

**Approved Minutes
St. Nicholas Parish Worship Committee
August 7, 2018**

Members Present: Mary Jochman, Fr. Walter Stumpf, Anne Thelen, Deacon Gary Vanness

June minutes were approved as written.

Discussion items:

Pastor's Comments: (1) Server of the Month – June was Ashley Lahay and July was Max VerVoort, (2) Father is looking to get a CAD (computer aided drawing/drafting) of the proposed arch/crucifix for the sanctuary before submitting plan to the Bishop. The Corpus has not yet been ordered. (3) While the weather is still good, repairs will proceed to repair the striker in the bell tower. This is being funded mainly by donations.

June 13th Cookout comments and results from discussion of Corpus: Very nice turnout and little get together. See #2 above for additional comments.

Comments on Breakfast on the Farm Service or The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist masses.

Breakfast on the Farm had a nice turnout, but the location was less than desirable. There were many distractions. A leader for the music should be strongly encouraged. The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist masses went well.

Countryfest: Concert well attended and grounds appeared to be pretty full. HOT weekend. Due to pending inclement weather, the Sunday activities were moved to the Tryba barn (a donation). Mass was very well attended, but the overflow of people into the main area created an atmosphere that not as respectful as it is in church. Very warm in the area. There was a tent that blew down in the middle of the day during one of the storms that came through (food and drink), so the move was a good idea. With that said, Father would prefer the Polka Mass to be held in the church to uphold the sanctity of the mass.

Holy Day of Obligation for The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (August 15th). Masses are Tuesday, August 14th at 5:45pm and 11:00am on Wednesday, August 15th. Readings will be the Vigil on the 14th, Day readings for the 15th.

2018 parish calendars: In past years we discussed changes to the pictures. Do we want to keep the same theme or change them? One item – the servers need a calendar which shows them the color of the cincture to wear for mass. Father presented a sample of the calendar used by St. Edward's. It was decided that the calendar that hangs in the server sacristy should be the same style as the one that is currently in there. (Even if we put one of the samples we received in there and use a different one for the congregation.)

The St. Nicholas Pastoral/Finance Councils have a Strategic Plan that identifies goals that we want to achieve at St Nicholas. There is a 5 year plan and a 1 year plan. After objectives are identified for the 1 year plan, they are assigned to individual committees who work to achieve that objective. They are requesting an update on goals from last year and requesting input for this year's goals as shown in the attachment, which is summarized below.

Item K (from last year):

Objective from 1-Year Plan: Investigate plan to expand music & choral skills in Parish Community.

❖ Goal: Write a job description for the academy "director," identify resources needed and begin the hiring process by May 2018. – **This goal was not met.**

❖ Goal: Worship Committee will work together to explore options to expand our musician, cantor and small group cadre. This will include reviewing current abilities, discussion of including young and aspiring musicians, exploring a plan to train our own parishioners, brain-storming ideas of using the resources we have to inspire new people to share their talents with our congregation by March 31, 2018.

This goal was not met.

Item L (from last year):

Objective from 1-Year Plan: Identify activities to manifest a living faith using themes of Catholic Social Teaching.

- ❖ Goal: Celebrate those that have passed away, those that are suffering from illness and those that service our community, state & nation as part of our All Souls Mass, Anointing of the Sick Mass, and Blue Mass during the Fall of 2017. **This goal was met.**

Item M (new this year):

Objective from 1-Year Plan: Investigate plan to expand music & choral skills in Parish Community.

- ❖ Goal: Sponsor a "Ministry Fair" to promote opportunities for service and community building. This would include all opportunities at St. Nicholas, not just music and choral skills. Perhaps we could coordinate the mailing of the Stewardship forms with this proposed Ministry Fair.

Item O (new this year):

Objective from 1-Year Plan: Identify activities to manifest a living faith using themes of Catholic Social Teaching.

- ❖ Goal: Celebrate those that have passed away, those that are suffering from illness and those that service our community, state & nation as part of our All Souls Mass, Anointing of the Sick Mass, and Blue Mass (scheduled for Tuesday, October 23rd at 5:45pm mass).

Old Business: (1) Mass journals. Tabled until the September meeting; (2) Adverse Weather policy change discussion. Tabled until the September meeting. (3) Potential new members. Bob Schommer has expressed an interest. Father will reach out to him. (4) Mass for the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is scheduled for Saturday, December 8th at 8:15am at St. Nicholas, with the mass intention that of St. Edwards. (6:30 Vigil at St. Edwards)

New Business: All music related. Anne has been "breaking" in two new cantors – one is extremely soft and Anne will continue to work with her. Songs – Father has requested that #712 Here I Am to Worship not be used as a congregation song as it is difficult to sing unless the cantor is very strong. There are a few other songs that are difficult to sing which were also mentioned as potential choir songs or solo songs, such as #712. He also requested we sing #526 Jesus, My Lord, My God, My All. Anne stated his request has been granted as we scheduled that song to be sung in the fall. Lastly, Father requested the musicians either use the key the songs are written in OR if it must be lowered, just lower it a ½ or whole step (1 or 2). The congregation seems to sing with more enthusiasm if the songs are played higher, rather than lower. Sometimes, it's too low, resulting in having to jump up an octave, which then strains the voice. Anne will disburse same to the musicians.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 4, 2018 at 6:30pm

Respectively Submitted by Anne Thelen