

Arts and Liturgical Environment Committee (ALEC)

Meeting January 8, 2008 at 6:00 PM

Present were Fr. Bob, Sal, Ann, Michele, Fr. John, Chris, Connie, George, and Carmen

We convened at the Rectory for a dinner meeting. Fr. Bob led us in prayer before dinner. We all enjoyed a wonderful dinner and dessert. Following our meal we gathered in the living room for our ALEC meeting. Because of another commitment, George had to leave.

Connie distributed the minutes of the previous meeting December 4, 2007 for review. Michele made a motion to accept the minutes, Chris seconded the motion and all were in favor of approving the minutes.

Fr. Bob led an open discussion regarding the signs for physical hardship and handicap. Connie will look in our catalogues to see what is appropriate and get Joe Reynold's input. It's also possible our furniture representative from Sauder may have signs that would meet the need.

Fr. Bob thanked and praised the committee for the work they did decorating the church for Christmas. Parishioners gave positive feedback. Chris suggested we use artificial poinsettia plants next Christmas. Fr. Bob said general liturgical guidelines call for use of live plants when feasible representing the Living Christ. Because we had problems this year with plants rotted from over watering by the florist, Ann said we could slit the plastic pots to let the water run out easily. Fr. Bob said we would be getting some sort of credit from the florist. Michele suggested we use three tiers of the towers for placement of lilies for Easter Sunday. She also suggested we have an outdoor Nativity next year. A round table discussion of improvement for next Christmas included talking about Christmas trees in the Narthex. Ann said we need to be sure to enhance the space we have and not detract with too many distractions.

The committee discussed Lenten season decorations. Purple fabric will be draped throughout the church in the grid work along with Vine. Connie will contract Erwin on behalf of the committee to build a Cross that will be displayed in back of the church. It will be draped with purple fabric for the Lenten season, and then draped with white fabric on Easter. Fr. Bob said we should have the Tabernacle in place in the church by Easter. Father also said it would be nice to see "living" Stations of the Cross on Good Friday. The Cross Erwin builds could also be used for Veneration. It needs to be light enough to move to the Sanctuary. The subcommittee for seasonal decorations will be meeting January 21st to discuss the decorations further.

Fr. Bob said Deb Vale has put together a website for St. Agnes Church. Connie will send all our previous ALEC minutes to her.

Fr. Bob announced Erwin contacted the artist we discussed at our last meeting. The artist said it would cost \$12,000.00 for the Corpus for our main Cross. This would be a savings of several thousands of dollars. Father mentioned we have ironwork as a base of wheat design that could possibly be used for the Virgin Mary statue.

Michele brought up our using the Holy Water font marble base for the bowl we asked her to purchase. We need an Ironwork pedestal mounted on the marble base for the bowl to set on. Connie will contact Dale (who did previous ironwork) for a quote. She will also get a quote from him for the ironwork that will be at the base of the tabernacle (in the Chapel) and ironwork stand for the Sanctuary lamp when our Tabernacle is in place in the church.

An open discussion took place regarding possible uses for the Reservation Room. We respect the use of the room with consideration of all the donors who contributed to the windows, stone, seating, etc. Fr. Bob mentioned we might want to consider a Relic of St. Agnes. Sal was assigned to locating a Relic and reporting back to the committee.

Chris brought up that it would be nice to have a library in the church. It was decided this would be something more appropriate for a parish life center because the church does not have any space.

Fr. Bob described the bulletin board he thinks would work for the Narthex. It is encased in glass. He will pull it up on the computer and bring pictures to our next meeting for the committee's input.

We need to get all the decorations down from Christmas this Friday. Father has enlisted volunteers and asked us also to join in the effort.

Our next meeting is scheduled for February 26, 2008 at 7:00 PM in the conference room. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Connie Brehm.