

Minutes of Liturgy Group Meeting 2nd /06/2011

1. Present Fr Andrew, Edwin Page, Audrey Yates, Anne Vetch, Clair, Ann Davies, Bill Thompson
2. We discussed the role of music in Mass and looked at the recommended priorities – see attached. We decided to continue to sing four hymns and add gradually the Alleluia (Gospel Acclamation) the Sanctus and the Agnus Dei. We would introduce these from 11th September and use the ‘tones’ recommended by the Diocese in the first instance. We would be able to introduce new settings as and when these became available. We would hold a practice for those interested in learning these on Thursday 16th June at 7.30pm in church. Edwin has kindly agreed to play to help with this. We will then ‘teach’ these before Mass on 11th September. Anne has agreed to do this.
3. We discussed choosing appropriate hymns which are relevant to the theme of the Mass. We reminded ourselves that the choice should generally fit either the Gospel/ Mass theme or their place in the Mass ie

The entrance hymn should bring us all together and set the tone

The offertory hymn could reflect the readings and/or reflect the idea of offering

The Communion Hymn should again reflect the main theme and /or be centred on the Eucharist

The Final Hymn should be rousing and prepare us to go out and spread the Gospel

NB It was decided to change the timing of the Communion Hymn slightly. People would go up to receive communion in silence, or to quiet music played on the organ. When everyone had returned to their seats and after a moment’s silence we would sing the Communion hymn.

4. We talked about the responsibility of choosing appropriate hymns. We decided that to start a meeting with a blank sheet for each Sunday would be time – consuming and counter - productive. We therefore agreed to look at a month each and come to the next meeting with some ideas. We would then finalise the choice bearing in mind which musicians were available on a particular Sunday.

Edwin can play everything but usually plays the more traditional hymns whereas the guitar group play the more modern pieces – if we know the chords! It was recognised that it is important to keep this variety to cater for all tastes.

5. Fr Andrew offered to produce a ‘Master sheet’ with the main theme of the Gospel for the Sundays between the beginning of July and Christ the King.
Anne would produce ‘blank’ master sheets for people to use to list the choices for each week.
The work would be divided up as follows

July – Audrey

August – Anne

September – Maria (in absentia)

October – Clair

November – Ann (S) (in absentia)

6. Fr Andrew will give the Master sheet to Peter T. so that the Bidding Prayers can use the main theme as well as issues of the day.
7. We agreed it would be very helpful if we could find additional musicians to support the guitar group. We would appeal for these.

8. The meeting finished at 8.30pm and we agreed to meet again after the Vigil mass on Tuesday 28th June. It is envisaged that once we are up and running we will meet three or four times a year.