

MINUTES
SPIRITUAL LIFE & WORSHIP COMMITTEE
Jan. 17, 2024
St. Theresa's (after mass)

Present: Diane Vollmer, Marilyn Steger, Evie Mather, Marge Cramer, Fr. Ed, Debby Wondra

Excused: John Schuller

Approval of Oct. Minutes

Old Business:

Thanksgiving Mass was held the Wed. evening before. Not a lot of people in attendance.

Feast Day of St. Mary's—Dec. 3, 2023—went well. Lots of people stepped forward to help.

Advent-- Advent booklets were all used and well received.

Christmas services went well. Churches were beautifully decorated. 4:00 p.m. mass was full on Christmas Eve. People were turned away. 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. masses were not full, but large amount of people attended. (note—Christmas eve 2024- St. Mary's will host the 4:00 p.m. mass.)

New Business:

Lent-Ash Wed. is Feb. 14. Mass schedule is: 8:00 a.m. St. Mary's, 6:00 p.m. St. Andrew's with the Religious Ed Kids attending that evening mass. Teachers will distribute ashes Wed. morning. Debby will check with Jerry and Ruth Gassner about getting some ashes to share with the 2 parishes that will be having services that day.

Lenten decorating will be bare bones (simple)for Lent.

Evie will order Lenten booklets for all 3 parishes. She will also update the useful Lenten schedule for the parishes as in the past, and have the sheet put in the bulletin before Lent begins.

Palms have been ordered for this year. We ran out last year, so more were ordered.

Each of the 3 parishes will be scheduling Stations after their morning masses:
St. Theresa—Wed. St. Andrew—Thurs. St. Mary—Fri.

Tom Schuessler has asked to schedule a Lenten Bible study this year. He has done a Lenten study the past few years. This normally takes place in Mayville at the school. More to follow from Tom.

Holy Week Schedule:

Palm Sunday, mass at all 3 parishes—Fr. Ed will see about getting a priest helper for that morning, as mass will take longer with palm blessing and the reading of the Passion. 3 readers are needed for the masses, along with 3? Servers.

Holy Thurs. 7:00 p.m. Mass at St. Andrew's. Fr. Ed would like to have 12 people to have their feet washed.

Good Fri. 1:00 p.m. at St Mary's 3 readers and 2-3 servers?

7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross at St. Theresa's

Holy Sat. Mass at St. Mary's (Time will be--7:30 if OK with Archdiocese) (possible 3 confirmands) ?readers and 3? Servers.

Easter Sunday—Normal mass schedule with 2 servers and 1 reader?

Schedulers will get their information out to all people involved in the various services.

New Easter candles have been ordered for all 3 parishes.

Pastor's Report: Fr. Ed mentioned that he is being welcomed nicely into the 3 parishes.

Would like to celebrate Candlemas Day on Feb. 2nd as well as bless throats for St. Blase Day. St. Mary's school children will be present that day. Evie and Marge will make sure the candles used to bless throats are refreshed.

Parish Council Report: none

Other Business:

Judy Rose and Mary Wondra along with Fr. Ed. put together a common practice for servers that should be used by all 3 parishes. St. Andrew's is having a training Sat. morning. If the other 2 parishes are not going to have a training, each of the servers should get a copy of the notes to refresh themselves. Because of the difference in the altars at the 3 parishes, the common practices might be a little bit different at each of the churches.

Evie would like to get some 3rd graders trained as new servers later this year.

Purpose of this Committee--

Day of Reflection for Ministries—on hold

Next Committee Meeting: Committee decided to meet mornings instead of evenings, after mass, so next meeting will be Tues., Feb. 13, 2024 (after St. Andrew's morning mass).

Goals:

1. Encourage Prayer & Worship members to attend workshops offered by Archdiocese, LARCSWORC and others that will help us to understand liturgy and effectively plan for the seasons.
2. Environment – continue to work on this to make worship space welcoming and enhance worship experience.
3. Music – continue to develop this ministry
4. Youth – look for ways to include youth in liturgy
5. Commissioning of Ministers
6. Be on top of what's happening in our world and be aware of the service aspect of reaching out to others, whether in prayer opportunities in church, collections of food, clothing, money, etc.
7. Outreach