

The Church of St Mary
Liturgy Committee Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2025
6:30-8:00 pm

Present: Fr Matthew Kuhn, Fr Fred Fink, Fr Dan Ruprecht, Deacon Tony Pasko, Sue McCulloch, Adrian Panther, Bonnie Broman, Luke VanOverbeke, Char Hanson, Grace Lambert, Stephanie Rutten-Ramos, Kevin Gorghuber, and Tammy Huss. Absent: Jody Koubsky, Erin Takle, and Bill Verschaetse.

I. Opening Prayer

Kevin led the opening prayer. No correction of minutes. Fr Fred questioned #5 (V) paragraph 2 regarding the “ministry minute”. Mike Sponsler is working with Erin to finalize this.

II. Open Forum

Discussion arose regarding the Christmas services. Dcn Tony questioned times of special Masses. Having a later one was brought up and looking at doing a doodle poll for the next time. Suggestion to start with liturgical ministers. It was also brought up that better signage is needed for the handicapped parking lot – signs don’t stay up. More discussion on options later in the meeting.

Vision Statement (continuation): Covered the 3rd question... Who is Liturgy Committee? [A body of parish representatives with love for liturgy.] Will do #4 next time... “What does success/effectiveness look like?”

III. Calendar Update –

Lent is coming up – special dates are listed...

- ✚ Stations of the Cross (Great Hall): Every Friday during Lent from 5:15-5:45 p.m.
Luke asked for thoughts on adding to/changing the current Stations being used. He will put options in the Great Hall to have a look at. Share your thoughts with Luke.
- ✚ Living Stations Performances (March 26 and 29): 7:00-8:30 p.m.
Question on whether this could be an option for a Friday night of Stations – Bonnie & others commented that it is not the same and wouldn’t really work for Fridays.
- ✚ Ash Wednesday (March 5th): 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.
Default to signing on forehead but sprinkling will be continued as an option. Also, a preference was for “Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.”
- ✚ Penance Service (March 9th): 5:00 p.m.
As with the Penance Service at Advent, Lenten service will include readings and individual confessions, but a more extensive examination of conscience. Also, clarification that this is not general absolution.
- ✚ Palm Sunday (April 12-13th): 5:00 p.m./8:00 a.m./10:30 a.m.
- ✚ Holy Thursday (April 17th): 7:00 p.m.
- ✚ Good Friday Morning Prayer (April 18th): 9:00 a.m.
- ✚ Good Friday Passion (April 18th): 12:00 p.m.
- ✚ Good Friday Tenebrae (April 18th): 8:30 p.m.
- ✚ Holy Saturday Morning Prayer (April 19th): 9:00 a.m.
- ✚ Easter Vigil (April 19th): 8:30 p.m.
- ✚ Easter Sunday (April 20th): 8:00 a.m./10:00 a.m.

IV. Ministry Needs & Parishioner Experiences

- ✚ Training updates – Completed usher training. Lector training to be held after Easter.
- ✚ Parking restrictions for designated Masses – conversation on parking for Lent. Works to use entire lot for handicapped. Need to start announcing earlier to set the expectations. Encourage attendance at lesser attended Masses to open up parking. More stable signage.
- ✚ Ritual changes for Adoration – update from Sue
 - i. 4 candles to be lit when Monstrance is exposed. Will be getting sconces for wall
 - ii. Tabernacle will be locked not just shut during Mass with the exception of funerals when Adoration can continue
 - iii. Special exposition/additional prayers on Mondays at 5am and Fridays at 3pm for start and end of week. Benediction when possible.
- ✚ Coffee & Rolls Committee Scheduling – only 4 members showed up to serve. Different date/month? Won't be our turn again for another year at least. Will address then.
- ✚ Parishioner Experiences: What are we hearing?
 - i. Adrian – a parishioner loves our parish – comes here instead of ICC
 - ii. Adrian – if we would follow up on kneelers and decide on it, Dan Eckstein is willing to build
 - iii. Char – had someone express confusion with website
 - iv. Fr Fred – introductory announcement cannot be heard

V. Priest Updates

- i. Fr Fred brought up the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity taking place January 18-25. Should do something? Sue suggested prayers could be used in the chapel and will check with Joe Korkowski on getting prayers for Christian Unity printed.
- ii. Fr Fred also brought up the Rites of Acceptance/Welcome taking place on Sunday (Jan 12). We have 7 candidates & 1 catechumen. (1 candidate is at ICC)
- iii. Fr Fred – wondering how many people know about CGS (Catechesis of the Good Shepherd) and can we have an explanation in the bulletin. Tammy will look into it.

VI. Education Piece

Stephanie reminded us about keeping in mind what we are doing well as a parish and where we could improve. Adrian covered Ch 2, pt ii this month. Stephanie will cover key learnings from Ch 2 next month and we will talk about the aforementioned points pertaining to this chapter. Grace will prepare for Ch 3, pt i: The Liturgy of the Eucharist.

Adrian started with asking the committee, “What does *The Word* mean to you?” And then what our favorite Gospel or book of the Bible is. He then had Fr Matthew, Fr Fred, Deacon Tony share how they prepare to speak on The Word.

VII. Goals – not reviewed

VIII. Recap and Closing Prayer

- ✚ Recap of action items
 - i. Will follow up on key learning for Ch 2 – be prepared
 - ii. Luke will put out Stations of the Cross options
 - iii. Tammy will follow up on CGS
- ✚ Secretary for February meeting - Grace
- ✚ Prayer for next time assigned – Dcn Tony
- ✚ Kevin closed us in prayer

Respectfully submitted, Tammy Huss