

Worship Commission Minutes January 10, 2023

1. **Opening Prayer and Check-in** – *Present at the meeting were Father Tom, Deacon Tony, Beth Screnock, Debi Anderson, Connie Brandt, Mary Gomoll, Marilyn Holland, Mickie Mostardi, Shirley Raasch, and Kathy Wolff with Diane Kahlscheuer and Marian Irmen attending via Zoom. The reflection reading was called “The Work of Christmas”.*
2. **Approval of Oct. 25, 2022 minutes** – *After a change requested by Beth, Kathy Wolff moved to approve the October 25th minutes and Marilyn & Mickie seconded it.*

3. LITURGICAL MINISTRIES UPDATES

- a. **MSP Updates** – *Beth stated that the next MSP schedule will run from Ash Wednesday through May 20/21, the weekend before Memorial Day weekend.*
- b. **Liturgy of the Word with Communion** – *Held at Fish Creek on Mondays at 8:00 am; six trained ministers take turns leading this*
- c. **Mass at Scand** – *Father Tom will say Mass at 10:30 am on the 2nd Thursday of the month in the Gathering Room at the Meadows.*
- d. **Music Updates and Info**
 - Supplement Replacement – *This is a work in progress!*
 - +*Beth is working to replace the current Worship Guide that has been in the pews for a few years. She has held two meetings so far with parishioners and cantors invited to participate. Only a few people attended.*
 - +*Diane suggested inviting parishioners to contribute ideas for songs which are not in our hymnal.*
 - +*Diane also asked if there could be a Zoom option for future meetings regarding the supplement.*
 - +*We talked about including an outline of the Mass with response prayers in the front of the new worship supplement to help those who are returning to church. The supplement could also be taken to Scand for Masses held there.*
 - Choir Update – *The SMART choir meets for practice on Thursdays at 4:30 in Fish Creek and sings every 3rd week alternating through our various church sites.*
 - Lessons and Carols –
 - +*Held on December 15th at Egg Harbor, this service was very well-received by all who attended. A guest singer and the SMART choir shared the carols, Colin Welford accompanied, 8-9 readers read the lessons, lots of folks attended, and several ladies from the parish CCW provided treats and served guests afterwards. Beth received many positive comments.*
 - +*For next year, Beth would like to try to get information and posters out to other Northern Door churches, radio, and the Peninsula Pulse.*
 - +*Diane suggested afterwards that perhaps some of the rehearsals could be held at a time that a few parishioners from Washington Island could also participate, taking into account the more limited ferry schedule at that time of year.*

- “New” piano at SB –
+A beautiful, well- built, and very gently-used upright piano has been purchased and donated for use at Sister Bay. The piano will stay on the main floor to the left of the sanctuary. It has been tuned and is ready to be played.
+Beth is looking to find a piano cover to protect this instrument and help it stay tuned.
+Beth offered to do a little piano concert for parishioners, an afternoon soiree. The date chosen was Tuesday, February 21st at 2:00 PM.

4. **OLD BUSINESS**

- Comments on the current Mass schedule – All okay.**
 (Saturday – 10:30 AM WI, 4 PM FC, 6 PM EH; Sunday – 8 AM BH, 10 AM SB)
- Comments on the Christmas 2022 Mass Schedule – 624 attended a Christmas Mass.**
All agreed that the bitter cold, windy weather affected attendance. Father Tom was unable to get to the Island because the ferry wasn’t running, so Diane and Larry hosted Christmas Liturgy of the Word with Communion in their home.

Saturday, Dec. 24, 2022

10:30 AM Washington Island (35)
 4:00 PM Sister Bay (339)
 7:00 PM Fish Creek (62)
 9:00 PM Egg Harbor (35)

Sunday, Dec. 25, 2022

8:00 AM Baileys Harbor (78)
 10:00 AM Jacksonport (75)

c. **Fall Ordinary Time:**

- Rosary update –** *Someone is leading the rosary before Mass each week at BH and SB. EH and FC don’t have regular leaders yet. Comments were made asking that the leaders don’t pray the rosary too slowly. They need to be finished by 15 minutes before Mass time to allow the sacristans, musicians, and cantors time to prepare. Also, a reminder that leaders shouldn’t take time to meditate in between decades of the rosary.*
- Comments on the poster and candles for November, the Month of Remembrance of our beloved dead –** *Deacon mentioned that they are starting a plan to make sure others are included on the list whether their funeral was held at Stella Maris or elsewhere for former parishioners. Using the Book of the Dead where people could write the names of their beloved dead was also suggested. Bringing out a Book of Prayer again, something which had been put away during the pandemic years, is another good idea.*
- Ecumenical Thanksgiving Services -** *This year, Diane played at Bethel for the Thanksgiving Eve service on Washington Island. She stated that it would be nice to have parish involvement in future ecumenical services on the Island. Next year, Stella Maris will return to participate in the Thanksgiving Eve service with Immanuel Lutheran in Baileys Harbor.*

d. Advent 2022

- **Comments on environment** – *All the churches were nicely decorated for Advent with prominent Advent wreaths and incorporating the purple color.*
- **Advent reflection booklets** – *These booklets were well-received. We had enough reflection booklets available this year, with a total of 20 left over.*

e. Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary mass times

Wednesday, December 7 – 5:30 PM at BH

Thursday, December 8 – 8:00 AM at SB

12:00 Noon at EH

6:30 PM on WI - Liturgy of the Word with Communion at
Larry and Diane's

f. Our Lady of Guadalupe celebration – *A potluck was held after the 10 AM Mass in SB on the Sunday before Dec. 12th. It was agreed that we would continue this tradition next year.*

g. Advent Reconciliation times – *Week of Dec. 12-16 – Father Tom felt that Reconciliation went well. Jacksonport had the fewest, but Thur. at SB and Friday at BH were busy. A suggestion for next year was made to publicize in the bulletin the opportunity to receive Reconciliation before Mass on the Island so that more parishioners would come early to receive the sacrament.*

h. Christmas Decorations Review & Comments

1. Poinsettias – *Schroeder Flowers delivered 56 plants on Dec. 20 – We could use more help with pickup and delivery. Many of our environment people were out of town or unavailable, so a few people did most of the work.*
2. Trees – *Father Tom purchased new trees for EH & JP.*
3. *Father Tom also purchased a new larger Baby Jesus for FC.*
4. *\$1880 was donated for Christmas flowers. Our bill at Schroeder's was \$1156. We will save the extra to use for Easter flowers and will also ask for donations prior to Easter to help defray the cost for Easter flowers.*

i. Winter Ordinary Time begins on **Tuesday, Jan. 10.** *Since this was an exceptionally short Christmas season, Father Tom decided that we could leave up the trees and creche for an extra week. They will be taken down after the Jan. 14/15 mass.*

NEW BUSINESS

1. **The Bishop has asked** that parishes find time to allow **churches to be open** during the day for prayer. *At this time, our parish churches are open for prayer during the following times: FC - Mon. from 8-4; JP – Tues. from 8-4; EH – Mon. through Fri. from 8-4, unless the office is closed; SB – Thur. from 8-4; BH – Wed. through Fri. from 8-4.*
2. **Looking for a New Liaison to the Pastoral Council** – *Kathy Wolff, our Worship Commission liaison to the Pastoral Council, shared that the PC is looking for 4 new members from the parish to be part of this consultative group. They are looking for broader input and new ideas from within the parish community. The liaison position comes with a 3-year commitment to*

attend Pastoral Council meetings and a willingness to take a position on the council. There will be 5 liaisons + 7 at-large positions. The Worship liaison carries communication between the pastoral council and Worship Commission. Kathy will be available to help a new liaison.

- 3. Candlemas Candles / Blessing of the Throat** – *Blessing of candles on Candlemas Day, Thursday, Feb. 2nd at SB. Father will also bless the candles before each of the weekend liturgies on Feb. 4/5. Feast of St. Blaise, Friday, Feb. 3rd at BH – Father will bless throats. Father Tom will bless throats before and after all weekend liturgies, Feb. 4/5.*
- 4. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22. Triduum begins on Holy Thursday, April 6. Easter is Sunday, April 9.**
- 5. Lenten Reflection Booklets** *will be placed in all our churches by weekend of Feb. 11/12. Not By Bread Alone from Liturgical Press and Little Black Books from the Diocese of Saginaw will be available.*
- 6. Ash Wednesday Masses** – *Father Tom and Deacon Tony will distribute ashes at all Ash Wednesday liturgies. Last year, we had: 8 AM at EH, 12 noon at SB, 5:30 PM at BH. As discussed at a parish staff meeting, this year's Ash Wednesday Masses will be held at: 8:00 AM – EH, 4:30 PM – BH to include the Faith Formation students, 7:00 PM – SB to include Confirmation students and those who work during the day.*
- 7. Stations of the Cross** – *Stations of the Cross will be prayed on Fridays at 4 PM in SB. The Knights of Columbus will hold a fish fry following Stations several times during Lent. Beth ordered 100 new Stations of the Cross booklets. Most of the booklets will go to SB, with a few booklets available at each church site for people to pray the Stations there.*
- 8. Environment Suggestions** – *The liturgical color is violet. The violet altar cloth should be used if you have one. Any decorations should be simple. No blossoming plants, but a few green plants are okay. Use of wood, stones, sticks or a bare tree, or a cross are okay. If possible, the statues and crucifix should be covered with purple cloth from the 5th Week of Lent (March 25-26) through Good Friday (April 7).*
- 9. Music Suggestions** – *Either a small choir or an ensemble will sing for the Triduum services.*
- 10. Planning for Holy Week** – *Planning for Palm Sunday, Reconciliation times, Triduum, and Easter Sunday will take place on **Tuesday, January 31st at 10:30 AM at EH**. Anyone is welcome to participate.*

Next Worship Commission Meeting – Tuesday, April 18th, 10:30 AM at EH

Closing Prayer