

These meeting minutes were approved
at the January 25, 2007 meeting.

**Spiritual Growth and Liturgy Committee
Minutes of the meeting of 26 October 2006**

Participants: Gary and Kay Aitchison, JoAnn Dalhoff, Sandy Fagan, Bill Haas, Bob Hauser, Carolyn Johnson, Father Ivan Nienhaus, Tom Sampson, Sue Stanton, and Cyndi Volcko

A. Call to Order/Prayer

Bob Hauser called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 pm and led the committee in prayer on the theme of life.

B. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed, amended and approved.

C. Liturgical Ministries

1. Eucharistic Ministers –

- It was noted that the Precious Blood is consumed after only a small fraction of communicants have received. After discussion, Ron Rasmussen volunteered to speak to the other sacristans, asking them to put out more wine for consecration.
- The committee also agreed to continue distribution at six communion stations for the 10:30 Mass – and for the 6:30 pm and midnight Christmas Masses.
- Commissioning of Eucharistic Ministers will occur after the 8:30 Mass on Nov. 12 and once per year thereafter.

2. Servers –

Bob Hauser reported he trained about 10 servers in October and expects to train a few more. He proposed training 4th graders in January – no objection.

D. Upcoming Calendar

Bob Hauser distributed copies of an upcoming events calendar for October, November and December. Please see page 4 of these minutes. Discussion followed. The following items were noted:

- For the evening All Souls Remembrance Mass on Thursday, November 2, Bob Hauser asked for help from the SG&L committee members. Several volunteered to help.
- Bob Hauser noted that the Recognition and Blessing of Music Ministers would not occur on Sunday, November 19, as had been planned. Anointing of the sick is planned for that weekend; doing both would be too much.

E. Centering Prayer Opportunities

- Carolyn Johnson reported on a Contemplative/Centering Prayer Workshop scheduled for 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, November 4th, at the Saint Catherine of Siena Drake University Catholic Student Center. Kathy Reardon is the facilitator and there will be six follow-up sessions. Cost is \$10 for adults; \$5 for students. It's too late to get this information into our bulletin.
- Carolyn also mentioned the Intercessors of the Lamb program, which includes contemplative prayer, praying with scripture, journaling, intercession, and discernments.

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Committee members expressed a desire to have additional information before recommending or considering this for parish sponsorship. Bill Haas volunteered to search for additional information. Please see <http://www.bellwetheromaha.org/>

- Carolyn also suggested we might be interested in Father Bill McCarthy. Please see http://www.boston.com/ae/events/articles/2005/07/21/champion_of_a_cause/.

Fr. McCarthy has written several small books, including:

A Personal Relationship with Jesus,

The Joy of Being Catholic,

Listening to God,

Mary in the Church Today,

The Holy Spirit in the Writings of Pope John Paul II.

See <http://www.focusvideos.com/Books.htm>.

F. Father Haddad – mid-April visit

Sue Stanton reported. Fr. Haddad, a Malachite orthodox priest, will be visiting Ames April 19-26. He will be speaking at St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Cecilia, speaking on Christian-Muslim relations in Jordan. He may preside at an orthodox liturgy at St. Thomas and may give homilies at the weekend Masses at St. Cecilia. Sue asked if the SG&L committee would help defray the cost of his visit. The SG&L committee indicated it needed more information before making a financial commitment and Sue agree to explore the matter further.

G. Perpetual Adoration

Cyndi Volcko reported.

- There will be a blessing of adorers on Dec. 9-10, the 10th anniversary of perpetual adoration at St. Cecilia Parish.
- Planning for the Corpus Christi celebration has begun.
- The monstrance has been refurbished and it is beautiful. Father has returned the borrowed monstrance to Jewell.

H. Advent/Christmas Spiritual Preparation

Study and discussion of Pope Benedict's encyclical, *God is Love*, was proposed. Cyndi Volcko volunteered to search for study guide resources.

J. Advent/Christmas Environment Subcommittee

Bob Hauser reported no one showed up for the October 10th meeting. Discussion topics included the following:

- Hanging of the Greens is scheduled for December 17.
- The crèche will be in the Gathering Space, likely between the two Social Hall entrance doors. Another possibility is along the west wall of the Gathering Space. The figures will not be put in until December 24.
- The Advent/Christmas Art and Environment subcommittee will meet Thursday, November 9.

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K. Children's Liturgy of the Word

Bob Hauser reported that Elin and Terry Herrman plan to resume this in November. Jill and Mike Heitzman may lead a section as well.

L. MagnifiKids!

Bob Hauser reported that the 100 copies we are subscribing to are not being fully used. Cyndi Volcko suggested that perhaps the greeters could offer the excess copies to children coming to Mass. A sticker or bookmark might note that a donation to help cover the cost would be appreciated.

M. Outdoor Banners and Gathering Space Table

Cyndi Volcko reported. There is a volunteer woodworker but he is very busy now. They are looking for durable material and for a way to print outdoor banners. Jerry Greving may be able to identify the maker of the Building for Our Future banners. It's probably too late for Advent banners; look to Lent and Easter.

N. Greeters

It was noted that the greeter procedures may need updating because of the new Gathering Space.

O. Prayer for Vocations

Bill Haas noted that, although the SG&L committee and the parish council had decided that we need to be praying for vocations regularly as a community, it hasn't been happening. He proposed that the lectors be scheduled to lead this prayer at the beginning of Mass at all the weekend Masses on one weekend each month. He volunteered to paste a prayer card in the back of all the Music Issue booklets when they arrive. The committee approved of this proposal.

P. Welcoming Atmosphere

Bill Haas noted that, although the SG&L committee and the Parish Council had noted that we need to be a more welcoming community, we have abandoned the meeting/ greeting/ exchange of information activity at the beginning of the weekend Masses. He proposed that we schedule that practice, too, for the Masses on one weekend per month. Father Nienhaus pointed out that such a practice is not consistent with Church teaching regarding the need for prayerful silence immediately preceding Mass. He suggested that we focus our efforts on meeting/ greeting/ welcoming in the Gathering Space, before people enter the worship space, and that we should be really creative in exploring how to do that.

H. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned with prayer at approximately 9:10 pm.

Next meeting: To be determined. We will not meet on Thanksgiving Day.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Haas

Spiritual Growth and Liturgy Calendar 2006-7 Upcoming Calendar

October 2006

Sunday, October 29 - Priest Appreciation Sunday

Fr. Howard is also visiting, and has offered to play a Polka Mass.

Tuesday, October 31 - All Saint's Vigil Mass at 5:30 PM

November 2006

Wednesday, November 1 -All Saint's Masses at 7:00 AM and 9:00 AM

Thursday, November 2 - All Souls - Remembrance Mass at 7:30 PM

Sunday, November 12 - Good Neighbor Benefit Concert, 3:00 pm, Northminster Presbyterian Church

Sunday, November 19 - Anointing of the Sick

Wednesday, November 22 - Saint Cecilia Feast Day

Thursday, November 23 - Thanksgiving Day Mass at 9:00AM

Sunday, November 26 - Christ the King

December 2006

Sunday, December 3 - First Sunday of Advent - RCIA Rite of Entrance

Thursday, December 7 - Immaculate Conception Vigil Mass at 5:30 PM

Friday, December 8 - Immaculate Conception Mass at 7:00 AM

December 9-10 – 10th Anniversary of Perpetual Adoration

Sunday, December 17 - Hanging of the Greens

Thursday, December 21 – Communal Reconciliation

Sunday, December 24 - Christmas Eve at 4:00PM, 6:30PM, Midnight

Monday, December 25 - Christmas Day at 10:00 AM