

MQHR Worship Committee Meeting Summary
January 13, 2009

Changes to the Minutes: the New Year's Eve Mass started at 11:30pm, not 11:00pm.

1. Discussion to replace Sue & Lucretia

- a. 17 people have expressed interest in helping ☺; John will meet with them next week. The intent will be to spread out various duties (e.g. Christmas decorations, Ordinary Time banners). The group will select one person to represent them, known as the Sacristan in the Sacristan Ministry of worship committee. Under them will be the normal duties of the Altar Society.
- b. Fr. Joe recommended the title "Sacristy Ministry." The person would oversee the activities of the altar-society-like duties. Duties such as distribution of Holy Communion & set up of Mass fall under the EMHC ministry.
- c. The situation demonstrates the importance of training your replacement. John had to dig just to find the Ordinary Time banners. Ideally, the new ministry will take care of this.

2. Ministry Reports

a. Music:

- i. Karen received many compliments on the Christmas Masses & feels it was the best year since she has been here.
- ii. Bishop Gainer celebrated Mass on Saturday, January 17.
- iii. Easter Choir starts February 22.
- iv. Karen inquired of the committee if they can hear the musicians while seated in the congregation. John suggested taping the mic switch (not the one in the box; the actual mics) to avoid musicians messing with it. Part of it also involves projection. The choir member who gives the welcome/cell phone announcement needs to speak directly and deliberately into the mic in order to be heard.
- v. Trying to get all cantors to be uniform in their posture/hand gestures.
- vi. School Choir has 5 new members; will combine with the parish Children's Choir on March 1st for an Area School Choir Concert.
- vii. Working on a high school choir to sing once a month.
- viii. Bernie spoke of the groups giving more time for Sacred Silence during the Mass, as recently recommended in *Crossroads*.
- ix. A pivotal mark of the Latin rite: "Restraint."

- b. Hospitality:** The sanctuary is very messy, particularly Sunday night.. The main vacuum sweeper is broken and in the process of replacement. The ushers find baskets all over the place. This seems to occur at the 5:30, which may indicate the Spanish Mass goers are unaware. Idea of a

redoing the usher station (under the Divine Mercy image) for the baskets and badges.

Highlights Since Last Report

- Greeter Schedule Jan-Mar completed
- Usher badges distributed
- EM Training for Youth Ministry Core Team (21-Dec & 11-Jan)

Plans for Upcoming Month

- General Usher Memo (include closure items from August meeting)
- General Greeter Memo
- Meet with Youth Minister to discuss involvement - Hospitality

Planned but not Completed

- Chair 2nd Ministry Scheduling Process Meeting. Do we want to pursue this?

Issues / Concerns / Requests

- Messy Church
- Usher Station Idea

- c. **Ministry Scheduling Software:** Kristy recommended & Fr. Joe agreed to ask to Jenna create a sample schedule with the software. Ministries would still schedule as normal in the meantime. A sample will give a concrete demonstration of the software's effectiveness. Jenna would need updates & conflicts.
- d. **Devotions:** All inactive groups will be removed from the website. Jeanne has asked about the Legion of Mary, which has no leader and is rumored to no longer exist.

Highlights/Upcoming Plans

- Family Holy Hour: New Year's Holy Hour planned for January 20, at 6 p.m. with Fr. Nick Pagano, who will give a reflection on Saint Agnes.
- Sacred Heart Prayer Group did not meet on Jan 2nd due to the holiday commitments. The next meeting is planned for Jan16. In the event the Prayer Group is cancelled on a First Friday, the group always meets on another Friday of that same month.
- Eucharistic Adoration. The following notice will be posted in the bulletin: If MQHR School is cancelled on a Thursday due to weather conditions, the Eucharist will not be exposed, and adorers should check the news channels for school closings.
 - If bad weather and the safety of our adorers becomes an issue during the day on Thursday or Friday evening, all adorers who have made a standing weekly commitment will be contacted about the cancellation. However, since we do

not have contact numbers for those adorers who sign up at their convenience (and we do appreciate the efforts) our apologies for not being able to contact them.

- Prayer Network: We will be working to get an updated list of the “prayer warriors” since some have dropped out.
 - Marian Devotions: It is encouraging to know that more people are participating.
 - Notices were placed in the bulletin to locate the leaders or members for Life in the Spirit and Men’s Prayer Groups but no responses received so far.
 - Will review all the Groups listed and propose closing the inactive ones by end of January
- e. **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC):** No updates.
- f. **Lectors:** Upcoming training in February.
- g. **Children’s Liturgy:** Fr. Joe emphasized that the priest offering the Mass needs to know if Children’s Liturgy is cancelled at the last minute.
- **Updates:** Classes resumed on Sunday, January 11th.
 - **Future Plans:** I am working on scheduling teachers and assistants for the next month. We need 1 teacher and 2 assistants each week. We may have 1 new assistant starting. Most of our teachers are involved in many other areas, so sometimes we have conflicts.
- h. **Altar Servers:** Recently purchased 3 surplices & 1 large cassock for Phillip Habernam. Joe is finding success with emailing the parents instead of the children. When an under-18 server decides independently to quit, Fr. Joe suggested that Joe forward the message to the parent. Joe asked the committee to notify him if the servers misbehave. He is still having difficulty with servers showing up to their assigned Mass. 5 people want to be trained for Spanish Mass. Only 2 servers signed up on the ministry sheet for Christmas but all the Masses were covered.
- i. **RCIA/Sacramental Formation**
- **RCIA - Current status and Roster:** We will have the Rite of Welcoming and Acceptance at the 8:15 Mass Sunday Jan. 18th for 3 Inquirers. We have 3 new Inquirers that have started in the last month, making a total of 4 Inquirers.
 - **RCIA Schedule of Catechists:** We have catechists scheduled through April 5th Palm Sunday.
 - **RCIA for Children:** Starting Sunday Jan. 18 there will be 38 children participating in RCIA for Children. 2 will be baptized at the Easter Vigil April 11 this year. 1 will be baptized at the Easter Vigil 2010. The others are baptized Catholics and will receive the rest of their sacraments after Easter sometime. I have 11 additional children who

are baptized Catholic and need the other sacraments scheduled to start April 26, 2009. This influx is from the Spanish-speaking community.

- **First Reconciliation:** Parent service is scheduled for Sat. Feb. 21st at 2pm. Children's service is Feb. 28th at 2pm. No music will be needed.
- **First Communion:** We already have 94 children who are registered and therefore we are offering 2 dates for First Communion. Families will choose their preference. May 9 at 4pm Mass and May 17 at 8:15am Mass.

Pastor's Comments

It's important for the laity to follow the pastor liturgical matters, like the symphony follows the conductor instead of playing independently. Everyone needs to be involved but in a spirit of wanting it to work.

There has been some liturgical backsliding in the last 2-3 months, but mostly little things. It only takes one sour note to ruin the Ave Maria. The Gloria is supposed to be the high point before the Liturgy of the Word. Then the Gospel should be the high point.

Submitted by Kristy Tucker

The next Worship Committee meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 10th

Don't forget to send your ministry reports or some sort of coffee beverage to appease the recorder. ☺