

Worship Committee meeting minutes

August 6, 2024

Present: Father Dass, Deacon Rich Matuczak, Marilyn Menor, Steve Kemp, Lee Rynish, Dori Bluma, Kim Van Handel, Cathy Rydzewski and Barbara Brandtner.
Absent: Kim Laabs, and Aaron Hietpas.

The meeting opened at 6:00 pm with prayer by Father Dass.

A motion was made by Steve Kemp and seconded by Marilyn Menor to accept the April minutes. Motion passed.

Agenda item:

New business:

1. In order to meet the needs of members of St. John the Baptist parish, discussion centered around various mass options to offer parishioners during weekend masses (Saturday and Sunday). Only “low” mass and “high” mass were explored at this time. It was decided to offer a low mass on one weekend (Saturday and Sunday) during the month of August.
 - a. A “low” mass is comprised of an entrance song and exit song. Most of the mass would be “spoken” not “sung”.
 - b. A “high” mass is sung throughout by Father and Congregation. Song takes place during Entrance, Greeting, Kyrie, Gloria, Preface Dialogue, Preface Acclamation (Holy, Holy, Holy), Our Father, Lamb of God, Communion Antiphon, Final Blessing, Dismissal, Exit song.
2. To help facilitate Worship Committee meetings it was decided to maintain having one person serve as chairperson and each committee liaison would submit a written report at each meeting to alleviate notetaking. Hence a vice-chair and secretary are not required currently.

Old Business:

1. A logo committee was formed to search for a variety of St. John the Baptist logo designs. After three meetings (6+ hours of work), three designs were submitted to the Worship committee. After some deliberation, one design was unanimously selected to move on to the Parish Council for approval.

Committee reports:

Deacon Rich met with **Eucharistic Ministers** for instruction in distributing the “cup”. It was reported that new **Altar Servers** will be trained once Religious Education starts this fall. A schedule will be set up for the children.

Cathy R. reported that preparation for the Anniversary celebration for the **Church Environment** is underway. Collaboration with Kailhofer Greenhouse is in the works for flower planning. Gold and white are the chosen colors as shown on the Anniversary banners. Two refurbished

stain glass windows from the original St. John the Baptist church will be on the altar during the bishop's mass (September 7-8) and remain on display up to the Cemetery Walk (October).

Kim VH and Cathy R. will continue to go through church banners found in storage to determine what we still need to represent the solemnities as reported in the April Worship minutes.

Father Dass and Deacon Rich identified needs for the Church Environment. These article needs are the following: white altar clothes, two stoles that coordinate with palls for funeral mass, Easter candle, and two white albs. These items will be put on a Memorial list for donations from parishioners.

Marilyn Menor submitted a list of changes for **Cantors**. They are:

1. Opening statement by cantors will be eliminated since father also gives an opening statement.
2. Lectors will now read the Psalm and the Gospel Acclamation instead of the cantors. If the cantor chooses to sing the psalms and Gospel Acclamation they must notify the lector about this change.

It was also decided to ask a musician from St. Sebastian to train St. John the Baptist **Cantors** on how to use the laptop during mass. If our technology is not sufficient, we may need to update.

Lee Rynish discussed "collection" options (basket at each entrance of the church). This new idea would allow for the need of fewer **Ushers** and to save time before the offertory. After some discussion, Father Dass expressed that he would like to keep the collection procedure as is, to allow for all mass attendees (visitors and children as well) to financially contribute to St. John the Baptist.

It was discovered that the Hearing Loop in church works better if hearing aids are turned down. This will alleviate static and background sounds. It is important for parishioners to know the parish also owns two "hard of hearing" packs. These can be checked out as needed.

Father was very pleased with the three parishioners who served as **Sacristans** for weekend mass while he was on vacation. These individuals will continue to serve as sacristans and a schedule will be made for them.

Final Comments:

An annual calendar of parish and church events, liturgies, holy days, etc. Is being worked on to help with planning of church activities and events throughout the year.

Next Worship meeting: October 1, 2024. 6:00pm

Father Dass ended the meeting with prayer. The meeting closed at 7:50.