

# Approved Minutes

## St Nicholas Parish Worship Committee

### January 7, 2025

**Members in Attendance:** Jim Newhouse, Father Robert Chinnapan, Kelly Bekkers-Graham, Joel Powers, Glenda Sayler, Ron Koepke, and Vicky Wolf.

**Members not Present:** Karen Court.

Meeting came to order at 6:32 PM.

**Opening Prayer:** Joel led the opening prayer.

**Review of the minutes from the December meeting:** Motion to accept was made by Vicky Wolf and seconded by Ron Koepke. Motion passed.

**Review of the Agenda:** Motion to accept was made by Glenda Sayler and seconded by Joel Powers.

#### **Old Business:**

**Recap of Advent/Christmas:** Everything went well; decorations were beautiful. There were positive comments about the addition of the Christmas Candle to the advent wreath. A few notes for next year.

- Do not place any poinsettias by the stairs going to the St Therese hall because it obstructed the railing which people use for walking up and down the stairs.
- The number of poinsettias need to be minimized in the St Therese hall because they needed a lot more watering and they looked wilted rather quickly.
- For the Advent candles, we should use the battery operated candles like we used for the Christmas candle. This is needed because the alter servers could not easily reach them to light at each mass.
- Check lights in the wreaths. It appears that the wreath hanging off the balcony in the back has a set of lights that stopped working during the Advent season.
- We ordered a 15 foot pre-lit tree after Christmas since it was on clearance. This will be available for decorating next year.
- There is interest in having Santa come at one of the Christmas Eve masses next year. Other parishes have done it and was well received. Santa would walk into church, kneels in front of the manger where Jesus lays and prays. He then leaves. The committee thought it is worth discussing; Jim will add it to the October agenda.
- St Nicholas did not have a 7pm mass this year because we are alternating with St. Edward Parish and it was their turn this year. There were a few questions why, but the parishioners understood when explained why.

**Epiphany:** The addition of the chant of the movable feast was added this year. Feedback was positive. For next year, it would be helpful to introduce the movable feast chant before it starts so the parishioners are aware of what is being chanted. It was also suggested to have a packet ready to hand out to parishioners with blessed chalk and the prayer for them to take home to bless their home. Jim will add it to the agenda in October to discuss. An idea was to talk with Jenny Jochman to see if a New Evangelization class could put them together.

**Music:** A generous donation was made to the choir. It was used to purchase 2 UNI MIC microphones and stands. It works great having the choir to be grouped together and hear each other better. Goose-neck arms are still to come which is needed to help adjust the mics for the musician to have their voice project better.

**Missal Search:** We are holding off the search as the lectionary is being updated and we want to ensure the new missals have the updated readings schedule. It is likely early summer before they are finalized. It was suggested to find out what the cost would be for the quarterly or annual missals that are good for only that year/quarter; We would need 500 copies.

### **New Business:**

**The Presentation of the Lord** is on February 2. Father will be blessing the candles at both the Sunday masses. We will announce the week before that they should bring candles to mass to be blessed; also it will be added to the bulletin. Candles will be available after mass for anyone to purchase for \$5.

**St. Blaise** is on February 3. The blessing of throats will be done at all masses on February 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Either before or after mass depending on the timing that works with Father.

**Ministers “brush up” meeting the weekend of February 8/9.** Jim will work with the parish office to get it in the announcements and bulletins. Topics for the meeting include:

- The sacristans must wait until 7 minutes before mass starts to hand out EMHC necklaces. EMHC must be at mass at least 10 minutes before mass starts.
- Remind the EMHC not to take a necklace unless they are assigned or there is an unfilled opening in MSP app. There may also be EMHC that do not know of the scheduling app yet; Ron reported that his wife Julie attended the training last summer, but never was assigned/told about the MSP app so she was taking a necklace based on if there was one hanging/available. This training session will hopefully identify if there are any other EMHC that have this same situation.
- When the choir is singing at a mass, the EMHC will walk to the choir and give communion so they do not need to walk down steps to get to the EMHC. Vicky will be the EMHC minister on January 19 at 10:30 when choir sings next to see how it works.
- EMHC must wait for Father/Deacon to take the Eucharist to the tabernacle as a sign of reverence. We are hoping that the parishioners will notice the EMHC and do the same.

**Pre-planning for Lent.**

- Ash Wednesday is on March 5<sup>th</sup>; mass times are at both 1:30pm and 5:45 for St Nicholas.
- Stations of the Cross will be after the 10:30 mass during lent. We are hoping to do “Soup and Stations” again this year; Glenda will ask the hospitality committee if they would be willing to do it again this year. We need to get about 100 copies of the children's book – Father will take care of this.
- Jim will reach out to Ron Hardy to see if he will lead the stations of the cross again this year.
- Father handed around different Lenten pamphlets for the committee to review to determine which to have available for the parish. We selected the “Peaceful Path of Hope” booklet. Father will take care of ordering them.

**Closing prayer** was led by Father.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:33pm.

**Upcoming meetings:**

\*Tuesday, February 4 at 6:30pm

\*Tuesday, March 4 at 6:30pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Vicky Wolf