

The Spiritual Growth and Liturgy Committee approved
these meeting minutes at its May 24 meeting.

**Spiritual Growth and Liturgy Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 26, 2007**

Participants: JoAnne Dalhoff, Bill Haas, Bob Hauser, Fr. Nienhaus, Ron and Regina Rasmussen, Cyndi Volcko, Jacque Zbaracki

A. Call to Order/Prayer.

Bob Hauser called the meeting to order in the A/Y Room at 7:02 pm and led the committee in Pope Benedict's prayer for vocations.

B Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes.

The minutes of the March 20 meeting were approved as drafted.

C. Holy Week Evaluation.

A number of observations were made:

- The candelabra are in bad shape; probably not repairable. Fr. Nienhaus will monitor auction announcements.
- It would be nice to turn off security lighting during the Easter Vigil.
- Approximately 300 attended the 7 am Mass on Easter Sunday.
- Father heard confessions of about 40 persons per day leading up to Easter.
- We need to build a bigger cross for next year's Holy Week celebration. Father N. suggested 15 feet tall.
- John Kleinschmidt built the stand for the Easter candle and also fixed the ambry. Committee members prepared a thank you card for John.
- The 7:30 pm service times worked well.
- The music was great.
- The extra Eucharistic Ministers at the 8:30 and 10:30 Easter Masses really helped.
- The blessing of Easter food on Holy Saturday was well attended.

D. Divine Mercy Sunday and Painting.

The following observations were made:

- Cyndi Volcko and Carolyn Johnson coordinated activities for this.
- Carolyn secured the painting/poster and Jane Baty framed it. Father Nienhaus suggested the poster be displayed on the wall of the chapel sacristy.
- The chapel was overflowing for the Chaplet.
- There was good attendance for the Saturday evening reconciliations.
- Do it similarly next year and provide information in the bulletin on Divine Mercy Sunday.

E. Father Haddad's Visit.

The committee members rated Father Haddad's visit a big success – both his talks and the men's and women's interfaith sharing sessions. Thank you, Sue and Thad Stanton.

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F. Pentecost – May 27.

- SG&L committee members will decorate for Pentecost beginning at 10:00 am Friday, May 25.
- Outdoor decoration might include red & white streamers with the presently-displayed Easter banners.
- Bob Hauser will place the final decoration elements after the wedding on Saturday.

G. Eucharistic Adoration Topics.

Cyndi Volcko reported.

- There was good attendance for the soup supper and Father Nienhaus' teaching on Baptism.
- Planning is proceeding well for the Corpus Christi Procession to Inis Grove Park on June 10th.
Ames Police will assist with crossings at major intersections.
First Communicants and their parents have been invited to participate.
The Hispanic community has been invited to participate.
Various parish groups, including Knights of Columbus, Catholic Daughters, etc., have been contacted and asked to participate in the procession and/or to help with tasks such as assembling the canopy, providing food, etc.
Promotion should begin one month prior.
- Cyndi will bring information regarding CDs and CD library for discussion at the next meeting.
- Planning for attending the Eucharistic Congress in Quebec City is a challenge. On-line registration begins on April 30 and the website will list the hotels that are involved, so reservations can be made. However, the 3-day registrations won't be open until "winter". Cyndi proposes to reserve some rooms right away, so we can definitely have a place to stay when the 3-day registrations open up.
Bus transportation is estimated at \$440/person; the trip will require two 12-hour travel days each way. Catholic organizations and/or Canadian travel agencies might be offering better deals in complete travel & lodging packages. We might connect with a group organized out of Omaha.

H. Celebration and Blessing of Marriages / Renewal of Marriage Vows.

Committee members reported that this ceremony went well. Special invitations had been sent to those celebrating 25 and 50 years of marriage. The crowd was the largest ever according to Father Nienhaus. The ceremony was announced in the bulletins of April 1, 8, 15 and 22 but promotion through other means could have used additional attention. Cyndi Volcko suggested a name change. Cyndi thought what occurred at the Sunday afternoon ceremony could be better described as a celebration and blessing of the vocation of marriage than as a renewal of marriage vows.

I. Apostolic Exhortation [Sacramentum Caritatis](#), on the Eucharist as the source and summit of the Church's life and mission.

Bob Hauser distributed copies of the document. Committee members are to study it in preparation for faith-sharing to occur at next month's meeting.

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J. Outdoor Banners.

The discussion led to the following conclusions:

- Three or four banners of each set should have an image on them so that at least the banner at the west entrance drive and the two nearest the entrance to the narthex have an image.
- Begin planning now for a set of green banners for ordinary time.
Cyndi showed some candidate images she had collected.

K. Saint Cecilia Prayer Cards.

According to Bob Hauser, some have expressed a desire to have Saint Cecilia prayer cards. Cyndi Volcko offered to work on getting some made. Discussion followed concerning what image or images would be appropriate. Bill Haas volunteered to send committee members a package of Saint Cecilia images he has collected from the internet.

L. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned with chanting of the Our Father at approximately 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Bill Haas

Next Meeting: 7:00 pm Thursday, May 24, 2007