

**ST. JEROME LITURGY COMMITTEE
MINUTES for February 4, 2009**

Present: Jeanne Tarrant, Fr. Mike, Deacon Dean Finch, Florence and Dan Loch, Helen Eidt, M.J. Bruno, and Suzanne Calnon (chair)

The meeting was opened with a prayer offered by Dan.

REVIEW OF:

Thanksgiving Eve

Attendance was about the same (90-100) despite the earlier 7:00 pm starting time which we hope might draw more people. There was only one call for a ride to the services in response to our publicized offer to drive people to the service. The special "I Believe" slides again were favorably received and the hallway doughnuts and cider after the Mass were good.

Advent

The Advent pamphlet done by Dan was well-received and most of the 300 copies were taken by the first week of Advent. The Advent wreath lighting went well, but the first week was missed. The 7:00 pm evening Reconciliation service on December 17th drew only a small group of people and was over in 30 minutes. The Advent wreath went missing after the fourth Sunday of Advent; it had been taken down by Sr. Agnes. It should remain in place until Christmas Eve.

Christmas

• **Christmas Eve 4:00 PM Mass**

The violins were ok, but the trumpets needed more work, perhaps more practice, although snow interfered with the scheduled Saturday, December 20, practice. The *a capella* singing was good. Don Nelson, the organist, had not been assigned; perhaps reconsider using him next year.

• **Christmas Eve Children's Nativity Pageant, 6:00 PM**

The Sunday, December 21, song rehearsal for the children had been cancelled due to snow, so they came early on Christmas Eve to practice. The pageant went well. The children were very good with their song, exceptionally clear and strong, and were very well-received by the congregation. It was a good idea to have a child (the youngest Chuba son) come up with the collection basket at the Offertory presenting of the gifts.

• **Attendance**

Attendance at the Christmas Eve 4:00 PM seemed average, quite full. At the 6:00 PM attendance seemed to be less than previous years; the folding chairs in the side aisles were not taken. The 10:30 pm had a larger than usual attendance. The Christmas Day noon Mass had about 125 people,

the largest in recent years, but there were no altar servers, no Eucharistic Ministers, and no lector.

- **Other**

The crèche was taken down after Epiphany, but should stay up until the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord the following week, the official end of the Christmas season.

PLANNING FOR:

Lent

- **Ash Wednesday**

Children's Ash Wednesday Liturgy of the Word again will be at 4:30 pm. Fr. Mike located over 500 (we counted them) of the wooden circles/coins with crosses (one side) and a prayer (other side) on them already on-hand for distribution on Ash Wednesday. A religious articles' catalogue showed they were the same price (17 cents) as the thin plastic crosses used last year. The wooden coins were popular when last used two years ago.

- **Parish Lenten Cross**

Dan reports there are enough tags left from last year to place on the cross this year so a tag-making session will not be needed. Dan will set up the cross after the 9:00 am Mass on Maundy Tuesday. He will ask Fr. David to locate the cross and its stand.

- **Parish Lenten Brochure**

[Although not discussed at the meeting, Dan again will compose the parish Lenten brochure for distribution starting Ash Wednesday.]

- **Passion Sunday**

We need the Mass coordinators to help with the palm and we again are counting on Dean to supervise putting out the boxes of palms, setting them on tables, and separating them. Lectors for Passion Sunday (and for Triduum and Easter Sunday) again will be solicited by the usual letter from Fr. David and by an e-mail from Dan by mid-March. Dan will place a sign up sheet in the sacristy by mid-March for Eucharistic Ministers for Passion Sunday (and for Easter Sunday). Also in the sacristy will be a sign-up sheet for altar servers for Triduum. Dan will ask for people to sign up via a weekly bulletin notice and via e-mails.

- **Holy Thursday, April 9**

This year we will start one hour earlier, at 7:00 pm, which may be more convenient for people. Helen, Florence, M.J., Domenica Gioiella, and Andrea Licek again will plan and work on this liturgy.

- **Good Friday, April 10**

Jeanne Tarrant again will plan and work on this liturgy.

- **Easter Vigil, April 11**

Dean again will plan and work on this liturgy. There are no RICA candidates for Baptism, but there is one Confirmand candidate.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Altar Servers

There is a shortage of available able altar servers for the 8:00 am and the 11:00 am Sunday Masses. Dean will ask privately for adult server names for those Masses.

Eucharistic Ministers

Similarly, there is a need for more Eucharistic Ministers. We hardly have any available for the 11:00 am Mass and there now are fewer and fewer Eucharistic Ministers for even the 9:15 am Mass.

Upcoming Events

Parish Pancake Breakfast, Sunday morning, March 15

Parish Fish Fry, Friday, April 3

Parish Mission, March 28 through April 1, Fr. Bill McCarthy

Next Meeting

March 25, 7:00 pm in the upstairs classroom. Helen Eidt will offer the opening prayer.