

WORSHIP CORE TEAM minutes, from Tuesday, January 18, 2005

Present: Dick Neidhard, Scot Buzza, Marilyn Kaiser, Karen Brandstetter, Richard Bollman, Mike Marchal.

Unable to come: Carmil O'Connor, Mark RingswaldEgan

1. Review of recent events: Christmas celebrations and opening of the baptismal pool.

Music and coordination of Christmas events very smooth this year. The Children's Mass, which had to take place without rehearsal (due to snow), went off very capably, no doubt because enough of those who came had taken part before. Next year, with a new DRE in place, there may be time to assemble a new planning team to alter the Children's Mass format, for the sake of variety and freshness. Those involved now noted that the simplicity of the current format has its merits, and seems to reach children very well.

As to the baptismal events on January 9, those involved in the baptism at 9 o'clock were pleased with the procedure at the narthex pool, especially the family. Sight lines were obscured at the other two Masses, when the presiders moved to the back for the creed and blessing. Except for adult baptism once a year, there is no rigid law about having to baptism babies in this baptismal pool. Decisions need to be made with the families involved as those events come up.

2. Collections on Sunday.

People who attend Sunday Masses often mention that "the basket didn't get to me." This may be the result of the people in the pews, not passing the basket efficiently. We'd like to get more information, and encourage good use of the basket at all times. Karen agreed to contact the persons in charge: Kathleen Bliezner and Jerry Glinka at 9; Bill Cunningham at 11; and (probably) Ed Escudero at 7, though we were not sure who held that responsibility for the 7 p.m. Mass.

3. Looking ahead to Lent.

In searching out readers, we agreed to invite our experienced teen readers to be involved in the Triduum. This will take a little bit of inviting, more than a sign-up sheet.

The Easter Vigil will need to incorporate a screen or curtain between the outer two narthex pillars, to screen traffic and street lights during the opening section of the ceremony when darkness is called for. The screen would also help to form a closed space for the baptism as well.

The Litany of the Saints can be placed at the time when the congregation moves back toward the baptistry, as processional music and as a good moment for such prayer to happen. We recommend using the version that is simplest, in Gregorian Chant, but in English. The sprinkling of the congregation will occur after the baptism. The greeting of peace will follow the confirmations. These are preliminary judgments about the changes that our new space will require.

We discussed the pros and cons of having the fire outdoors this year.

PRO: a larger fire and therefore a deeper sign of the new life in fire
greater ease now in moving people into the sanctuary: no bottleneck

a different tone to the gathering for the rite, both festive and solemn

CON: the liability issue: people falling and injuring themselves

the outdoors are already too lit up: we lose the more dramatic dark/light
symbolism in our current arrangement

weather plays a big role: temperature, precipitation, and wind

Richard will ask Rosemary to inquire among congregations who already do this, so we can find out some of their experience.

Our next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 19, 7:30**, Jesuit Residence

RB, January 21 05