

Prayer & Worship Minutes

Dec. 14, 2020

Attendees: Suzanne Biedenbender, Pam Barton, Bryan Bichler, Leon Jacoby, Peter Bemis, Sally Hammen and 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 from October 5th were approved.

Old Business

- **Nov. 1 All Saints' Day** – Feast day occurred Sunday. Names of the deceased in the cluster were read before all the weekend Masses. The names of the deceased were also printed in the bulletin.
- **Nov. 2 All Souls' Day** – Leon and Amanda conducted prayer services in the cemeteries: 10:00 am in Adell (7 attendees), 1:30 in Cascade (6 attendees) & 4:00 in RL (10 attendees). A service was held in Dacada on Nov. 1 at 1:00 led by Father Gideon (40 attendees)
- **Nov. 25** – The Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service was held at OLL at 6:30. About 35 people attended the service.
- **Nov. 28** – Thanksgiving Day Mass was held in Holy Cross at 9:00 am.
- **Advent wreath** – Families are lighting the Advent candles at the beginning of Mass.
- **Dec. 8 Immaculate Conception** – Mass of Anticipation was held at HC on Monday at 6:00 pm. Tuesday an 8:00 am Mass was held with the DSCS students and a 6:00 pm Mass was held in Random Lake (100 attended).
- **Advent cluster reconciliation** service was held on Tuesday 12/15 at 5:30 pm at HC.
- **Christmas decorations** – Julie Binder plans to start decorating on Wed. 12/16. She will add the figures and poinsettias on Dec. 23. Father plans to bless the Christmas trees and then have them lit during the 4th Sunday of Advent Mass.
- **Christmas Masses:** Christmas Eve: 4:30 in Holy Cross (Fr. Gideon);
4:45 pm in Dacada (Fr. Guy);
5:00 pm in RL (Fr. Tom);
Midnight Mass in Dacada (Fr. Guy)
Christmas Day: 9:00 am in HC (Fr. Gideon)

The committee discussed opening the church doors at 4:15 in RL instead of 4:30 pm. The ushers really want to make people feel welcome. Father agrees to the change, but the parish will not advertise the earlier opening time. The committee also discussed the internet problem with live streaming the Mass. The group recommends that the parish have the internet upgraded, even though there will be a monthly charge of \$80. They feel the internet is the future, that the staff should have the upgrade for use in their offices and that it be available in the classrooms for the CRE teachers to use if a student needs to

participate in religious ed using Zoom. Peter Bemis and his son Cole also volunteered to work with Terry and the group trying to find a solution for wiring the gym for a direct feed. The ushers find the sound delay between the community room and gym really disturbing, since one can hear the delay between the two rooms.

- **New Year:** Mass of Anticipation on Dec. 31 in RL at 6:00 pm. New Years' Day Mass Jan. 1 in Holy Cross at 9:00 am.
- **Family of Faith** prayer group update – Pam Barton updated us on the Stations of Christmas which was held last Thursday. The group really likes to meet in person to share their intentions and to pray together. In that light, the group will begin praying the rosary before the Wednesday morning Mass on a regular basis. There will also be a book of intentions that parishioners can write in on Mary's altar. Pam also brought up the fact that the Pope has declared 2021 the Year of St. Joseph. The group felt it would be nice for the congregation to say a prayer to St. Joseph after every Mass during 2021. Father said that the Archdiocese is presently discussing this idea and is looking at a prayer that can be used throughout the Archdiocese.

New Business

- **Ministry Fair** – Father Gideon would like to pursue the ministry fair during Lent. More details will be forthcoming.
- **Wording on side altars** – Pam Huiras called Heidi at Conrad Schmidt to discuss the dark wording on the side altars. Heidi has pictures of our problem and recommends that a professional fix the problem. It would be a 3-step process to prepare the wood and apply gold leaf to the letters. The cost would be under \$2000 and take about 2 days. This will be taken to the Council for consideration.

Adjourned at 7:20 pm

Next meeting: Feb. 1, 2021 at 6:30 pm in parish center

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne Biedenbender