

## WORSHIP Commission Minutes - December 9, 2025

### 10:30 am, Egg Harbor Church Basement

**Members present:** *Father Tom, Deacon Tony, Kathy Wolff, Connie Brandt, Angela Packard, Larry Leporte, Mary Gomoll, Shirley Raasch, Mickie Mostardi, Diane Kahlscheuer, Mike & Lynn Collom,*

**Leader of prayer:** *Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be*

**Approval of minutes from the November 11, 2025** - *Connie Moved to approve the minutes; Kathy seconded the motion.*

### **OLD BUSINESS:** Review

#### **1. November, the Month of Remembrance of our beloved dead**

*All the Posters looked very good. Someone noted that MaryAnn Duderstadt was not listed on the poster. Angela stated, there wasn't a funeral service of any kind for her here in our parish. The parish policy is to include only parish members and/or if there was a funeral/memorial mass or burial blessing at a parish site. It wasn't checked if they were registered parish members. Next year Angela will be certain to check the parish records.*

#### **2. Advent/Christmas flyer**

*The flyer looked good but could have had a Header like the Lenten flyer.*

#### **3. Advent/Christmas reflection booklets**

*There are a few books left at each site. After the 3rd Advent weekend mass, Mary will check each site for a final count of remaining books. It was discussed that many people may be using on-line prayer sites rather than taking the book. Father Tom stated he really liked having the book to hold and read. Mary and Connie will discuss how many to order next year after the final count of remaining books.*

#### **4. Thanksgiving Ecumenical service**

*It was a lovely service and the Baileys Harbor Sodality did a great job providing the food for fellowship time after the service. The weather wasn't good so it affected the attendance of only 30 people. This was only the 2nd service since Covid 19 so it may take earlier advertising for people to remember the service. In the future we may want to consider asking ministers from other churches to participate in the service which might bring their parishioners to the service.*

#### **5. Thanksgiving Day Mass – Thursday, November 27 – Mass at SB at 8:00 AM**

*The attendance was good*

#### **6. Advent Vespers - Tuesday, 4:00, FC**

*Deacon Tony stated the attendance was low. Some days attendance may be affected by bad weather. This was the first time we offered this service during Advent.*

#### **7. Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Monday, December 8 - 8 am Fish Creek, 6 pm Baileys Harbor, Washington Island**

The attendance at FC was 76, BH was 30, and WI was 16. Father forgot to announce the place and time at a few masses. and the bulletin stated Monday was still a Liturgy of the Word not a Mass. This needs to be changed when ever there is a Holy Day landing on a Monday.

**\* Father Tom added information from Matt Livingston from the Compass**

Matt will be emailing Larry about information from the Green Bay Diocese about the Nation's 250th Anniversary and how the Diocese can honor this anniversary in the parishes. The Diocese would like 26 parishes to schedule a Day of Adoration or a Holy Hour. They gave a list of weeks each site could choose from to schedule the Day for the Adoration at their parish. The parish can schedule their Day of Adoration or Holy Hour any time during the week they choose. Father Tom stated it would be hard for our parish and other small parishes to hold a whole Day of Adoration. The EH site already holds a 1 hr Adoration weekly, while there is a monthly Adoration at SB. Father Tom stated the 1st week of February would be a good week to choose because the bishop is coming to Baileys Harbor on Feb 1st to bless the new marble altar top. We could schedule our Holy Hour on Tuesday Feb 3, the feast of St. Blaise, at Baileys Harbor. The day would start with the Rosary at noon, followed by the Holy Hour, and Blessing of the Throats.

**LOOKING AHEAD IN DECEMBER**

1. **Our Lady of Guadalupe (Friday, 12/12)** 8 am at Baileys Harbor

Father Tom added a 10:00 am Mass at SB for the home schoolers. Mickie said she would find a sacristan for the Mass,

2. **Extra Advent Reconciliation Times**

The times and locations are listed on the Advent flyer: Monday 12/15 - FC 5-6pm,; Tuesday 12/16 - JP 5-6pm; Wednesday 12/17 - EH after 8am Mass; Thursday 12/18 - SB 5-6pm; Friday 12/19 - BH after 8am Mass. The times should also be listed in the Dec. 13/14 bulletin.

3. **Christmas Eve (Wednesday, 12/24)**

**Mass Times:** 10:30 am Washington Island, 4 pm Fish Creek, 4 pm Sister Bay, 10 pm Egg Harbor

**\*\*Christmas Masses—Father Tom**

Father Tom stated the atmosphere is the most important; dim lights at the start of service, choir or cantor will sing "Little Town of Bethlehem" as a prelude, instrumental "Silent Night" will be played as the presider walks up the aisle to bless the creche and adore the baby Jesus, followed by the choir/cantor and congregation singing "Oh Come All ye Faithful". For the Preparation Song, the children will be encouraged to come up to the front near the creche to sing "Away in the Manger". The song words for the children could be on large poster board placed so the children could read the words..

This will be the 1st 4:00pm Christmas Eve Mass for the FC site in many years.

4. **Christmas Day (Thursday, 12/25)**

**Mass Times:** 8 am Baileys Harbor, 10 am Jacksonport

Good

## 5. Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

Mass Times: Wed, 12/31 – 4 pm Fish Creek; Thur., 1/1 – 8 am Sister Bay

*Good*

6. Christmas flower delivery date – Saturday, 12/20 at Fish Creek – Jim, Mary, and Debi will unload the truck and separate out the various orders; ministers from each church will pick them up.

*Schroeder's chose to deliver our flowers on Saturday, 12/20. They enjoy delivering to our parish and working with us. It is okay to place the Christmas flowers in the sanctuary on the weekend of the 4th Sunday of Advent as long as the Advent wreath is still there.*

### NEW BUSINESS: Discussion of various topics:

- Clarification of processes/procedures: Follow-through on decisions

Who makes sure that things we've decided upon actually get accomplished? Does every church have the bins for correctly taking care of used purificators, etc.? Have sacristans been notified? Will the heat be turned down in churches during the week to keep our Christmas and Easter flowers at their best?

*The bins for the purificators have arrived for each site and will be delivered this weekend. Lynn has written purification instructions and will send the copy to Deacon Tony to review. Once reviewed, Larry will send the instructions through MSP to the parishioners who participate in this ministry.*

*Changing temperatures at the churches was discussed. The temperature can affect the organ pipes at SB. Mickie stated the temperature at the altar and in the front sacristy is very warm and wondered if the temperature in the choir loft was the same. She suggested the temperature be checked in the choir loft and in the front sacristy to see if they were the same or if they could be regulated differently. The thermostats can be programmed to raise the temperature before Mass and then lowered after Mass. Mike will continue to look into this.*

*There were signs delivered for all the choir lofts stating "the loft is reserved for choir members". Ushers were also instructed to encourage families to sit up front so the children could watch the action at the Altar.*

*Shirley stated she was worried one family might not be coming to mass because of the loft's not being available for them. We all agreed we don't want to lose anyone over this issue. Some suggestions include:*

1. *Reserve front and 2nd rows for families and encourage families to sit there.*
2. *Publish a statement in the bulletin "Our parish encourages families to attend Mass and all should welcome the children" and /or have laminated cards in the pews with this message.*
3. *Ask Abigail Ahrens for the document she wrote about the Mass to be available for all children.*

4. *Angela stated there were "I Spy" type books about the Mass at the Shrine.*
5. *Diane stated the Trinity Lutheran had a tote bag available for children.*
6. *Father could use the pulpit to encourage families to attend and for parishioners to be welcoming to families with children.*
7. *Have families with young children help bring up the gifts at Preparation.*

*It was decided that we need to talk with the families and ushers who help seat them and that this topic deserves further thought and and discussion in the New Year.*

- *As far as scheduled liturgies go, what source is considered "the master"?*
  - *MSP?*
  - *The bulletin?*
  - *Worship Committee minutes.*

*Connie sends the approved minuted to Lori.*

#### **1.Christmas Season Masses**

*discussed earlier*

#### **2.Budget input / joint meeting**

*Mike will attend*

#### **3. Choir Hymnals**

*There is a need to order 10 hymnals for new choir members. Replacement hymnals for the parish sites can wait to be ordered in 3 years.*

#### **4. Bulletin Communication coordination**

*Mike will make edits to the website.*

#### **\*\* Added agenda discussion:**

*Larry suggested we consider some ideas: adding a Mass in the summer months if we have priests available, add a day of healing - offering confession all day, and giving support to John Bosco Catholic School.*

*Father Tom stated he will announce his retirement date at this weekend Masses, Dec. 13/14. Mickie suggested the parish have a prayer to say at Mass for a new Pastor.*

*Hand gestures during the "Our Father" was discussed. The Green Bay Diocese states that only the priest should hold their hands open and parishioners should close their hands during the prayer. We agreed that Worship committee will not take up that issue.*

**Next meeting date: January 13, 2026 @ 10:30 Egg Harbor Basement**