Francis sees it, the joy of the gospel. He mentioned special love for Hispanic people and their gifts; wants to work with the poor of Appalachia; and wants to work with immigrants. He is a Conventual Franciscan from the Ohio Diocese of Cleveland; has been serving in El Paso most recently.

The ordination of the new bishop will be on May 5 at 2:00 p.m. Archbishop Kurtz will be the principal celebrant. There will be limited seating; only a couple of tickets per parish will be available.

\*We will have a **mass of thanksgiving** for the appointment of a new bishop on **Thursday April 30 at 7:00 p.m.**; it will be a bilingual mass.

Katherine will send out a message re intercessory prayer writers regarding what needs to be included in connection with the new bishop.

**Sanctuary environment for the rest of Lent**

\*Laetare Sunday—Father wants a couple of extra candles and some flowers. Katherine will get a bouquet.

\*Holy Week

Hilda and the Hispanic community will take care of covering the images in the sanctuary during Holy Week.

--Palm Sunday: Palms are ordered (200), but perhaps more should be ordered for a total of 300, or Father perhaps can get some more at Benedictus. Color: red.

--Holy Thursday – Usually a white/gold scheme.

When the tabernacle is taken to the altar of repose in Friendship Hall, it was decided that the tabernacle would be placed at the street end of Friendship Hall and chairs in rows would be placed facing it. The choir would come in last and be at the back (nearest the kitchen). Ed said that they choir would need lighting.

Candles will be placed in the windows of Friendship Hall again this year.

--Good Friday: veil the crucifix

--Easter: Since there will probably be few people who have flowers in their yards/gardens at Easter this year, given the unseasonably cold weather, we will put a note in the bulletin asking for donations to go toward Easter flowers. Then we will put an envelope in the bulletin for that specific purpose, so people can donate money towards the flowers and just put it into the collection basket.

## **Holy Week Liturgies**

\*We need to put out sign-up sheets for the different liturgies soon...if not this weekend, then no later than next weekend.

\*Bulletin needs to include information about donating toward Easter flowers, a special collection for the Holy Land on Good Friday, the Clean-up day, etc.

\*Worship aids will need to include the pertinent translations for the bilingual masses. John Roché will put together the programs. John is also in charge of setting up the altar of repose in Friendship Hall (Holy Thursday).

\*Katherine and John Roché will put together rubrics for the different liturgies.

**\*Palm Sunday:** There will be three gospel readers (readings in English only), in addition to Father Michael.

There will be 3 servers and 5 eucharistic ministers on Palm Sunday morning; for the Saturday evening mass, there will be 1 server and 2 eucharistic ministers. For both masses there will be 2 ushers to help with the palms.

As we did last year, we will have the blessing of the palms in the circle outside the church on Saturday night and then enter the church; the solemn entrance will be on Sunday morning. For the Palm Sunday procession and mass, there will be some brass musicians. Everyone will gather in front of Friendship Hall and then process.

**\*Holy Thursday:** Begins at 7:00 p.m.

We need one Spanish reader and one English reader.

There will be 3 servers; one server needs to be thurible qualified, and one will need to help with foot washing. We will have an emcee (Katherine).

The Church's instruction on foot-washing is clear, stating that the priest is the only one who washes feet on this day in the Church calendar. It was decided that 12 parishioners should be invited ahead of time to have their feet washed, but it would also be open to everyone (there must be at least twelve, thus the invitation of 12 ahead of time—the twelve invited should be a diverse group in terms of age, gender, etc., to try to include all parts of the Church). Chairs for people getting their feet washed should be placed facing the congregation. Blue chairs will be stacked along the wall for this purpose ahead of time.

More thought needs to be given about whether to have sign-up sheets for times for Eucharistic adoration.

**\*Good Friday:** Begins at 7:00 p.m.

There will be two gospel readers (in English--a narrator and another speaker); also, one of the readings prior to the gospel reading will be in Spanish, so a reader is needed for that. This year the reading will be participatory in terms of the congregation participating as well as the designated readers.

There will be 3 servers. They will help with the cross.

**\*Easter Vigil:** Begins at 9:00 p.m.

This year there are no baptisms, confirmations, etc., so the receptions and baptisms drop out of the liturgy, but everything else stays (including the blessing of the baptismal font). Regarding the Easter Vigil readings, it was decided to do all seven, but to use the short versions instead of the long versions,

which we usually do. Members of the liturgy committee should pay attention and notice if that makes a difference (last year some people thought that the seven readings seemed a bit long).

There will be two Spanish readers and five English readers.

We will need a plan for lighting and someone to manage it. Ed is going to order some special lights for the choir for the Easter Vigil, for when the other lights go out.

Due to logistical and safety issues with people holding lit candles crowding together in the narthex after lighting their candles outside, it was decided that this year, the people will enter the church after the lighting of the fire in the circle, pick up their unlit candles as they process/re-enter the sanctuary, and, once the people are back in their seats, servers will begin lighting their candles. We will need a carefully written explanation of what we are doing and why, since this is a change from the way it has been done before.

Weather contingency: if the weather is really bad, everyone will stay inside rather than going out to the circle for the lighting of the fire.

## **Other**

**\*Pre-Easter Clean-up day** will be on Saturday, March 28. Ed will take charge of the outdoor cleanup. Hilda will check with the Hispanic community to see if they are willing to supervise the indoor cleanup. The Parish Council will take charge of seeing that lunch is provided for those who come to work.

**\*Liturgy Evaluation:** We should all write notes after every liturgy (especially during Holy Week) to evaluate what went well, what could be improved, and what anyone says to us. What works? What doesn't? What do people say, if anything?

**\*Penance service prep:** Again this year, the sacristy will be used for confessions, by Father Patrick Stewart, who will be helping Father Michael. The door to the narthex will be locked, and a sign will be put on the door to the sanctuary so people know where to go. Father said he has printed copies of examination of conscience that he can use. Ed says he will do music similar to what he did last year.

**\*Mother's Day, Father's Day, Memorial Day...:** The Parish Council will be in charge of anything special to be done to celebrate these days (pancake breakfasts, etc.).

The next meeting will be on Thursday, April 9 at 6:30 p.m. in the parish office.

The meeting ended after everyone said the Lord's Prayer together, at 8:30 p.m.

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Carol de Rosset*