

Worship Committee meeting
January 23, 2024

Present: Father Dass, Deacon Rich Matuczak, Marilyn Menor, Cathy Rydzewski, Steve Kemp, Kim Van Handal (office manager), and Barbara Brandtner.

Absent: Lee Rynish, Kim Laabs, and Aaron Hietpas.

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

A motion was made and seconded to accept the September minutes including one correction.

Agenda item:

Aaron Hietpas has submitted **Worship job descriptions** for Extraordinary Eucharistic Minister, Altar Server, Lectors, and Sacristan. (Additional job descriptions for Cantor and Ushers have been submitted as of January 26th, 2024).

The Parish **Logo** design project is in its early stages. Adam Cary, professional Graphic Designer, has shown interest in helping create a logo design for St. John the Baptist. Designs will be submitted to the Worship Committee and Parish Council for selection. The chosen logo design will then be sent to the Green Bay Diocese for approval. No deadline has been set for finalizing this project, though it is desired to have a completed logo in time for our 150th celebration with the bishop.

It was discussed and decided to follow the school **cancellation** system for church activities (Religious Education classes, bible study, weekday morning mass, etc.) due to inclement weather. A contact sheet for morning mass attendees has been compiled in order to communicate with them regarding cancellation of weekday morning mass. Also, cancellations will be posted on the parish website. Weekend mass cancellation must be sanctioned by the Green Bay Diocese.

Ann Theroux has stepped down from the position of **Scheduling**. Discussion followed on how we will move forward with the scheduling of the various committees. Ushers and Cantors are scheduled consistently from month to month, but, Altar Servers scheduling poses a bigger concern. Kim Van Handel (office manager) will explore apps to automatically schedule the different ministry participants. (Ministry Schedule Pro?)

Sub-committee reports:

*Deacon Rich reported that he has met with most weekend mass **Eucharistic Ministers** and instructed them on set-up and clean-up of church vessels. Many of the Ministers also attended the Diocesan Eucharistic Ministers Fall workshop. All is going well except that some of the Eucharistic Ministers forget to wear the metal indicating their participation in this ministry during mass.

Deacon has expressed that we are basically starting “from scratch” with a new batch of **altar servers** since the covid pandemic. He has personally scheduled the newest altar servers to serve at mass as soon as possible following their initial training. He is pleased with the results though older students have not been helping as much as he would like. Discussion followed exploring ways to remind students and their parents to serve when scheduled. It was suggested to use automatic reminders via texts. Kim will explore this.

*Marilyn Menor reported that the search continues for a **Music Minister and Music Accompanist**. It has been noted that Sam Goeben will only play one weekend per month starting in July 1, 2024. She will no longer select music for our liturgy or play at any other services or holy days.

Cantors will be encouraged to use the **music technology** we have with our sound system. Technology training with our sound system will be necessary in the near future for cantors. It also was suggested to select familiar songs during mass for more parishioner participation. Practicing new songs before mass has been suggested.

The Diocese is asking that Cantors no longer gesture when the congregation should join in singing. This action was left over from Vatican II and it is no longer necessary.

*Cathy Rydzewski has planned to use green, yellow and purple for Fat Sunday colors. Ash Wednesday and Lent will have a simpler décor in church. The **Church Environment décor** for the anniversary mass is in the planning stage. The restored stain glass windows from St. John the Baptist's previous parish church building will be on display at this celebration. More to be announced . . .

Ushers will be asked to hand out the hard copies of Father's homily as parishioners enter the building. A reminder that these printouts are available will be posted in the bulletin.

Father Dass has been training some parishioners in **Sacristan** duties. We are still looking for a Sacristan liaison to help Father oversee this committee.

Final Comments:

The **Stations of the Cross** will take place on Wednesday evenings this Lenten season. The series, The Chosen, Season 2, will be shown following the Stations of the Cross.

A **Lenten Bible Study** will take place starting the Thursday before Ash Wednesday and continue throughout Lent.

A pix (a container for the Eucharist which allows it to be consumed later) will be placed on the Cantor's lectern beginning the first weekend in February. This allows the Cantor to receive the Eucharist immediately before or after the communion song.

Items to raffle for Fat Sunday are still needed.

The **Open House** for the new rectory will take place on February 18, 2024. More details to come.

Outreach to non-participating parishioners was discussed. What is their status as many still donate treasure?

Next Worship meeting: April 16, 2024.

Father Dass ended the meeting with prayer. The meeting closed at 7:30