

Meeting Minutes

St. Augustin Liturgy Committee

Meeting called to order on the following date:

September 10, 2015

at the following time:

7:00 p.m.

Meeting Location:

St. Augustin Parish Library

Attendees:

Fr. Chris Pisut, Fr. Jim Livingstone, Deacon Joe Coan, Jerry Minor, Barb Cortesio, Bob Kodis, Katie Martin, Amy Wisco, Diane Strawn, Julie Erickson, Ed Mattern

Meeting Summary

Introduction of Committee Members

Committee members introduced themselves to our new pastor, for the purpose of identifying the liturgical ministries and the parish and school activities in which they are involved. Ed Mattern also identified some of the past accomplishment of the committee, as well as issues that continue to challenge the committee.

Past Business: The new sound system is believed to be working effectively. No new issues were noted, other than some concerns with training and familiarity with the microphones, which is noted below.

Upcoming Holy Days and Special Liturgies

Solemnity of All Saints (Nov 1): This holy day falls on Sunday this year, so regular Mass times and scheduled ministries will be observed.

All Souls Day (Nov 2):

- Mass time will be **6:00pm** this year.
- Number of altar servers needed: 4
- Altar & Rosary Society will provide food after Mass, for family members of the deceased.
- Altar & Rosary will send bulletin announcement of this Mass and request for RSVP.
- It was suggested that the bulletin announcement also include something to the effect that, "Even if you cannot attend Mass on All Souls Day, please offer prayers for the souls in purgatory."

Thanksgiving Day (Nov 26): Mass time – 9:00am

New Breaking Bread Missals

1. With Ann Cernicky's departure, someone else will need to take the lead in coordinating with the School (5th grade as done this recently) to remove the older missals from the pews and insert the new ones.
2. Julie Erickson and Amy Wisco agreed to coordinate this with the School this year. Ed will need to furnish them with the possible dates for the switch to take place. Here is Ed's follow-up, after our meeting:
 - This needs to occur after the last Sunday of the liturgical year (Nov 22) but before the first Saturday (vigil Mass) and Sunday of the new liturgical year (Nov 28 & 29).
 - If school students are going to do this on a school day, that leaves either **Monday (Nov 23) or Tuesday (Nov 24)** as the only options. School is not in session Nov 25 through Nov 27.
3. This project is a good way for school students to earn service hours.
4. Barb Cortesio inquired about the possibility of purchasing covers for the missals, similar to what they have at the Cathedral. The merit of the book covers would be to keep the missals in better shape so they do not become worn and torn. That would be weighed against the cost of the covers and the additional effort involved in the removal of the old missals and insertion of the new ones each year. The committee did not make any specific recommendation in this regard.

Altar Server Training Update

- Katie Martin provided an update on the altar server training that is now underway.
- Twelve 5th graders and a 7th grader from the school are currently undergoing training, along with a number of R.E. students.
- Additional recruitment efforts will be needed if more servers are wanted for this round of training.
- Fr. Pisut has taken the lead on altar server training.
- The video and PowerPoint used for training purposes in the past need to be updated to reflect recent changes, if those are still to be used in the future.
- A number of potential adult altar servers have responded to Fr. Pisut about their interest in serving.

Training and Catechesis Recommendations

1. **Reception of Communion:** Fr. Livingstone suggested that the congregation could use some training or reminder of the appropriate way to receive Holy Communion, including the need to respond "Amen" after the Priest, Deacon or Eucharistic Minister says "The Body of Christ".
2. **Reverencing the altar, and genuflecting:** Committee members noted the inconsistencies in how and when people reverence the altar when entering church, crossing the altar, or approaching the altar or ambo. This has been noted in prior committee meetings as well.
 - Additional training and instruction is suggested, from those in charge of the Lectors, Cantors, Eucharistic Ministers, and Altar Servers.
 - Additional training for Lectors and Cantors should include training on the new sound system, so everyone can become more comfortable with the functionality of the sound system, suggested distance between the microphones and the lector, cantors, choir, and schola.
 - Fr. Pisut suggested that the bow when approaching the altar from the nave would be appropriate just before entering through the gates into the sanctuary.
 - **Action Item:** Deacon Kevin (Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers), Kent Fieldsend (Cantors), and Fr. Pisut (Altar Servers) will need to arrange for training and/or instruction for the respective ministries under their direction. They will need to communicate among each other to ensure a consistent approach on reverencing the altar and on the new sound system.
3. **Posture of hands during The Lord's Prayer, and when to kneel, sit or stand after receiving Communion:** Fr. Pisut indicated there is no official position from the church on this. Although uniformity is desired, there is no official mandate. No specific recommendation was advanced from the committee at this time.

Advent and Christmas

Amy Wisco reported that Fr. Pisut has given his approval for placement of the nativity scene in front of the altar, given the size of the scene pieces and the space limitations of other alternatives.

Updates from Fr. Pisut

Fr. Pisut provided the committee with the following updates:

1. Some very nice Candle Holders were found in storage in the basement of the church. They will be refurbished and then placed in the sanctuary for use during Mass.
2. New altar server albs (for the girls) and cassocks and surplices (for the boys) are proposed. This was recently proposed to the parish council, and the Liturgy Committee offered its support as well, during this meeting.

Next Meeting:

October 8 (2nd Thursday of month) at 7:00pm in the Parish Library

Meeting Adjourned