

**St. Ignatius Parish – San Francisco
Worship Commission
Minutes of May 12, 2004 Meeting**

Committee Members Present:

Barbara Berman
Kevin Boden
Maria Boden
Howard Case
Gerry Cole
Diane Del Chiaro – Secretary
Wil Krekel
Bill O’Neill
Michelle Rios
Vicky Siu
Stephen St. Marie – Chairman

Staff Present:

Don Crean
Terry Jensen

Opening Prayer: Gerry Cole opened the meeting with a prayer.

Committee Membership: Stephen St. Marie led the meeting.

There was no published agenda for the meeting, but Stephen distributed a copy of the e-mail he had sent in advance listing topics for discussion. He also distributed an updated membership roster and several document Parish Pastoral Council member Rusty Reily had distributed at a previous meeting: 1. Apostolic Goals of the California Province of the Society of Jesus; the Mission and Vision statements of St. Ignatius Parish; and 3. A form for reporting to the Parish Pastoral Council on the Worship and Liturgy Commission’s strategic goals and methods of achieving them. The Strategic Planning/Goal Format form is to be filled out by committee members to establish committee goals.

There was a brief review of the Membership Roster to make sure all names and information were accurate. It was suggested that members provide their daytime phone numbers to be more easily reached. Stephen promised to get a new update out.

Mission and Vision Review. There was a wide-ranging discussion regarding the mission and vision of St. Ignatius Parish in light of the request of the Pastoral Council for the Worship Commission to report on our work to fulfill them. Strategic Planning/Goal Format forms for committee members should be filled out and submitted by June 1.

The primary goal of the Commission is to guide the Parish in liturgical and worship matters. The group also noted that there is a need for people to interact with others more at St. Ignatius Parish. A number of members expressed this thought in different ways. An example of this can be seen in other close-knit parishes that are smaller and more based on local geography or on a school community. St. Ignatius Parish is different. First, it is very large. Second, it draws from around the City and beyond for many reasons besides location. The size of the church itself, the qualities of the liturgies, the connection to the university, and other qualities of the parish bring together a very diverse group of parishioners. There are many people at St. Ignatius, and many things are always happening. But development of a community has been a difficult process. The report will reflect the Commission's efforts and goals in this area.

Sound System Report. As reported in April's minutes, the original estimate for the sound system set-up additional cost for including security arrangements was \$15,000. The estimate is somewhat higher due to other outstanding costs. They include new cabling, switchboards for the sound system in the church, and security. The total cost is \$20,000, but since the Church and the University are combining resources, the Church is saving \$5,000.

Discussion of 11:00 a.m. Liturgy. There is a variance of opinion regarding state of the 11:00 Mass. Some feel that it has markedly changed for the worse, especially the music. The choir used to be much larger and much more magnificent, including more professional musicians. The director and musicians now are different. A lot of this is due to budgetary changes, and change of musicians. Many people who come to the 11:00 Mass do not deny that they really feel the loss of the deep, rich music. Other people say we have a very wonderful Mass that is still very colorful and offers many things for many people. Terry Jensen reports that lay participation at the 11:00 Mass has picked up 300%. It is a much more participatory congregation. Questions: Do we think it appropriate to have much different styles of worship at different masses, such as a contemplative mass, a family mass, and a more traditional high mass? What are the needs? It seems we are serving four or five different communities with very different cultural, community and social needs. There are opposing tendencies in the richness and variety of our worship services. We wish to have a variety of types of services that are not all homogeneous. Yet that has resulted in groups of parishioners who are less connected to each other except for those who worship at the same masses they do. The objective is to have a single parish community, yet to offer styles of worship pleasing to different tastes and needs. It was suggested that members of the Worship Commission experience each of the different masses and report back to the Committee. We will have further discussion of this topic at next meeting.

Upcoming Liturgies

Pentecost-May 30. Don briefly discussed having the petitions read in different languages. There was some discussion of whether this would be in the spirit of the gospel, in which it is reported that the apostles spoke in their own language, but all understood them regardless of their own language.

Liturgies During Summer Months. The choirs will take a few weeks off, possibly mid July or mid August, due back before University begins on August 21. Terry, the choir director and his

group usually take off around the 4th or 5th Sundays in summer. Most people on the committee will be back about this time and other members of the choir.

Feast of St. Francis, Monday October 4. There is a connection between this liturgy and Social Justice Committee. Two years ago the Social Justice Council held an Earth Mass at St. Ignatius Church. This event included musicians and dancers, and was quite a spectacular event. This October the Social Justice Committee would like to do another such event. The theme will have something to do with creation. They have not yet organized the people to produce the event. A Creation Committee was formed at the meeting, comprised of: Vicky Siu, Howard Case, Stephen St. Marie, Kevin Boden, Terry Jensen, Tim Murphy, Diane Del Chiaro and Don Crean. Other people are welcome to join.

Parish 10th Anniversary. A 10:30 Mass is being planned. There will also be a brunch and a talent show. There will be Planning of liturgy and music will be discussed at next meeting.

Regular Business. Minutes for February, March, and April were approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25.

Next Meeting on Wednesday, June 9 at 6:30.

Follow-Up Items:

- Stephen will prepare a report to the Parish Pastoral Council and will circulate it to the members of this Commission before submitting it.
- All members are to try to attend other liturgies besides their customary liturgies so that we may more knowledgably discuss the variety of liturgical styles and the needs of the communities.
- New subcommittee to assist in preparation of the liturgy for the Feast of St. Francis. Members include: Vicky Siu, Howard Case, Stephen St. Marie, Kevin Boden, Terry Jensen, Tim Murphy, Diane Del Chiaro and Don Crean.