

Liturgy Committee Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2026

Present: Fr Matthew Kuhn, Fr Fred Fink, Char Hanson, Grace Lambert, Bonnie Broman, Parker Olson, Kate Bloedorn, Will Odland, Sarah Branstad, Cathy Kinney, Stephanie Rutten-Ramos, Tammy Huss

Absent: Fr Dan Ruprecht, Deacon Tony Pasko, Erin Takle, Adrian Panther

Opening prayer led by Will Odland. No adjustments to minutes necessary.

Education Piece – discussion on final videos 5-7 which were viewed at home. A few highlights: the idea of offering...not just Jesus and me but community, intercessions are broader than just petitions, importance of calling & sending – time to encounter Christ. Fr Matthew noted that the Eucharistic prayers align with the Gospels... EP 1 – Matthew/history/genealogy, EP 2 – Mark/shortest, EP 3 – Luke/people/saints, EP 4 – John/used more rarely/goes deeper

Open Forum -

- Erin asked about getting minutes sooner.
- Stephanie suggested reading minutes prior to meeting and coming prepared with any needed changes so as not to take time reading them at the meeting.
- OLG Mass – Mass went well. Need better coordination for the festivities. Well attended.
- Christmas – attendance was up 7%, 4 pm still the fullest, 9am & 9pm comparable to 10am Sunday, there were questions of why there wasn't more caroling
- Mary, Mother of God – could we specify that it is a Holy Day of Obligation? Announcements should be made as well
- Kneelers – Fr Fred checked into kneelers. Provided handouts from Cardinal Blasé Cupich and Bishop Martin. Practice of kneeling for Communion discouraged. Regarding the reception of Holy Communion, the USSCB has determined the norm is that Holy Communion is to be received standing, unless an individual member wishes to receive Communion while kneeling. Those who receive Communion may receive either in the hand or on the tongue. Will move forward with the intention of first using kneelers at the First Communion Mass on April 19.

Calendar Update

- Ash Wednesday February 18th 8:30am & 5:30pm (St. Mary's)
- Living Stations March 4 & 6 at 7pm
- Need to start promoting the penance services now.

Ministry Needs & Parishioner Experiences

EM's...

- Directions need to be provided on how to take care of spilled Precious Blood – sometimes servers or others pick up the purificator that is covering the spill.
- What to do when coming forward for blessing – has been covered, but may need to review
- Scheduling an EM meeting with captains to review process

Servers...

- Could use more daily servers & servers trained to do incense – send anyone interested to Father Matthew

Hospitality

- Sign-up sheets for Christmas & Solemnity of Mary worked – can do again at Lent

- Handicapped only & golf cart worked well for Christmas – do again for Easter
- Working to provide updated safety training
- Ushers need to spread out so they can see the parishioners
- Hospitality for mobility issues – spot for walkers, particularly at the special Masses

Lectors

- Would be nice to have more lectors for weekday Masses – could use students

Adoration

- Meeting with ICC to start there with a full day
- Holy Water urn in the chapel is empty – can be filled from the “waterfall” at the Baptismal font

Discussion was had on what to do if someone asks for a sub and doesn't find one, particularly with sacristans and lectors. Stephanie suggested sending out a second reminder of spots open closer to the Masses – maybe Saturday morning. If the position is still open, the minister is in charge of finding a substitute.

Parishioner experiences...

- Kneeler responses – as long as it isn't required or doesn't affect them, don't really care
- People are loving the crucifix – beautiful
- Many comments on how beautiful the random handbells are – and appreciate the reverence of people leaving the church and not standing around talking when others are still praying

Priest Updates

- Intro to Lent services like they did Advent

Goals – the new education piece is the GIRM intro – copies were handed out to be read for next time.

Recap and Closing Prayer

Recap of action items

- Hearing devices are in place – Fr Fred is going to check them (he did – they work!)
- Read the minutes before coming to the meeting
- Secretary for February is Stephanie
- Prayer for February is Tammy

Will Odland closed us in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Tammy Huss