**UNAPPROVED MINUTES**

**St. Nicholas Parish Worship Committee**

**May 4, 2021**

**Members Present:** Jim Newhouse, Bob Schommer, Fr. Walter Stumpf, Anne Thelen, Deacon Gary Vanness, Judy Ver Bust

**April 2021 Minutes:** Approved

**Pastor’s Comments:** (1)Four (4) ushers are now at many of the masses, which is working out very well; Maybe the 4th usher could assist in offering assistance to parishioners entering in carport area – the doors can be difficult to maneuver with a cane, etc. (2) everyone should be aware and offer assistance if needed; (3) Discussion at Pastoral Council regarding musician shortage. Suggested that music people get together and brainstorm ideas to encourage more youth to join program. Father suggested that maybe moving the organ console to the loft would assist young people in not feeling so shy to sing; (4) The St. Terese Statue is out for painting; (5) Father is working on Pastoral Council nominations and no one has volunteered for the Parish Trustee/Secretary position.

**Sprinkling song *Down to the River to Pray:*** Will continue through Pentecost

**May Crowning**: Didn’t go as planned; Father did place three vases of flowers by the Blessed Mother statue; Note for next year – plan earlier to incorporate with First Communions if occurring during that timeframe.

**First Communion celebrations the past three weekends comments/reflections:** All were very nice celebrations

**Infant burial service, May 3rd at 4pm:** Three infants; good congregation (about 30 people) VanZeeland family assisting the grieving families; Dennis did a great job with the psalm

**Ascension of Our Lord, to be celebrated May 15/16:** no incense; Deacon’s Birthday is the 15th!

**Pentecost to be celebrated May 22/23:** Father, Nikki or Mary will let Melanie know about the balloons; incense to be used/last sprinkling rite; sequence to be sung

**Holy Trinity to be celebrated May 29/30:** Deacon is off this weekend; Memorial Day weekend

**St. Nicholas graduation on June 3rd:** Using readings of the day; School requested Jamie Thelen to cantor; mass is at 6pm

**Corpus Christi to be celebrated June 5/6:** No processional this year – maybe next year we can try the procession after mass; will use the short sequence;

**Confirmation is Tuesday, June 8th at 5:45pm at St. Nicholas**: Readings of the day will be used. Soft instrumental during Confirmations; Jodi and Kelly will cover the music.

**Summer keyboardist discussion**: Shortage of musicians. We will continue with recorded music when a live musician is not available or the songs will be acapella (no music, just voices). As noted above, Father would like the musicians to meet to brainstorm ideas to incorporate young people into the program. Anne will work on setting this up. Only issue is 4th of July weekend, both Father and Deacon are on vacation and we have a guest priest. This is the only weekend we didn’t have musicians to cover all three masses. Anne will get with some of the cantors to see if they might consider doing two masses.

**Choir coming back:** Jim and Anne discussed last choir practice, discussion with the choir members, new CDC recommendations for 3’ social distancing and how it can be accommodated in the choir area – we will try to bring the choir back on Ascension weekend.

**Old business:** (1) Holy water in fonts update. Not in fonts, but small cups are available as well as a bottle for filling personal holy water containers of the parishioners. St. Edward’s uses an automatic, hands free holy water dispenser. Father will look into ordering a couple for St. Nicholas. (2) Nothing yet from Wahl – they are very busy right now and haven’t had the time to give us a quote for organ repairs. (3) Parish support is shown in the bulletin – February minutes show we discussed putting the weekly budgeted amount with that. Father will inform Jill of the request. (4) Carts for the hymnals. Right now all the hymnals are on a pallet. Three carts will be ordered – one for each weekend (only) mass.

**New Business**: (1) Could we bring the servers back? They could light the candles and ring the bells. In this way they are wearing their albs and participating in a socially distant manner. Seating by the bells would assist in the social distancing. (2) Deacon will assist Anne in removing the pedal board from the piano to have it sent out for repairs during the summer months. It is unknown how long it would take to replace the broken parts. Anne will write a note for visiting musicians about the broken pedals.

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:45pm.**

Respectively submitted by Anne Thelen

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at 6:30pm