

Church of St. Mary
Sacramental Life and Worship Committee Meeting-Minutes

Tuesday January 13, 2009 5:30 P.M.

Committee Members Present: Megan Gilles, Kay Johnson, John & Georgia Robino, Larry Fujan, Doug & Loydene Bernhagen, Fr. Steve Verhelst, Gary Hartman, Scott Strutz, Steve Weitzel and Claire Houchens.
Absent or Excused: Larry & Beth Wepplo and Jean Masters. **Light Meal:** Shared by committee members.
Opening Prayer: Prayer commemorating Supreme Court decision Roe vs. Wade recited by Steve Weitzel. **November Minutes:** Approved by the committee without additions or deletions.
OLD BUSINESS: November 18 **Area Lector Workshop** well attended (44). Most comments very positive. Most thought DVD was very good. **Rose Ensemble Concert** was well attended and very well performed. The group was very pleased and said it was the best of their outstate concerts. Use of the new **ministry scheduling software** is increasing. Comments were positive. Still an issue of people showing up for time committed whether originally scheduled or swapped. Use will increase as the program can do more. **Advent/Christmas** seasons went well although very difficult to find people to serve in the various ministries. Some discussion about 4:00 p.m. Mass being the heaviest in attendance and the inability of the childrens choir to be heard above the din. Suggestion that maybe the adult choir do 4:00 p.m. with some selections from children. Also discussed possibility of eliminating the 10:30 p.m. mass as that is the least attended. **CONTINUING BUSINESS:** Reminder that **altar server training/recruitment** session will be held on Feb 11. From the committee, Steve Weitzel and Claire Houchens will attend to help organize and control. Suggestion was made to cut altar servers to two instead of three per mass (except major holy days like Christmas, Easter, etc.) with the intent of reducing the need for so many in the ministry and the frequency with which they are required to serve. Recruitment ads are out and Megan has already received some calls. **NEW BUSINESS:** **Continuing Education** segment was led by Scott Strutz and covered selections from "Sing to the Lord" a publication on music and the liturgy. Scott remarked that, from the selection, he was impressed with the need to develop more multi cultural music in the church. The selection also gave clear insight and instruction on how music should be used in the celebration of the Eucharist. **Prairie Praise** selections covered the feast of the Presentation of the Lord and St Blase Jan 31/Feb 1. Traditional blessing of the throats will be observed. **Boy Scouts** will be involved at the 10:30 mass that weekend and need to organize and coordinate with Fr. Steve. Committee agreed to focus on the use of the rice bowls on **Ash Wednesday**. There will be two masses on Ash Wednesday, noon and 5:30. The 7:00 and 8:00 (Spanish) services will be limited to Liturgy of the Word with distribution of Ashes. Next year may be limited to one mass. **Saint Johns Univ. Men's Chorus** will perform at St Mary's on Feb 26th at 7:30 p.m. (day after Ash Wednesday.) Parishioners will be asked to host members of the chorus for one night. There are 44 members so 22 hosts are needed. Some on Worship Committee volunteered. Worship Committee and Adult Choir to help serve at concert. Through **Music Ministry Alive** program a \$450 scholarship is available to youth involved in music. 10th grade through 2nd year of college are eligible. During **Lent** reflection books (black books) and rice bowls will again be available. Chrism mass will be in Spicer. **Stations of the Cross:** Mar 5-Faith Formation; Mar 12-Social Concerns; Mar 19-RCIA; Mar 26-Admn Council. **Lenten Eve Prayer service** will be Mar 15th. Committee members will be used to preside, lector, greet and serve. **Psalm Sunday** will have procession at 10:30 mass, Knights of Columbus to assist. Committee began discussion about Triduum. Apr 9, Holy Thursday; Apr 10 Good Friday; Apr 11 Easter Vigil; April 12 Easter Sunday. **OBSERVATIONS FROM THE PEW:** Suggestion to provide hand cleanser for EMHC's just prior to taking places on the altar. There is cleanser available but closer to the altar will be considered.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, February 10th at 5:30 PM in the Conference Room. A light meal will be served at a cost of \$5 per person. Opening Prayer will be led by John Robino and the Continuing Education session will be led by Steve Weitzel.

Respectfully submitted by: John Robino