

## **Prayer & Worship Minutes**

### **November 6, 2023**

**Attendees:** Suzanne Biedenbender, Sally Hammen, Pam Barton, Bryan Bichler, Kati Dimmer, Peter Bemis, Darrell Boeck, Jim Steffen, Brady Bemis, Leon Birenbaum, Pam Huiras

*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 were approved prior

#### **Old Business**

1. - Rosary was prayed before Mass in Oct. in RL and at 1:00 in Dacada.
- 2.- Eucharistic Adoration is currently the second Wednesday of the month from 4-6:00 at OLL. DS has Adoration the first Monday of the month at St. Rose from 2:00-5:30. St. Nics has Adoration on the second Sunday of the month during the months of April through November from 1:30-3:30. Brady Bemis and Jim Steffen have put together a schedule to begin November 30, on Thursday nights from 5:00-7:00, offering Adoration weekly so as to have consistency. The hope is for it to grow in attendance. People will need to learn how to properly expose and repose the Eucharist. We also need to figure out a way to unlock the church. Suzanne suggested the office unlock it when they leave their work day on Thursdays. Deacon Al from St. Joseph in Grafton, came and exposed and reposed the Blessed Sacrament in October for the religious ed students. He will be back on Dec. 13th and April 10th.
- 3.- Confession is offered at OLL every week following the 8:00 am Mass on Wednesdays.
- 4.- Blessing of Pets was October 7 @ Holy Cross parking lot. It was led by Deb with about 6 animals and their owners attending. We will discuss if we want to offer this moving forward.
5. Scripture and the Eucharist with Dr. Dan Scholz was a two night series offered in October. It was nicely attended.
- 6.- Confirmation was held on October 21 @ Holy Cross. Bishop Haines was the presider. It will be our last confirmation in the fall. This coming spring we will celebrate confirmation as in the past.
- 7.- All Saints Day was Tues. Nov 1. Masses were at 8:00 am in Random Lake and 6:00 pm in Holy Cross. Leon led prayer services in each of the cluster cemeteries for All Souls Day. St. Pat had 5 attendees, Cascade 3, Random Lake 3, St. Nic 19, Lake Church 11. The names of the deceased from both parishes were read at the Nov. 4th and 5th masses. New this year was a banner board displaying the names of our deceased parish members from the previous year. We also displayed a tree of Life under the Blessed Mother for the month.
- 8.- Nov. 22 Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service is at the high school in RL @ 6:30 pm.
9. Thanksgiving Day Mass is at 9:00 am at OLL. It is a rotating schedule with Fredonia.

There is a 175th anniversary mass on Nov 25 @ 11:00 at St. Nics. On Nov. 25, 1848, Bishop Henni blessed the log cabin church and established it as a mission parish. After mass, there will be a potluck meal in the basement. If you want to attend the potluck, feel free to bring a dish to pass. For more details, contact Denise @ 920-980-4491 or email her at dnddimmer@hotmail.com

10.-Julie Binder and Lori Hubing are working hard on final touches for the “Night in Bethlehem” on Friday Dec. 1 from 4:00-8:00 in the parish center. This event is along with the “Night of Lights”.

11.- December 8 is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. It is a Holy day of Obligation. Mass will be at 8:00 am at St Rose and 6:00 pm at OLL.

12.-A Saturday morning of reflection on Dec. 9 with Dr. Dan Scholz speaking from 9:00-11:30 will be held in the OLL parish center.

13.-We will be handing out an Advent bag the first week of Advent with items to help parishioners reflect on the four weeks of Advent which represent Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. Families will light the Advent wreath at the beginning of Mass. Suzanne will find families for OLL at 8:15.

14.- Advent cluster Reconciliation is Thursday Dec. 14 at 6:00 in Holy Cross with private confessions to follow.

Christmas schedule

**Dec. 24 4:00 at Holy Cross, Fr. Don Thimm**

**Dec. 24 5:00 at OLL, Fr. Tom Neitzke**

**Dec. 24, Midnight, Dacada, Fr. Guy Gurath**

**Dec. 25, 9:00 am OLL, Fr. Steve Lampe**

**New Years Day 9:00 am in Holy Cross. Because of it landing on Monday, it is not a Holy Day of Obligation and we will not be having a mass of anticipation.**

**We are in need of Eucharistic Ministers for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day masses**

### **New Business**

- Pam B asked opinion on the Epiphany kits to give to our parish families. They are well received. We will plan to give them out again.
- Pam H brought up refurbishing Mary and Joseph in the community room. She will look into getting an idea on the cost and Brady will be talking to the finance committee.
- We will be having an Encounter Night on Feb. 29th at OLL. Fr. Tom DeVries will be the speaker. This is really a beautiful way to adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. It begins with a speaker and praise music, there is Adoration with exposition, reposition and benediction with confessions being offered during that time also. It is a beautiful night to spend with our Lord.
- Leon suggested the All Souls Day service be after masses next year as it falls on a Saturday.
- It has been suggested that the Eucharistic Revival bookmark be prayed during mass.
- Deb clarified that we are not at liberty to add prayers to the Mass. It is the perfect prayer. We can certainly have a periodic announcement in the bulletin to call attention to those prayer cards (as we already have done), and use them as often as you want to pray them at meetings. I can also add an announcement in the Mass column periodically about additional prayers available to folks during the Mass (which I have also already done). Since cards are disappearing from the books, we can certainly assume that folks are taking them and praying them at home.
- Is it proper procedure for the last adorers to say the divine praises before reposing the Eucharist?

- Deb's explanation: Although it is true that some of the more traditional websites might say that only Priests or Deacons can lead the Adorers in the Divine Praises, it is the EUCHARISTIC BLESSING before the Reposition that is restricted to a Priest or Deacon.
- 
- Words are very important here, as I was repeatedly taught in my three semesters of Canon Law Classes.
- 
- Please refer to the directions inside the Back Cover of the Breaking Bread Missalette. Just before the Divine Praises and the Holy God lyrics, it states: **Reposition: After the blessing, the minister (*here it does not say Priest or Deacon as it does earlier on the page*) places the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle. The people may say an acclamation or sing another song such as the following:** **" This directive is followed by the Divine Praises and the Holy God lyrics.** Since there are generally few people at the reposition, singing is sometimes difficult, so I choose the Divine Praises.
- 
- I have been told that we can pray the Divine Praises before reposing the Eucharist or after it is in the tabernacle.. However, it is up to the person reposing if they feel comfortable doing so at all. I prefer praying the Divine Praises while the Blessed Sacrament is still on the Altar.
- 
- If the person reposing the Blessed Sacrament is the only one present in church, or if they are uncomfortable leading the Divine Praises, there is no need do pray them, or that person could pray them silently
- 
- The bottom line is, if you are reposing the Eucharistic, when it comes to praying the Divine Praises or even singing the Holy God, or doing neither, do what you are most comfortable with.
- 
- 
- 
- 

Next meeting: Joint Prayer and Worship meeting. Tuesday January 9, 2024 @ 6:30 at Holy Cross. We will stay after the meeting if further discussion is needed.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Huiras