

Liturgy Survey of Lenten Services 2013

How meaningful was this service for you?

	Number responding	Very meaningful	Mostly meaningful	Somewhat meaningful	Not at all
Ash Wednesday	50	74%	14%	10%	2%
Stations	23	44%	26%	22%	9%
Reconciliation	13	46%	39%	15%	0%
Palm Sunday	66	64%	29%	6%	2%
Tenebrae	25	56%	28%	12%	4%
Holy Thursday	66	88%	8%	3%	2%
Good Friday	39	41%	44%	10%	5%
Vigil- Fire	48	58%	33%	8%	0%
Vigil- Scriptures	35	43%	37%	20%	0%
Vigil Mass	66	83%	15%	2%	0%

Service	Why did you not attend?			What was done well? Could be better?		
	Number comments	Somewhat or mostly critical	Percent critical	Number comments	Somewhat or mostly critical	Percent critical
Ash Wednesday	35	1	3	25	4	16
Stations	53	19	36	12	5	42
Reconciliation	58	12	21	8	2	25
Palm Sunday	9	1	11	45	12	27
Tenebrae	45	4	9	16	5	31
Holy Thursday	10	1	10	41	11	27
Good Friday	33	12	36	25	14	56
Vigil- Fire	33	10	30	26	8	31
Vigil- Scriptures	43	27	63	22	13	59
Vigil Mass	11	3	27	46	12	29

a. **Stations:** Comments reflected the desire for more variety and more relevance to social justice and contemporary issues.

b. **Reconciliation:** Comments showed mostly a lack of relevance for this sacrament in people's lives. Parishioners also did not find travel to the sister churches that feasible or meaningful. St. V will have the next Lenten Reconciliation. The committee discussed Lenten catechesis around the sacrament, just as we have done for Baptism and Eucharist this year.

c. **Good Friday:** There is a group of vocal parishioners who dislike the sung St. John's Gospel; others find the veneration of the cross uncomfortable. Many think the service is too long; particularly the long sits on our less than comfortable pews. What to do? Read the Gospel? Convert the petitions to alternating recitation by the congregation? Have group veneration in place of individual? Use a nail symbol?

d. **Easter Vigil:** There was a chorus of comments that it may be time to revert back to usual practice of an intact Saturday evening vigil.

The committee discussed how to address these comments. Should they be considered as a whole with a broad revamp of Lenten offerings? Or should the services be addressed one at a time given our resources and energy? We decided to make the Lenten Services the topic of our summer Liturgy Committee Retreat. Date to be decided.