

MINUTES of LITURGY MEETING 27th Jan 2005 7.30p.m.

Present Fr Bernard, Deacons Peter and Michael, Bill Brown Mary Daly, Peter Iles, Pat Shrimpton, Barrie Teucher, Anne Marie Sparrow, Ann Gathercole.

The meeting started and finished with a prayer from Fr Bernard.

Matters arising from the last minutes

8. Christingle -went well for the first time of doing it, some people felt it was only directed at the children so felt left out - same could be said of carol service. Need to explain to people why carols are not sung at a formal church service in Advent.
3. Remembrance service poorly attended- no. of names a lot, perhaps only have those who have been buried from the parish, or only those who had died since the church had opened. The service shouldn't run over a hour. The use of an empty coffin was not liked by some. Perhaps have it in the day so the people who are most likely to come would come then.

Agenda Items

Lent

1. Eucharistic adoration should be at the centre of our activities as it is the Year of the Eucharist. At least one Holy Hour each week using prepared booklets themed on the seven Sacraments so there is continuity of approach. Encourage groups to come and run them. Parents of First Communion children to be encouraged to come to at least one. All children on the First Communion programme to receive a calendar.
2. All the congregation to receive a copy of 'Walk with me'
3. Deanery Penitential Services to be organised next week.
4. Early Monday morning Mass and breakfast
5. Holy Thursday Mass will be held at St John Fisher Church 7.30pm On Holy Thursday 140 came to St Augustine's last year, 154 the year before. Good Friday's numbers were much higher-262 St John Fisher to provide the readers for Holy Thursday
6. Easter Vigil - St Augustine's this year, St John Fisher in 2006. As Easter is so early this year the vigil will start at 8pm.
7. Weekday afternoon Masses will be held
8. 2 adults will be received into the church soon -may/may not be at the Easter vigil
9. Ash Wednesday Mass and distribution of ashes will be at St John Fisher at 10am. First Holy Hour & distribution of ashes on Ash Wednesday evening. Liturgy committee to organise.
10. Oils to be brought in on Easter Sunday morning.
11. Anointing service before Pentecost.

AOB

1. Could there be a retreat for the Ministers of Communion. They have been all asked in the last few months if they wanted to continue and this has been noted. Re-commissioning /retreat for after Easter just before Corpus Christi, include St John Fisher Perhaps encouragement of the Communion Ministers to attend a Holy Hour would be helpful.
2. If a Mass is booked for someone, then it can't be said that person ought to be given notice usually happens but on the rare occasions something goes wrong.
3. Passover to take place on March 16". Fr Bernard as indicated last year, will not be attending
4. When having Exposition it's important to let the sacristan know so they can prepare for the Mass following. Having both doors unlocked at the start, will help.
5. Flowers at Easter will be cut back in that there will be none on the windows. White and Yellow are the colours.

6. Flower festival-most groups have responded positively. Small allowance for each group but in terms of hard landscaping much can be provided. Photos of 30yrs of parish life needed for exhibition. Notice in the bulletin.
7. Mass for the vigil of Corpus Christi and a.m. Mass at St Augustine's.
8. Responses to the questionnaire relevant to liturgy were distributed in preparation for a discussion next meeting - March 8th The following were some of the details from the recent questionnaire

Responses in order of reading them, no prioritising, numbered to aid discussion. Most comments reported verbatim and there was no further elaboration on many.

Area L -Liturgy

2. What would you like to see done differently in our parish?

Occasional Latin Masses (2 responses), some parts of the Mass in Latin

First Friday morning Mass or on another day if Fr Bernard is at the prison

Return to Friday exposition and Confessions after Mass

Healing Ministries established, healing services on a regular basis (2 resp.)

Appropriate hymns at the Parade Mass and at Children's' Mass

Fewer people involved in giving out Holy Communion

ALL liturgies, especially non-Mass ones, should be planned and approved by a small

Liturgy group

Other liturgies should be encouraged as well as mass(2 responses)

Sunday morning Mass should be at 10 am or later (5 responses)

Benediction once or twice a week

Less pomp and showiness in the Liturgy

Re-introduce 'This is the Word of the Lord'- I'm not aware of anywhere else 'the Word of the Lord' is said. It certainly isn't at the Cathedral.

Bigger role for teenagers and children in the liturgy (3 responses) Bring and show work carried in or show and mime

Appropriate music for young people-for their needs-NOT for the musicians

Psalms and alleluias chanted

Music - so we know the songs. More uplifting hymns

Children leave to go to children's liturgy after Introduction to the Mass so as to be more a part of the Mass. Everyone to go up to the altar on return

More of a programme set up for Lent and Advent

Different Advent candle lighting song for next year

Traditional choir not a model band

More recognisable traditional hymns or ask parishioners what they want

Incense at Vigil and Sunday Masses

More light in the church during exposition so we can read Bible/spiritual book

Improve readers and Ministers of Holy Communion at Mass

Too many obscure hymns

Quiet time for reflection at Mass

More active participation by laity in Liturgy

Poor behaviour of children in organ loft drowns out the service

First Communion children should sit as a group with their families behind them

Responses in order of reading them, no prioritising, numbered to aid discussion.

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Area L - Liturgy

3. What is missing in our parish?

Exposition more often (2 responses)

Notification at each Mass as to which Eucharistic Prayer is to be said

Nothing - sometimes too much is going on and complications arise

Greater respect for the Blessed Sacrament

Extra Mass at St John Fisher

Regular healing services

Children's choir / **Folk** group and a traditional choir

Young peoples' liturgy

Sung Latin Mass at least once a year

Modern music

Benediction

More Masses

When experiencing difficult times, traditional prayer in Church would help

Speaking in hushed tones in church before Mass should be more reverential

4 What needs our action first?

Healing services should be held

Chanting of psalms and alleluia

No modern art pictures in place of the Stations of the Cross

Earlier Easter Vigil especially when Easter falls early, as this year

More devotion to the Blessed Sacrament- perhaps more exposition

Review music provision in church - some needs updating

5. Any other comments you wish to make?

More quiet contemplation in Mass

Year of the Eucharist so why not a Corpus Christi procession possibly

No more than one new hymn in each Mass or other service

Hymns are bland. They should uplift the spirit e.g. today's were numbers 241, 401, 666, 227 and only the last one was upbeat.

More singing in children's liturgy

Sometimes a Latin Mass

The Mass on the feast day of St Augustine should be made special