

**Worship Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, November 3, 2022, 6:30 PM**

**Attendees:** Deacon Jeff Hofacker, Lynn Collom, Mike Collom, Pat Coonen, Diana Van Straten, Bob Varick, Jane Varick

**Opening Prayer:** Pat led a reflection of the Gospel reading for the upcoming weekend. Bishop Ricken has a new pastoral letter, and the Diocese is going to be focusing on Worship for the next 3 years. We are called to Lectio Divina at parish meetings. His letter is called 'Closer to Jesus through Eucharist and Word'.

**Minutes:** Jane approved the minutes from the September 29 meeting. Pat seconded the approval. Passed by voice vote.

***Worship Committee Chairperson***

Pat is not able to be chairperson due to her position as trustee. It was decided that a chairperson is not needed, and committee duties will be divided between members.

***St. Edward Statue – how is it working in current position?***

The statue has been placed to the left of the tabernacle (facing the altar) and directly behind the ambo. We discussed that it may be a bit distracting in this position. We talked about having a masonry shelf built rather than the table currently being used. Mike will contact Jim Hofacker, Pat will check with the Diocese to see if a proxy is needed for this project. The base of the statue must be lower than the base of the tabernacle.

***Pew Frontals***– have been ordered from DeWitt's and will be installed before Christmas. These will make it easier for people to sit in the front pews and still be able to kneel.

***Liturgical Ministry***

We have two new servers, we lost two servers. We have three new EMHC and four new lectors. As an option for servers, adults can also serve. Will schedule the commissioning with Father's availability.

***Finalized discussion on the Mass with Anointing (11/5), lighting of candles by families of those deceased this year (11/5-6).***

If someone has held their funeral at St. Edward, it was suggested to include their name in our activities. They are usually linked to St. Edward as relative or former parishioner.

***Font repair/rebuild***

Dcn. Jeff, Pat and Don Coonen, and Father Robert will meet with Dan McClintock to assess what he is capable and willing to do to renew the font. Our hope is to have it useful by Easter.

***Christ the King – November 19-20***

It will be announced/displayed on media that the Advent booklets are available this weekend.

***Thanksgiving Day Mass - November 24, 9:30 AM, Bishop Felton will be celebrant.***

Mike suggested the Thanksgiving collection be for a pro-life organization such as Vida.

Update: The Thanksgiving collection will go to Pillars (per Pat), as there will be a collection for Vida in January.

Jeff will arrange for Mass servers (Jackson? Alyssa?).

***Advent – First Sunday is November 26-27***

New candles were ordered for the wreath.

Second grade families will light the candles.

***Feast of Immaculate Conception – Vigil Mass is Wednesday, December 7, 6:30 PM***

Celia will fill in lector and server spots with NE students.

Mary Bogenschutz will arrange for a sacristan and ushers.

***Parish reconciliation service – Friday, December 16, 6:30 PM***

***Christmas Masses – Father Robert will be celebrant for all.***

***Eve - 4:00 PM and 7:00 PM / Day - 8:45 AM***

Extra chairs will need to be set up for 4:00 Mass. Additional Eucharistic ministers and ushers will be needed for 4:00 Mass.

Environment – Decorate on Friday after Mass?

Jane will take care of the Ministry Sign-up Sheet.

***Additional Announcement before Mass***

A parishioner, (Shiela Kahler) approached Pat about adding a sentence or two after the usual pre-Mass announcements. The purpose would be to help people focus on what takes place at Mass and to be able to have a more meaningful experience of Mass. A list of suggestions was provided. All agreed this would be a good addition. Jane is creating a Word Document of the suggestions.

***Music Report***

Renee Cowart confirmed with Mike that Mass for Catholic Schools Week will not be on a weekend, but will be celebrated on Friday, February 3.

Lynn asked when incense is used at Mass. It is used at Solemnities and Feast days, at the beginning and offertory.

***Upcoming***

Blessed Art will be here January 21-22.

***Next Meeting***

Update after meeting: Lynn checked with Father Robert. There will not be a formal Worship Committee meeting before Christmas. Please contact members if help is needed or if there are questions. We want to meet about one month before Lent. Ash Wednesday is February 22, 2023.

Meeting adjourned with a prayer.

*Submitted by Lynn Collom*