

These draft meeting minutes await review and approval by the Spiritual Growth and Liturgy Committee

Spiritual Growth and Liturgy Committee Minutes of the Meeting of 9 August 2005

Participants: Sandy Fagan, Bill Haas, Bob Hauser, Ron Rasmussen, Jacque Zbaracki

A. Call to Order/Prayer

Bob Hauser called the meeting to order at approximately 7:10 pm. He led the committee in the Prayer of the Day from **Daily Prayer 2005**.

B. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes from the last meeting (June 14) were approved as distributed.

C. Training and Scheduling of Eucharistic Ministers

Ron Rasmussen reported that he has asked Father Terry to find someone to take over training and scheduling of Eucharistic Ministers. Ron noted he will continue to serve on the Spiritual Growth and Liturgy Committee.

D. Calendar Updates

Bob Hauser reported on the following schedule updates:

1. Sister Therese Even is scheduled for 23-25 October, with Anointing of the Sick on Tuesday evening, 25 October.
2. Joan Carter McHugh, co-sponsored by the Catholic Daughters of America, is scheduled for 20 October. Ms McHugh is the author of *My Daily Eucharist*, a book of 365 short reflections on the Eucharist.

E. Spiritual Growth and Liturgy Committee Self-Assessment

Bob Hauser and Bill Haas distributed some information the committee would consider in conducting a self-assessment of its performance in the past year and initial planning for the coming year. Although only five members were present, it was decided to begin the process now and to continue next month.

As a beginning, Bob Hauser cited a few opportunities for spiritual growth that had been provided in the past year. Others will be added to this list as the self-assessment continues next month.

1. The Eucharist: Source and Summit study/reflection in small Christian communities, in collaboration with the Religious Education department. Several groups started in Lent; another in the summer. Some are still going. One group is interested in materials for further study/reflection. Committee members thought it would be good to offer the Source and Summit program again, for those who missed it the first time around, or to start up something similar. Jo Anne Dalhoff may have some ideas regarding potential follow-on programs. Committee members noted we should be careful not to dilute the parish's proper emphasis by the Generations of Faith program, which is scheduled to begin in November.

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2. The archdiocesan regional procession on the Feast of the Body and Blood of Jesus was another well-attended opportunity for spiritual growth. It also showed good cooperation involving this parish and the Archdiocese of Dubuque.
3. Deacon John McCully led in establishing welcome and ministry to Hispanic persons at Saint Cecilia parish. Father John Herzog and Father Terry have provided a monthly Hispanic Mass; Bob Hauser has assisted with the music for this. We may need to advertise this more broadly to the Hispanic community, perhaps at the Ames Public Library, grocery stores, and in other Catholic Churches in the area. John McCully has pamphlets that could be used.

Goal for Next Year: The committee agreed it should attempt to add two additional committee members in the coming year. Members were asked to identify potential members to Bob Hauser; he will invite them to serve. We might invite new members through a bulletin announcement as well.

Things we do well: The committee noted that we do well on the liturgies of Lent and the Triduum, Advent and Christmas, and especially in the music ministry throughout the year.

Bill Haas noted that one of the principal responsibilities of the committee is to “identify the spiritual growth and liturgy needs of the parish” and that it is not apparent how to do that. After some discussion, in which the possibility of a survey was mentioned, it was noted that perhaps the Archdiocese could provide some ideas and perhaps even some history on how to proceed. Haas agreed to follow up with the Office of Pastoral Planning.

More Work on the Self-Assessment at Next Month’s Meeting

For the September meeting, Bill Haas agreed to email materials concerning the self-assessment process to committee members prior to the meeting so all can be prepared to participate fully in the continuation of the self-assessment & planning process.

F. Liturgy Bulletin

Bob Hauser distributed copies of the Summer 2005 Liturgy Bulletin, a publication of the Archdiocesan Office of Worship. He called attention to the Liturgical Year 2006 Planning Calendar (p.3) as a potential aid for our planning activities. He also called attention to Year of the Eucharist topics (p.4) that the Archdiocese is recommending for our consideration. Bob also noted the article on “White Masses” honoring health care workers and reported that he thought Father Terry and Father Ev Hemann might consider the possibility of such a Mass in the Ames area.

G. Living Liturgy Resource

Bob Hauser noted that he is considering ordering a few copies of another liturgy planning resource. The committee agreed that additional ideas are welcome.

H. Little Book Resources

Bob Hauser reported that Father Terry is planning to use the “Little Books” as a resource so the lectors could provide brief introductions to the readings for the weekend liturgies. Bob

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said he thought Father might edit the suggested introductions. This idea was very well received by the committee members, who regard such introductions as good teaching practice, supporting catechesis.

I. Recognitions, Commissionings and Blessings

Bob Hauser noted that he will visit with Father Terry about establishing a calendar or schedule for recognizing, commissioning and blessings of various groups (students, ministers, catechists and perhaps others mentioned in item E.4. of the June 14 meeting minutes).

F. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned with prayer at approximately 8:35 pm.

The next meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 13, 2005.

Respectfully submitted, Bill Haas