

St. Edith Worship Commission Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2020

In Attendance: Fr. Jim McNulty, Linda Bodnar, Mike Magoulick, Thomas Rist, Al Rivard, Heather Shina, Lisa Smerdon, and Trisha Watson.

Father Jim McNulty opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:04 p.m. in the Parish Library.

Minutes of the February meeting were accepted as presented.

Sacristan: Trisha Watson had nothing new to report for the sacristans. She did, however, want to remind the Religious Education team that someone needs to coordinate things for Confirmation. Luckily Trisha was available Tuesday evening. Plans need to be in place for the sacristans and servers.

Servers: Lisa Smerdon had nothing new to report for the servers. She asked how Veneration of the Cross on Good Friday would be handled, considering the Coronavirus situation. Fr. Jim replied that a determination would be made closer to Good Friday.

Parish Council: Lisa Smerdon shared that the Parish Council is expecting a report from each commission regarding Goals & Objectives. Fr. Jim suggested we discuss it right then, Evangelizing being the pertinent topic. It was decided that we could focus on the Sacraments. Among the suggestions were Heather Shina's suggestion to offer Reconciliation to the parents as well when the children have their First Reconciliation. Trisha Watson suggested that parents be made aware that not only infants can be baptized. Discussion followed and mention of that fact in Fr. Jim's column was recommended. Fr. Jim further suggested that Adult Prayer Partners for Confirmation Candidates could be a good program. Discussion followed.

Ushers: Mike Magoulick shared concern regarding the observation that people may enter the Ushers' Room when seeking Lost and Found items, which could be a problem when there is money in the safe. While it would be difficult to remove anything from the closed safe, it remains a concern. Fr. Jim agreed that the Ushers' Room needed to be locked after the Sunday Masses until the money was moved. Discussion followed. It was determined that the lights should be turned off and the door closed, but not locked, during Masses. There is really no good place to locate the Lost & Found.

Lectors: Linda Bodnar reported no problems with the lectors. She spoke with Fr. Jim concerning the logistics, set-up and copies of the Gospels for the 3rd, 4th and 5th Sundays of Lent, which will be read in parts. The schedule is set through May 17.

EME's: Al Rivard reported that people have complained about the host being contaminated when the EME's have used hand sanitizer. Fr. Jim asked that all the hand sanitizer be removed; it is not known who put all of the bottles out. Wash your hands. Heather Shina commented that the Chaldean bishops prohibit reception of the Blessed Sacrament on the tongue. Al shared the concern of a St. Priscilla parishioner as to whether or not someone can be an EME at more than one parish. The answer is "Yes."

Adoration: Tom Rist reported that no new people have signed up for Adoration. A bulletin article about Adoration, with information about time and location, is being prepared. Trisha Watson asked how many people usually receive Holy Communion at Benediction, held at the close of Adoration. She needed the information to be sure enough hosts were consecrated. Tom replied that typically there are 12 to 25 recipients. Heather Shina noted that Georgene Wojciechowski, the school principal, said that students will attend Adoration on Tuesdays during Lent.

Tom Rist asked how we feel about passing out the bulletins before Mass. Mike Magoulick commented that at the 5 p.m. Masses about 60% of the people pick up a bulletin before Mass. Fr. Jim said that we should not decline bulletins to anyone wanting them early, but that practice should not be encouraged.

Fr. Jim wants the glass top table to be kept clear of clutter. The place to sell "stuff" is the Hall, not the Gathering Area. Big displays are not welcoming in the Gathering Space. The selling of tickets, however, is not disruptive as there is not a display of "stuff."

Music Ministry: Heather Shina reported that work continues on the organ project. Dave Wigton has been chosen as our organ builder. Research continues as we try to control/cut costs. Rick Abdoo is now our organ consultant. A low-profile, two manual console has been chosen. This will enable Heather to see the entire choir while she is seated at the console. Heather and Rick Abdoo will be going to the Finance Council to explain the choice. A poster will be made for use with the fund-raising campaign.

Sound people have come in and extended the system so that Heather has control at the organ. The system is very sensitive, and it makes it easier and faster for Heather to make adjustments.

Last week Heather re-voiced the Adult Choir for better sound. The sopranos were turned down, the altos, turned up. Heather is looking at new pieces for Easter and has found a very pretty, triumphant and joyful Alleluia for the Adult Choir to sing at Easter Masses.

For Palm Sunday the Children's and Adult choirs are scheduled for the 11:00 Mass, In Praise for the 5 p.m. Saturday Mass, and the Young Adult Choir for the 5 p.m. Sunday evening Mass.

Bill Harnish is back on the Cantor schedule. Mona Mason is on leave for a few months due to throat issues.

The Handbell Choir will play at 8:30 Mass on Easter, and at First Communion on May 9. On Good Friday the Young Adult choir and Music Ensemble will play and the Adult Choir will sing for Holy Thursday. Adoration for the commissions on Holy Thursday night will be scheduled as in the past.

Fr. Jim's Comments: Fr. Jim commented that the "jungle" in the Gathering Space is growing. There are too many plants there. He advises that the artificial ones be relocated to the Hall.

Tom Rist asked when the candle bank in the chapel will be put into use. Fr. Jim responded that more floor tiles have to be laid in that area.

Heather Shina shared that Deacon Don Esler could use more EME's for Beaumont/Botsford. That hospital is not actually in our community, but help would be appreciated. Also, more helpers for Rosary and Scripture Services for the deceased could be used.

Lisa Smerdon added that on March 27 the Servers will be leading the Stations of the Cross.

With no further business, the meeting concluded with a prayer at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Bodnar