

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER CLUSTER
LITURGY MEETING
JANUARY 21, 2016
7:00 P.M.
ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
FAYETTE, IOWA

Meeting opened with a prayer led by Betty Alfultis, a song "They'll Know We Are Christians", and the Gospel for Sunday (Luke 1:1-4, 4:14-21) was read with discussion following. Pat agreed to lead the opening prayer at the next meeting.

Attendees: Marty Kraus (SF), Fr. Jim Brokman, Maureen Johnson (SP), Betty Alfultis (IC), Pam Rochford (IC), Jerry Engels (SF), Pat Burghardt (SF), Dee Youngblut (IC), and Damien Matt (SP).

The meeting was led by Marty Kraus, chairperson this year.

Approval of Minutes

One correction to the minutes from the October meeting was noted: the Christmas Program at HM was on Wednesday 12/16. With that correction the October Minutes and the January meeting Agenda were approved with a motion from Pam and a second from Dee.

Evaluations

Mass of Remembrance (10/31): Comments were favorable. However it was felt that we could do a better job of "marketing" this celebration. It will be held at SP next year.

Confirmation Rite of Enrollment (11/08)/Presentation of Candidates to Parishes (11/15): There were lots of people there. This was a good ceremony.

Anointing of the Sick (November): There was good participation this year. It was felt that the instruction and explanations Fr. Jim has been giving is proving helpful.

Feast of Christ the King (11/22): There was no Adoration at IC this year as Fr. Jim was gone.

Thanksgiving: Crowds generally small which is normal for this Mass.

Advent/Christmas Programs/Communal Reconciliation Services: Fr. Jim felt these were solid all the way through. Reconciliation at SP and IC went well.

Cluster First Reconciliation (12/06): This was the first time for this celebration at IC. It went very well. The cupcakes were rated great!

Immaculate Conception (12/08): Crowds were small at IC and SP but large at SF.

Christmas Season

Christmas Eve: Big crowd at SP and a good crowd at SF. In general attendance at the early service seems to be larger than the later service. The early services were held at 4:30 p.m. this year for the first time. There was some grumbling heard about the earlier time, but in general worked well. It seemed to work well for the priests to begin earlier.

An environmental note: the poinsettias at HN and SP still look good. Poinsettias at IC and SF did not last very well. Inquiries should be made into where Old Mill Floral in West Union obtains their poinsettias. Discussion also held on real trees and artificial trees for decorating.

Upcoming Liturgies

Presentation of the Lord (2/02):

Blessing of Throats: The Feast of St. Blaise is February 3rd which is a Wednesday this year. The blessing could be either the Sunday before or after. Fr. Jim decided it would be done on the Sunday before the Feast day, January 31st.

Ash Wednesday (2/10): Masses will be at 2:45 for the kids at HN, and 7:00 p.m. at IC and HN. SF will have Distribution of Ashes and Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m. SP will have Prayer and Distribution of Ashes at 7:00 p.m.

Mass Setting: For Lent we will use the Chant Mass. Other Mass options were discussed such as the Kyrie, Opening/Closing Hymns, The Lamb of God.

Stations of the Cross: SP will have Mass and Stations of the Cross on Thursday evenings if Fr. Rausch is still willing to be there on Thursdays. Stations at SF used to be on Fridays but attendance has been dwindling. Fr. Jim suggested Stations be built into the Wednesday morning Mass. At IC Stations are prayed on Tuesdays, First Fridays and Saturdays after the morning Masses. Stations are not prayed at HN at this time.

Parish Mission (2/28): To be at HN at 2:00 p.m. The group Agnus Dei will perform again this year. The group will also be providing music at the 10:00 Mass that morning.

Communal Reconciliation: At SF on Wednesday, February 3rd; at HN on February 24th at 2:45 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. There will be no Cluster Reconciliation service for Lent.

World Day of Prayer: There are no plans in place for this observance this year.

Holy Week (3/20) & Easter (3/27): This will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

Other: Eucharistic Adoration will be held at SP on March 16th from 5:45 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. We are trying this due to the great response from the kids for the Eucharistic Adoration they experienced at the NCYC. It was noted that involving the kids in the practice is important, perhaps with the Litany.

Other Business

- The Year of Mercy: Fr. Jim to introduce ideas for observing this year to the Cluster Pastoral Council next week.
- SP has introduced the Mass of Renewal music setting which has been general well received thus far.
- The suggestion of a Hope Choir to provide music ministry to Cluster funerals was discussed. It was generally decided that this idea may not be workable for our Cluster due to the limited number of people who might be able to serve on such a choir.

Next Meeting

March 3rd, 7:00 p.m. at SF.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m. with a Hail Mary.

Respectfully Submitted,
Maureen Johnson