

Adult Faith Formation Minutes: September 23, 2025

Meeting started at 7:00PM via Zoom. Members present: Sharon Brabson, Lori Carlson, Deacon Peery Duderstaad, Jan Liss, and Angela Packard

Following Check-In, Jan led us in and opening prayer.

Entrust Alumni Debrief: All agreed it was good meeting with 13 in attendance including two guests from Saint Joe's who had attended our last Entrust retreat. They offered to work with our new Men's Group and introduce them to a "This Man is You", a national program for men they have found very helpful. We also practiced Share Prayer with a partner and are encouraged to carry this forward with others.

Eucharistic Adoration: Deacon David will talk on this topic on October 22 in Fish Creek at 2:00PM. He had asked our committee to flush out what we wanted him to cover during that time. A good discussion ensued. The following thoughts were compiled for Deacon David:

We discussed in more detail what we are hoping to accomplish with a talk on the Eucharist, in particular adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. It was a good discussion as we all had thoughts about adoration, and it was good to have Lori Carlson on our committee. As a recent convert of about two years, she had an interesting perspective and excitement about the Eucharist. Questions to contemplate are: What, exactly is Eucharistic Adoration? Why do we do this? How do you 'do' it? I believe these may be questions to some cradle Catholics also.

It might even be helpful to show the monstrance and how it holds the consecrated host (Jesus!). I think it might even be of value to explain the term 'monstrance' comes from the Latin word *monstrare*, meaning "to show". Our discussion went on to say the 'how you do it' has no particular outline or requirement. It is personal time between you and Jesus. You can spend 10 minutes or two hours or anything in between. Perhaps you could even talk about how some churches have a set time during the week to leave the Eucharist in the monstrance for adoration and some actually have a 24 hour chapel or location where folks can come in and visit Jesus at any time. Or there may be something in between these two examples.

We discussed how this may include some scheduled time for those who are present to say a rosary, some other prayers or hymns together. But there is also time for individual devotion, prayer and just 'being' in God's presence in this very special way. Lori (our recent convert) liked the freedom and openness of adoration to share this time with Jesus in her own way. We talked about folks who liked to journal, draw or read as part of their personal time. We discussed just sitting in quiet and letting Jesus talk to us. One said she liked the simplicity of it. I like the chance just 'to be' and not need to be doing something.

We would like to include Benediction; what it is, why we do it, and how it includes a blessing from the consecrated host, Jesus! Perhaps you would talk for 20 or 30 minutes offer time for questions and then allow 10 minutes for Eucharistic Adoration followed by Benediction.

Catechism Study Update: Angela said the Faith Formation Classes will begin again on October 12. All parishioners are invited to attend the Catechism sessions at 9:30 in Baileys Harbor. The children will be learning the same topic appropriate for their level with our Faith Formation Teachers. The parents and all interested adults will meet separately in an Adult Session. The theme this year will be 'Getting to Heaven'. Angela will order the books and announcements at Mass. Sharon will include in the October Adult Faith Formation article.

Prayer Walk / Labyrinth: Jan and Sharon visited the labyrinth at Spa at Sacred Ground. They felt it might be too small for more than two people or so to walk it at the same time. It is in a quiet spot and could be good for a quiet time for one or two folks. We briefly discussed the potential of Stella Maris creating a labyrinth but there would be some work and planning to do so. Further discussion will be needed.

Pastoral Center Resource: Jan shared a resource available through the Restoral Center Resources. One was for an annual resource on Sunday Readings including: Gathering, Opening Prayer, Overview, Gospel Readings, Reflection Questions and Action. This would be similar to our advent and Lent Small Groups but be an annual resource for all Sunday Readings. Another nice feature is these resources can be printed out online after a minimal one-time charge. Jan will order and share before our next meeting.

Advent Small Groups: Jan will reach out to current leaders to determine their willingness to lead for the upcoming Advent. We will also include discussion on any additional Small Groups at our October meeting.

Calendar for 2025 will be included on the October FF agenda. All should think about what programs we would want to continue, modify or add.

Next Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday October 15 at 10:00AM via Zoom.

Closing Prayer was led by Lori.