

Spiritual Growth and Liturgy Committee
Minutes of the meeting of October 25, 2007
Adult/Youth Room

Participants: Gary and Kay Aitchison, Bill Haas, Bob Hauser, Father Ivan Nienhaus, Cyndi Volcko, Jacque Zbaracki

A. Call to Order/Prayer

Bob Hauser called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm

He led the group in a prayer service entitled "Seeds of a Bountiful Harvest".

B. Upcoming Fall Schedule at St. Cecilia's

1. All Saints Masses - October 31 at 5:30pm and November 1 at 7:00 am and 9:00 am
2. All Souls Mass - Friday, November 2 at 7:30 pm
The Bereavement Committee is helping with this.
3. Interfaith Thanksgiving Service - Wednesday, November 21, 7:00 pm
Bob Hauser reported that the planning for this has been proceeding smoothly.
Planning participants have included Barb Gwiasda of St. Cecilia's, Louise Dengler of the United Church of Christ, Congregational, and members of the Bahá'í, Muslim, and St. Cecilia Hispanic communities.
4. Thanksgiving Service - Thursday, November 22, 9:00 am
5. Immaculate Conception Masses - Fri, Dec. 7 at 5:30 pm and Sat., Dec. 8 at 8:30 am

C. Ministries -

1. Altar Servers

Bob Hauser reported that he is organizing training sessions for new servers. The plan is to offer four sessions coordinated with school and religious education events in the period November 12-15. Bob also reported that Jill and Mike Heitzman offered to coordinate and try to involve high school age servers in renewal training sessions for current servers during the same time period.

D. Letter to Funeral Home Directors

Bob Hauser and Father Nienhaus shared copies of a draft letter to local funeral directors notifying them of new Saint Cecilia policy that prohibits open caskets on church property on the day of a funeral service. The letter suggests that if family and friends wish to view the remains of a Loved One just prior to the funeral, this viewing should take place at the funeral home before the closed casket is brought to the church. Factors considered in development of this policy are:

- Until the day of the funeral the tendency is to look backward, celebrating the past life of the deceased. However, on the day of the funeral and Mass of the Resurrection, we no longer look backward. We look forward to Resurrection and reunion with Christ and all our Loved Ones.
- Physical facilities are not available at the church to support both a public final viewing and farewell and the necessarily private viewing and final farewells of the family on the day of the funeral.

On a related topic, Bill Haas asked if we could employ funeral rites that treat persons whose bodies were cremated with just as much respect as those whose bodies were not cremated. Father Nienhaus said he would look into it and report back at the next meeting.

E. Eucharistic Adoration

Cyndi Volcko reported.

1. Father Richard Gielow, a Vincentian preacher and retreat director, is a candidate for leading a parish retreat in 2009 but he is fully booked in 2008. He accepts free will offering only.
2. Father Nienhaus has agreed to speak at a soup supper in Lent. The topic will be Pope Benedict's first encyclical, *Sacramentum Caritatis*.
3. Eighteen participated in the Rosary on the feast of Our Lady of Fatima, October 17th. She noted that participation is often good when a rosary for a special purpose or event is well advertised beforehand.
4. Thirty nine new adorers signed up (seventeen for the afternoon hours). The group is looking to the St. Thomas Aquinas/University community for support during the night hours.

F. Advent/Christmas Art and Environment Sub-Committee -

Bob Hauser reported that a meeting of this committee is scheduled for Thursday, November 8th at 7:00pm

G. Latin Schola

Bob Hauser reported that a group of men (at least two from St. Cecilia) are hoping to form a Latin Schola to sing the Mass and chant in Latin. One hope is to offer the community a Latin Mass. Father Nienhaus observed that it may be very difficult to find a priest willing to preside.

Discussion followed regarding Latin singing at St. Cecilia. There seemed to be agreement that it is good to have Latin singing periodically during liturgies because people enjoy it and because it reinforces our heritage and our connection with the Universal Church. Pieces mentioned included the following:

- Kyrie (actually Greek)
- Gloria
- Sanctus
- Pater Noster
- Agnus Dei

Next meeting: November 29 at 7:00 pm