

## **Prayer & Worship Minutes**

### **Dec. 6, 2021**

**Attendees:** Suzanne Biedenbender, Julie Binder, Pam Huiras, Darrell Boeck, Matthew Boeck, Pam Barton, Bryan Bichler, Leon Jacoby, Peter Bemis and Sally Hammen

*The goals of the Prayer & Worship committee are:*

- *to nourish and give direction to the liturgical aspects in the parish*
- *to provide opportunities for parishioners to deepen their faith through a variety of prayer experiences and liturgical celebrations, especially the Sunday Mass*
- *to assist in promoting the spiritual growth of parishioners*
- *to maintain an ongoing training program for liturgical ministers.*

Meeting started at 6:30 pm. Minutes from October 4th were approved.

### **Old Business**

1. **Rosary before Mass** – We prayed the rosary before Sunday Masses during Oct. in RL and at 1:00 in Dacada.
2. **Blessing of Pets** – Father blessed pets on Sunday, Oct. 10 at 2:15 pm at Holy Cross
3. **Rosary Procession** - We held a rosary procession thru downtown Random Lake after Sunday Mass on Oct. 31. Father Gideon participated with the Eucharist. Pam Barton talked at the Oct. 24 Mass and encouraged parishioners to participate. It was well attended and we had hospitality afterwards, which helped people socialize.
4. **All Saints' Day** – We celebrated All Saints on the weekend of Oct. 30/31. The names of the deceased in the cluster were read at the beginning of Mass. Human Concerns had sent out letters to OLL parishioners who have lost someone during the past year inviting them to the Mass or to the cemetery services on Nov. 2. We had a table in front of the altar with 12 vigil lights lit before every Mass during November to honor our dead. OLL also had an Eternal Life Tree placed on Mary's altar during November with memorial cards of deceased parishioners.
5. **Nov. 2 All Souls' Day** – Leon conducted prayer services in the cemeteries: 10:00 am in Adell (8 attendees), 1:30 in Cascade (3 attendees), 3:00 in RL (19 attendees) & 4:00 in Lake Church (19 attendees). Father Gideon held a service in Dacada on Oct. 31 at 1:00 pm (20 attendees).
6. **Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service** took place at Zion Methodist Church in Batavia on Nov. 24. At 6:00 pm. Father Gideon joined the pastors from Zion Methodist, St. John's UCC and St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Random Lake. Between 50 – 60 attended.
7. **Thanksgiving Day Mass** was held at OLL at 9:00 am. with a joint cluster choir. Attendance was 148. After Mass the parishioners helped replace the Breaking Bread books and decorate for the Advent season.
8. **Advent** – This year the theme is "Emmanuel, God with Us". Suzanne found 4 families to light the Advent wreath candles at the beginning of Mass.
9. **Immaculate Conception** – Wednesday, Dec. 8 – Mass was at OLL at 8:30 am with the DSCS students in attendance. Attendance was 235 of which 125 were DS students and teachers. There was an evening Mass at Holy Cross at 6:00 pm.

10. **Advent Cluster Reconciliation Service** – Service will be at 5:30 pm at Holy Cross on Friday, Dec. 17.
11. **Christmas Masses** – Christmas Eve: 4:30 pm at Holy Cross (Father Gideon)  
5:00 pm at Random Lake (Father Tom Neitzke)  
Midnight at Dacada (Father Guy)  
Christmas Day (Saturday): 9:00 am at OLL (Father Gideon)  
NO Sat. evening 4:30 Mass at HC; regular Sunday Masses
12. **New Year's Eve:** Friday, Dec. 31 Mass at OLL at 6:00 pm  
**New Year's Day:** regular Saturday 4:30 pm Mass at Holy Cross
13. **Welcome Card** – Suzanne passed out the new Welcome Card composed by Pam Huiras and Natalie Brochtrup. Deb Hamm has printed them on card stock and they will be in the pews this coming week. One side of the card is aimed at young families with children and gives them encouragement to bring their children to Mass. The other side of the card encourages parishioners to help these families feel welcome at church. It is very well written and the committee really liked it.

#### **New Business –**

- **High School Chamber Singers** – the Chamber Singers were scheduled to sing at Mass on Dec. 19. They would have to wait until after Communion, which seemed inconvenient. So Suzanne discussed this with Father and Nikki Anderson, the choral director at school. All agreed that it would be better to sing at hospitality on that Sunday and then the group can do a longer program.
- **Offertory Collection** - There was some discussion about the ushers again using baskets to collect the offertory money and envelopes in order to increase our cash collection. However Terri has done a study and found that our cash input is only down 10% since covid. Many parishioners are now giving online and we are in good shape financially. Father would like to keep the baskets at the doors permanently, since people are comfortable with this method and it keeps the money collection at a lower key. We also discussed the idea to reinstate the offertory procession with only the money basket. Father will consider this idea after Easter.
- **Ciborium refurbish or replace** - the sacristans would like to either refurbish our tarnished Ciborium or replace it. Suzanne got a quote from Stempers of \$450 to refurbish our current Ciborium. A new one would cost \$335. Father has approved our buying a new ciborium which holds 300 hosts from Stempers. The order was placed on Wednesday. The ushers also asked that we have a covered dish to take Communion to the overflow room. A windy day can cause problems for the Eucharistic Minister when crossing the parking lot. So we will now use an extra covered smaller ciborium for overflow.
- **Prayer for Peace** – the year of St. Joseph ends on Dec. 8. We will replace the “Prayer to St. Joseph” with the “Prayer of Peace” that is found on the back cover of Breaking Bread. This will start on Dec. 12 and be prayed at the beginning of Mass.
- **Name tags** - a parishioner brought up the idea of having name tags at church. The committee felt that it would be difficult to do at Mass with some people not wanting to do it and many people coming right before Mass begins and there being too much congestion. However we would like to make name tags available at hospitality, so that parishioners get to know each other at that time.
- **“Love One Another” Catholic campaign** – Peter Bemis updated us on the “Love One Another”

campaign that will kickoff on March 20. There will be 3 co-chairpersons to run the campaign, which will run for 5 years. The goal for our parish is \$482,000 and there will be a 60/40 split with the archdiocese. Our parish will receive 60% of the money for projects like refunding the roof project, a new sound system for church, tuck pointing the outside of church and new chapel doors.

- **Eucharistic Adoration** – It was brought to our attention that only 62% of Catholics believe that Jesus is truly present in the Holy Eucharist. The idea was presented to promote some education on this doctrine and possibly have 40 Hours of Adoration sometime during Lent. Father felt that we currently have 3 opportunities for Adoration within the cluster, which should be sufficient. However we could have an article in the bulletin to promote this doctrine and encourage people to attend current Adoration opportunities.
- **Family of Faith** – Pam Barton updated us about their Epiphany project to hand out blessed holy water and chalk to all our school children during religious education and to parishioners on Epiphany. This is a custom where families mark the door headers in their homes with chalk and then bless their house to have God protect their home and family. The water and chalk were blessed at the end of Mass on Dec. 8 – the feast of the Immaculate Conception.

Adjourned at 7:45 pm

Next meeting: Cluster Prayer & Worship meeting on Jan. 11, 2022 (Tuesday)  
at Holy Cross church basement.

Next OLL meeting: March 7 at 6:30 pm in parish center (Father doesn't think we need a meeting in February, since we have the cluster meeting in January)

Respectfully submitted,  
Suzanne Biedenbender