

St. Edith Worship Commission  
Meeting Minutes April 12, 2023

Fr. Jim opened the meeting with a prayer at 7:05 p.m. Father then welcomed Laurie Rizzolo, who will be replacing Tom Rist as representative for Adoration.

In attendance: Fr. Jim McNulty, Zelma Isele, Gary Kudron, Joe Rashid, Al Rivard, Laurie Rizzolo, and Linda Bodnar. Heather Shina and Cindy Coleman arrived shortly after the opening prayer. Not present were Donna DeFavero, Jane DeRoo, and Mike Magoulick.

**Sacristans:** Joe Rashid reported that the sacristans did well with Holy Week and all. He thanked Al for serving at both the 11 and 12:30 Masses on Easter. Regarding the new fire box for the Vigil: Gary commented that it looked nice, “classy,” and safe. Laurie thought it looked good. Fr. Jim said that it was designed to be used in a home and is alcohol based. Fr. Jim also liked that the lights could be on, turned down, and then turned back up.

**Lectors:** Linda Bodnar thanked all who participated, especially those who helped set up the extra mikes and lectern when the Gospels were read “in parts.” She reported receiving positive feedback on the Gospels read that way. Laurie, Al, Gary, and Zelma agreed that it better engaged the congregation. It was noted that having the readers together also worked well. Fr. Jim said that the story of the Prodigal Son may be done that way, too. Linda suggested that it might be helpful to have an extra EME at Masses where the choir is present. Discussion followed. It was decided that we will try that.

**Art & Environment:** Cindy Coleman reported that decorating for Holy Thursday went well; the decorating was done that morning. Easter decorating was so well organized that it was complete by 7:30 p.m. on Good Friday. Everyone had their section to work on. There was enough help, and the letters went up well. She hopes to use the flowers for 3-4 weeks and is turning on the lights for about 4 hours each day, hoping that will help.

**Altar Servers:** Zelma Isele was pleased that the servers showed up for their times. The robes are being washed this week. There are a few really long robes.

On June 10 there will be a pizza party for all who have served since COVID (since there have been no celebrations for a few years).

No more group training is planned until September. Individual training can be arranged by appointment.

Cindy applauded the servers – they did really well. Fr. Jim said that you just have to tell them what to do.

Laurie likes that the servers are again wearing robes. Father likes that the cords are not being used.

We want to encourage the older servers to continue. Discussion followed. It was noted that the servers oftentimes want to “move on” into other ministries (EME’s, ushers, or lectors). They can participate in more than one. Father would like to invite youth to be lectors. Linda will speak to Linda Kramer about that. Zelma will handle Sign-up Genius for the Sunday and Monday Family Masses.

**EME’s:** Al Rivard agreed that it can be difficult for an EME to serve the choir and then get back to his station. Having a dedicated EME for the choir may work well.

**Adoration:** Laurie Rizzolo asked, as the new representative of Adoration, what she is expected to do. She knows to keep the sign-in book available, and to count the number of adorers. While it is recognized that everyone does not sign in, Fr. Jim asked that she look to see if there are times when people are not there, so he can make an announcement in hopes of filling the “gap.” (Contact Deb to place an announcement.)

Heather expressed concern if the Children’s Choir rehearsals (6-7 p.m.) interfere with Benediction. Moving Benediction to 7 p.m. might help; the deacons need to be contacted to see if that would work.

**Bereavement:** Gary Kudron reported that there are 6 people who lead the Rosary or Scripture Services for wakes. They are organized and doing well.

He shared that the “Seedlings” publication recognized St. Edith’s Lenten Almsgiving as one of their donors.

**Music Ministry:** Heather Shina commented that while it was a lot of work, everything worked out really well. It was nice to have the new organ. She suggested that for Palm Sunday the preludes could start before 11; that could shorten the time (1 hour 45 minutes) – a long time, especially for the children.

On Holy Thursday only one Penitential Rite is needed. Also, it is very dark for the procession to the Altar of Repose – Heather needs some sort of light.

Two groups of First Communicants are rehearsing, with help from a member of the Handbell choir.

The Appreciation Dinner is May 20.

Heather is busy focusing on First Communion and Confirmation.

Gary noted that on Easter, cars from the 11 a.m. Mass were exiting as ones were trying to enter for the noon Mass. Fr. Jim said the 11 Mass ran late because he had trouble with his microphone. The 8:30 and 11 Masses were full, and 12:30 was about 1/3 full. Discussion followed: we do not want to change the Mass times.

**Fr. Jim's Comments and Parish Council:** Good Friday: Fr. Jim felt the location of the screen for the Stations of the Cross was good, but a choir light shone on it, a correctable situation. He will ask Connie to either find other pictures or resize the current ones to better fit the screen.

“Reserved” signs need to be removed when Mass starts.

Easter Vigil: The white robes should not be worn before Baptism. There are robes in the rectory for use prior to the Baptisms. The service ran about 2 hours. The Litany of the Saints can begin right after the Renewal of Baptismal Promises and conclude when they get to the front of the church.

He would like to streamline the service.

Fr. Jim asked if Art & Environment has plans for pictures in the AV Room. Cindy responded that Jane is taking it over, intending to use the collages. Father wants to be sure it is kept on the agenda.

In Donna DelFavero's absence, Fr. Jim reported that the council discussed getting people to participate more. Perhaps there has been less singing because the Psalm responses are new.

People are reading the bulletin during Mass. It was suggested that the bulletins not be available before Mass. Next month that will be brought up for the Ushers. It was suggested that the page number for the readings be displayed on the number board. Unfortunately, there are not enough digits on the boards.

Goals and Objectives: Get more people involved in the various ministries. Get younger lectors. Encourage younger people and new parishioners to get involved. Discussion followed.

Discussion of scheduling altar servers: It hasn't worked in the past. Zelma wants them to want to serve, hence, Sign-up Genius is used.

Sacristans should only carry two ciboria at a time.

Holy Week went beautifully. Gary commented on the Blessing of Food – it was well attended, he is glad that St. Edith does it, and Deacon Don did a great job, probably going through at least 10 categories of food items.

The Saturday Easter Egg Hunt went well, too.

**Ushers:** No report

Next meeting will be May 10.

With no further business, the meeting concluded at 8:12 p.m. with a prayer.  
Respectfully submitted,

*Linda Bodnar*