

**St. Ignatius Parish – San Francisco**  
**Worship Commission**  
**Minutes of October 20, 2004**

**Committee Members Present:**

Kevin Boden  
Marie Boden  
Gerry Cole  
Diane Del Chiaro – Secretary  
Hilary Paskowitz  
Michelle Rios  
Nick Rocchio  
Victoria Siu  
Stephen St. Marie – Chairman

**Staff Present:**

Don Crean  
Terry Jensen

**Opening Prayer:** Nick Rocchio opened the meeting with a prayer.

**Minutes:** Kevin Boden moved to accept the minutes of the previous meeting, and Michelle Rios seconded the motion. The minutes were adopted. An updated roster was distributed.

**Parish Anniversary Celebration Evaluation:** People reacted positively. Many parishioners impressed by the full turn out of group representatives from the many parish organizations that were present around the altar that day. It was impressive to see so many priests and so many participating in the liturgy at one gathering. Many people enjoyed the children's participation, which occurred at the end of the mass. The music was super, directed by Dan Schutte, with a choir of about 30, plus instrumentalists.

The liturgy reflected good planning and the hard work of Barbara St. Marie and Carola Shepard. The Worship Commission resolved to prepare thank-you letters for Barbara St. Marie and Carola Shepard. Kevin Boden will write a draft and give it to Don for Barbara and Carola.

The Worship Commission also thanked Don Crean, who did a lot of work to make the celebration happen.

Also successful was the reception after the liturgy.

Though recommended by the Worship Commission, there was no videotape made of the celebration. However, there are still pictures that are posted in the back of the church.

The question naturally arose: Should this type of liturgy be done again? Perhaps once a year? Or even more than once a year? Members of the Committee suggested that trying to put on such a celebration is a great deal of work and that it would not be appropriate to try to make such an extraordinary event routine. However, some elements of the

celebration may be appropriate to do annually, such as on St. Ignatius Day or in association with the annual parish picnic. In particular, it may be appropriate to combine the 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. masses on the day of the parish picnic.

Don agreed to consider and discuss at the next Staff meeting.

**Feast of St. Francis Celebration Evaluation:** The Worship Commission members received some less positive reviews of the Feast of St. Francis Day mass and celebration. Initially, suggestions for the contents of this celebration came from Mike Murphy of the Social Justice Committee, who suggested the liturgy combine the Feast of St. Francis with themes of Care of the earth.

Commission members reviewed the special elements of the mass and considered the received criticism. The mass began with “The Prayer of St. Francis” as the gathering song. The Kyrie included special verses related to our care for the earth. The prayers of petition included prayers related to St. Francis and to our care for the earth. During the preparation rite, the children entered the sanctuary carrying a large beach-ball globe of the earth, and they sang “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hand.” The communion meditation piece was “Many and Great, O God, Are Your Works,” an American Indian hymn translated from the Lakhota. Finally, the recessional song was “Canticle of the Sun,” whose words celebrate the earth and are associated with St. Francis.

In spite of the degree of follow-through of the Worship Committee in assembling planning for the liturgy and the hard work of Don Crean and other staff in putting the mass together, the results were not satisfying to all. The Worship Committee discussed the need for follow-through on the part of those suggesting liturgy ideas and themes, and discussed the necessity for realistic expectations, particularly in light of the budget limitations. Finally, it was noted that the parish will not be expending the resources required to put on a mass such as the earth-day celebration of several years ago.

Steve will meet with Mike to discuss the issue of St. Francis and clarify any disappointment.

**Advent Update:** In addition to the previously scheduled Reconciliation service in early December, there will also be one during the week before Thanksgiving.

**Sound System:** Kevin Boden reported that the sound system has been installed, and the system is improving week by week. In spite of some initial stumbles, mostly related to our unfamiliarity with the new system, it is wonderful. Howard Case was the person who did most of the planning, and he did a great job. Since installation, Howard has supervised work on it over these last six weeks, and the result has been the much improvement over the sound that has reverberated throughout the church over the last 75 years. The system is working much better now and lectors will receive an updated demonstration on how to best use the system on Oct. 25 at 6:30 PM.

**Next Meeting:** November 10.

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