

ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA  
WORSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES  
January 9, 2008

Present: Judy Leick, Pat Brennan, Fr. Stef Bankemper, Mary Brown, Mary Keller, Mary Buten, Matt Connolly, Denise Dirkes, Kim Lampe, Mimi Reynolds, Carol Adams and Dennis Hicks

**Minutes** – of December meeting approved with corrections made to 2 typos.

**Educational Component:** reviewed Pgs 51 – 73 of Introduction to the Order of Mass.

Some of the points that were made include:

- An important function of the introductory rite is to enable everyone to take on the form of a community, alert and ready to listen to the word and celebrate the sacrament. This brought up a discussion of additional points:
  - How do we get people to come to mass on time?
  - Should we have an announcement asking people to turn off cell phones?
  - Should we put something in the bulletin?
  - Participation at mass, singing & praying seems to be down, how do we rejuvenate? [No real solutions were reached on any of these points.]
- At the Liturgy of the Word, the meaning of communion is proclaimed; the presence of Christ in the proclamation of the word is made actual once again in the banquet of Holy Communion.
- Because even now the community of faith hears God speaking to us through the scriptures, they may not be omitted, shortened, or replaced by non-biblical texts.
- The observance of a prayerful silence is recommended after the first and second readings and again after the homily. We believe we do this well.
- The Liturgy of the Word may be introduced by a brief background of the readings when doing so is helpful. This brought up a discussion of when the best time is and the consensus was during the introduction of the mass or at the homily.
- Songs or hymns may not be used in place of the Responsorial Psalm.
- The Alleluia looks forward to the Gospel and is not a response to the previous reading.
- While announcing the Gospel passage the priest or deacon makes the sign of the cross, first on the book and then on his forehead, lips and breast. The faithful also sign themselves in this way *after* responding “Glory to you, Lord”, so that you may still recite to yourself while signing “May the Lord be in my thoughts, on my lips and in my heart.”
- On Sundays and holy days of obligation a homily must be given at all Masses celebrated with a congregation; it may not be omitted without a serious reason.
- At weekday masses, for the benefit of regular participants, and because it is indeed an integral part of the liturgy, a homily is appropriate at almost all Masses with a congregation.
- During the Creed all should bow at the phrase that begins “By the power of the Holy Spirit,” etc.

For next month read pages 75 – 82.

**OLD BUSINESS/Action Items**

**Rail in Sanctuary** – the original rail will be reproduced pretty much as it was originally. Someone is also donating money for the entire project. We still need approval from the Diocese in order to proceed.

New curtains have been put up in the choir area. They look very nice.

Pat is working on the Lenten antependium for the altar and ambo.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Pastor's Report** - The Bishop's visitation of our parish is set for November 21 – 23, 2008. He not only presides at Mass but attends other parish activities.

**Music** – Denise reported that the children's choir is on a little hiatus due to the play. She advised there are e-mail notifications about rehearsals and if anyone is not on the distribution list they need to contact the parish secretary to get on the list.

**Lectors** – the latest schedule has been mailed out and is on the parish website. Mimi mentioned there were many pages on the website that are outdated. Some 2005 & 2006 info is still listed. Fr Stef said they are in the process of updating the site. After some discussion it was thought to be a good idea to include the Lector's schedule in the bulletin.

**Eucharistic Ministers** – someone was removed from the schedule in error since her daughter was taken off because she was away at college and the mother and daughter were 'linked' to be scheduled for the same Masses. This has been rectified for the next schedule. If a request is made, families can be scheduled for different ministries all at the same mass. We discussed whether we had a dress code for ministers and concluded that it comes down to many different perceptions of what people think is appropriate attire. Also discussed scheduling and different 'special' Masses, in the future Fr Stef would like there to be at least some more experienced servers at the more complicated Masses such as during Holy Week.

**Servers** – 23 6th graders will be re-trained on 1/10/07

**Environment** – We heard many favorable comments that the church was as beautifully decorated as its ever been for the Christmas season. It looked great. Thanks go to Mary Kay Connolly and everyone who helped set it up. Tom Kaelin refurbished the crèche statues and put a glossy shine on them. The outside wreaths looked great as well. The Metzner family has agreed to take down the crib and put it up next year. Mary Kay asked if we would consider allowing just the crib to be put up earlier next year to allow time for proper set-up and placement as it would give people a sense of anticipation. Mary Kay will be leaving the worship committee now but Jim & Bev Stegman will continue to water the flowers on the altar.

**Parish Council** – Mimi reported on the community building committee and updating of the website. 375 families (about 56%) responded to the Stewardship campaign.

**Outreach to Sick** – no report

**Funeral Coordinator** – the last funeral was Dec. 22 for Ed Stieritz. The family was very pleased and said the cooperation of all involved was wonderful.

**Sacristan** – a list of duties has been drawn up by Judy & Fr Stef. Current sacristans are Kim Dunn, the Gayle's and the Kaelin's.

**Liturgy of the Word for Children** – no report

## **ROUNDTABLE EVALUATION OF LITURGIES**

**Advent Lessons & Carols** – wonderfully done

**Christmas** – mass counts were: 4:30 – 746, Midnight – 359, 10:00 AM – 251.

Commented that Midnight Mass was wonderful; kids did a great job at the 4:30 and the 10:00 was very good and relaxed.

**New Year's** - for next year, instead of usual 7 PM vigil mass we'll try for a 4:30 on New Year's Eve.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Catholic Schools Mass** – 11:30 on 1/27/08. Judy asked if this committee should plan it or leave for school as Betsy Stegner said school will plan if OK with us. After short discussion we agreed it was OK with us if school did the planning.

## **PLANNING**

**Lent** – are there any speakers scheduled for the Wednesdays in Lent? Fr Stef will see what he can do. He'll take care of working on this. "Little Black Books" offer 6 min. reflections on the weekly Gospels during the season of Lent. Judy will find out how much they are and see if we can order some to have available in the back of church. The question was brought up asking if we'll have small group formations for Lent or if Adult Ed was planning anything. Fr Stef will see if this can be put together quickly.

**Ash Wednesday** – 2/6/08 – Masses are at 8 AM and 7 PM.

**Rite of Sending-** will be on the First Sunday of Lent, 2/10 at the 9 AM Mass.

**Stations** – every Friday during Lent at 7 PM.

**Scrutinies** – not yet scheduled. Need to check with RCIA to see at what Masses these will be held.

Next meeting scheduled for February 13, 2008 after 7 PM mass.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Keller/Secretary