

Sacred Worship Committee Minutes November 4, 2021

Present: Fr. Jeffrey Hennes, Deb Frisch, Kris Hansen, Ellen Miskowski, Dale Tetzloff, Kathy Tetzloff, Tari Wallner and Jean Bablitch

Prayer: Tari Wallner

Featured Discussions:

Kid's Noel

Michelle Cornell joined the meeting to discuss the Kid's Noel Mass. There was discussion as to when, if and how this might happen. Should we do this another day? Before the 4:00 Mass? Should the pageant become the homily? Do we have enough students to participate? Perhaps an e-mail poll could be taken. CCD numbers are up this year. However many Christmas activities in the schools have been cancelled. Maybe we should wait a year until all children have been vaccinated. Masks would need to be worn. If we do not have it for another year we may lose it. It was decided we would do a modified version. Children may come early (3:15) if they would like to participate. There will be seats reserved in the front for the participating children and their families. Costumes / props will be available. Mary and Joseph will bring up the Baby Jesus along with shepherds and sheep. The tree lights will come on with the Gloria. Children will do the readings and petitions. After communion the meditation song will be Silent Night. The lights in church will be turned off and candles will be lit. Michelle will send out paper correspondence to the families.

REVIVE! Convocation

Over 200 people attended. About 20 people attended from St. Joseph. There is a need to get people back to the church. The event was rated very well. The key speaker was very good. Breakouts were good also. Should we do it again? Maybe in another 2 years. If we did it in another year the interest may not be as great.

1. Review/Preview All Saints Day through Advent and Christmas

Feast of All Saints - Nov. 1 - Mass was at 8:00 at St. Steve's. (This is the beginning of their 3 month Monday rotation). This was not a Holy Day of Obligation this year.

Feast of All Souls - Nov. 2 - About 20 - 30 people attended. Most were regular attendees with a few extras.

Memorial Service - Nov. 6 - Service at 9:00. Families of the 60 deceased were invited.

Thanksgiving - Nov. 25 - Mass will be at St. Steve's this year. We will be rotating parishes.

Advent - Fall decorations will come down with the beginning of Advent. Decorations for Advent will go up on Saturday morning. The Giving Tree will be set up. A Christmas Tree may be set up in the Gathering Space. Music will be somber. There will be no Gloria. The Advent wreath will be lit during the opening song. Fr. Hennes will light the candle the first week. Parishioners will light the candles the following weeks. We will bring back a modified Sign of Peace. Hymnals will also be brought back for use. There will be one reader at 4:00 Mass on Saturday and two readers at the 10:30 Mass on Sunday. Confessions will be heard after the 6:00 Mass on Saturday at St. Steve's, after the 10:30 Mass on Sunday at St. Joseph and on Fridays from 4:00 - 6:00 at St. Steve's.

Immaculate Conception - Dec. 8 - Mass at 8:00 AM at St. Joseph. We will have ushers. A reader may be needed.

Christmas Eve - Dec. 24 - Masses will be 4:00 at St. Joseph. 6:00 at St. Stephen.

Christmas Day - Dec. 25 - Masses will be at 8:30 at St. Stephen. 10:30 at St. Joseph

2. October Ministry Sign up & Mass Counts (how did it go)

Sign ups went well. There are some new people that have signed up.

Mass counts are up from 2020 but still not as high as 2019. A copy of the counts is attached.

3. Nativity Set -- any update?

Cost to repair and repaint will be \$100 per statue. This will not be done for this year.

We will look carefully at the statues and decided which ones will need to be redone.

4. Children's mime play

This was discussed at the beginning of this meeting.

5. October Rosary. How did it go?

A decade of the rosary was recited at the end of weekend Masses.

6. Book for Christmas -- any update?

A calendar is being done and will be given this Christmas. A book will not be given at Christmas

7. Coordinator for Ushers for Holy Days

Ann Kiefer will coordinate ushers for the Holy Days. Dale Tetzloff will do 4:00 on Saturdays and Jeff Zelinski will be 10:30 on Sundays.

8. Birthday Cards

Ellen will be in charge of sending Birthday Cards. If you have extra cards they would be greatly appreciated.

9. Director of Music

The Pastoral Council has approved this position. Nothing further has been done.

10. What are we hearing:

A stand with smaller votive candles will be purchased. It will be a light your own candle stand. The glasses containing the candles will be all one color and will not be changed with the seasons.

11. Next Meeting: December 2, 2021. No meeting in Jan. Meeting on Feb. 3, 2022

12. Prayer Leader for next meeting: Jean Bablitch

Closing Prayer & Blessing: Fr. Hennes

Respectfully submitted by: Jean Bablitch

October Mass Counts

Because of the importance of keeping current the statistical information for the Diocese of La Crosse, Bishop Callahan annually requests that all parishes in the Diocese conduct a count of the number of Mass attendees. The count is taken over several weekends, this year the first four Sundays of October. How we take the counts is left to our discretion, but we are asked to be as accurate as possible and not merely send estimates.

To this end each year our Hospitality Ministers (Ushers) are given the task of counting from the choir loft all Mass attendees at each weekend liturgy during the Month of October. These sheets are turned in, numbers are forwarded to the Diocese on the requested form and Sacred Worship and the Parish Council are given the numbers to review.

The following is a summary of the ²⁰²¹~~2020~~ Count:

Date	4:00 Mass	10:30 Mass	Total
10/2-3	136	132	268
10/9-10	121	119	240
10/16-17	145	116	261
10/23-24	136	102	238

Total 2021 October Mass Count 1007

For comparison

2021 Total Mass Count	1007
2020 Total Mass Count	421
2019 Total Mass Count	1799
2018 Total Mass Count	1861
2017 Total Mass Count	2058
2016 Total Mass Count	1900
2015 Total Mass Count	2038
2014 Total Mass Count	1991
2013 Total Mass Count	2126
2012 Total Mass Count	2387
2011 Total Mass Count	2148
2010 Total Mass Count	2323