Pastoral Council Minutes  
November 28, 2022 6:30 p.m. Dominican Hall
APPROVED December 2, 2022

Pastoral Council Members and Staff Present: Fr. Mark Brandl (Pastor), Fr. Norberto Sandoval (Associate Pastor), Danilo Batres (SC), Vern Baus (SC), Luanne Bemis (SC), Jeanne Bitkers (SD), Mary Jo Bugembe (HNJ), Tom Clarke (HNJ), Mary Dalhaimer (SC), Tom Dinolfo (SNCP Staff Liaison), Mary Greeneway (HNJ), Don Holmes (SD), Betty Johnson Macknick (HNJ), Bob Mair (SD), Mary Petrie (SNCP Staff Liaison), Rebecca Rupnick (SD), Kevin Sander (HNJ), Joel Sandersen (SD), Ron Spaulding (SD)

Excused Council Members: Ken Borowski (SC), Michael Johnson (HNJ)

Welcome: Chair Ron Spaulding called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Opening Prayer: Kevin Sander

Mission and Vision Statements: Read aloud by all council members.

1. Consent Agenda
   a. Minutes: October 24, 2022
      Online approval October 28, 2022
   b. Committee Reports
      The following committee reports were sent electronically to council members prior to the meeting and will be posted online.
      - SD Human Concerns Committee—10/17/22 Meeting Notes
      - SNCP Stewardship Committee—11/7/22 Minutes

2. Financial Update (Tom Dinolfo)

   Financial Reports
   St. Clement Finance Council met this afternoon (11-28-22) and their report will be sent soon. Council members from St. Dominic and Holy Name should have already received their respective reports for October.

   Budget and Contributions
   - HNJ and SD are behind in budget and contributions compared to last year. SC is slightly ahead. In each case, cash is getting tighter.
   - A large bequest from the sale of property is expected to help the situation. All three parishes will benefit.
   - During the holiday season, church attendance is up, and it is anticipated contributions will be higher.

   Expenditures
   - The financial situation is not critical at this point; however, expenses are being scrutinized at each parish.
   - Very little being spent is discretionary. Rather, the largest expenditure is for salaries and compensation that is shared by all three parishes.
   - Other expenses include utilities. Heating costs are not yet high; however electric costs are much higher than last year.
• Additional fixed expenses are the Archdiocesan assessment, Seton School and Faith Formation – shared by all three parishes.
• The goal over the remaining six weeks of the year is to look for ways to conserve cash.

3. Pastor/Associate Pastor Reports: Father Mark and Father Norberto

Father Mark Brandl
Sacrament of Reconciliation
• First reconciliation will be held for SNCP second graders on the 1\textsuperscript{st} and 10\textsuperscript{th} of December.
• Citywide reconciliation services will be held at St. Peter Claver parish on December 13\textsuperscript{th} from 8 am to 8 pm.
• Seton School children will have an opportunity for reconciliation on December 8\textsuperscript{th} at 9:00 am.

Report continued below under Love One Another Campaign (Item 4a).

Father Norberto Sandoval
St. Clement Feast Day
A rosary novena to St. Clement was held from November 14-23. It was disappointing that only one individual from the Pastoral Council attended the English offering. It is important for council members to support the activities of all parishes.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast Day
A rosary novena in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe will be held from December 3-11 at 6:00 p.m. at St. Clement parish. The celebration Mass will be offered at St. Clement on December 12\textsuperscript{th} at 6:30 preceded by a Mañanitas service the night before at 11:00 p.m.

Christmas Toy Collection
Father Norberto has reached out to a number of large businesses in the Sheboygan area for donations to purchase toys for children of families in need. Response has been slow.

Catholic Presence in Sheboygan
It was noted that several different churches in Sheboygan regularly participate in community events such as the Fourth of July and Christmas parades. They hand out candy and cards with information about the church’s services and activities. This is a missed opportunity for our Catholic parishes to become better known in the community.

Activities in the Hispanic Community
• Advent Talks. A series of talks will take place each Sunday in Advent after the 12:15 Mass at St. Clement. The first talk, delivered by Deacon Henry Reyes, focused on the family and was very well received.
• Women of St. Monica. The Hispanic women have formed a new group that will meet every other Saturday.
• Past Events. Discussions are taking place about the feasibility of reinstating past successful events such as the Valentine’s dinner.
• Spanish Language Devotionals. The Living Faith quarterly publication provides daily reflections based on Scripture passages from the daily Mass. Currently, SNCP makes these available to parishioners at a nominal $1.00 cost per copy. However, there is no Spanish version available. A comparable Spanish
language version book has been identified. Fifty-one copies have been ordered. This is a yearly publication rather than quarterly and a $5.00 donation per copy will be requested.

- Our Lady of Chiquinquira. The Enthronement Ceremony took place on November 18th at Holy Name of Jesus parish. It was very well attended. However, there was a misunderstanding about the replica which unfortunately cannot be housed at St. Clement as previously planned.
- Fr. Bob Stiefvater. Rest in peace, Fr. Bob, who passed away suddenly. He played an important role as a backup celebrant of Spanish Masses at St. Clement.

Homebound Communion
There is a need to coordinate this ministry at all three parishes. Two calls were recently received from home bound SD parishioners who desired communion. Announcements were placed in recent bulletins; however, no responses were received. The issue will be brought to the attention of the Human Concerns Committees at all churches.

4. Plan of Action
   a. Love One Another (LOA) Capital Campaign
      A status report is expected at a meeting on Tuesday, November 29 with Ashley McNulty, our Archdiocesan consultant. All contributions and pledges are being sent directly to the Archdiocese so the exact status for each parish is unknown at this time.

      An “in-pew” weekend is being tentatively planned for the weekend of December 17th. The purpose is to put the focus of the capital campaign back on God. At this time everyone will be asked to fill out a pledge form for the collection basket to be placed in front of the altar. This signifies that parishioner contributions, whether prayers or money, are our gifts to God and not just the Archdiocese.

5. Old Business
   a. Pastoral Council Social – January Potluck Gathering
      A short business meeting will be held on January 23, 2023, followed by the potluck social gathering to which spouses and guests are invited. A sign-up sheet was circulated.

   b. Give Back to the Community--Christmas Family
      Pastoral Council members contributed a $100 food card and nearly $700 in cash for this outreach activity. Since no single family could be identified, it was agreed that Father Mark and Father Norbie would share the funds equally to distribute to anyone in need. They are in a better position to encounter individuals and families who would benefit the most from some extra help at this special time.

      Update: Subsequent to the meeting, Father Mark was able to identify a deserving family from Seton School. He stated the gift will definitely be a Godsend for them.

   c. Continued Discussion on Working Together
      Many of SNCP ministries are already collaborating and should be encouraged to keep the spirit alive. This is especially evident in the yearly Thanksgiving Food Box initiative. Volunteers came from all over, not just SNCP parishioners. The project has grown tremendously over the years and there is such an overwhelming desire to participate that the number of volunteers needed to be limited this year.
Another example of collaboration is the coordination of the SNCP monthly outreach projects. See New Business, Item 6b below.

It’s important to note that as leaders of the SNCP parish community, the pastoral council needs to be at the forefront of supporting activities in all the parishes. As mentioned previously, a good example of this are the novenas at St. Clement.

6. New Business
   a. Parish Advent Events
      A number of Advent activities are available including small group discussions, book studies and other presentations. There is something for everyone – most at no cost, day time and evening offerings, some in-person; others via Zoom.

   b. 2023 SNCP Monthly Outreach Projects
      The 2023 list of monthly outreach projects has been finalized and will be an insert in the December 17/18 bulletin. Individuals from the human concerns committees from all three parishes meet yearly to discuss and choose outreach recipients.

      The first recipient for 2023 is the Sheboygan Warming Center at St. Cyril & Methodius Church. A representative from the center will speak at all SNCP Masses to explain this ministry and how the donations will be used.

   c. Future of Thanksgiving Day Mass
      It was brought to the attention of the council that some parishioners expressed a desire for a Wednesday night service. In the past some parishes participated in an ecumenical service with nearby churches. Mary Petrie reported subsequent to the meeting that the SNCP Prayer & Worship Committee discussed this possibility in detail relative to an ecumenical service on the day before Thanksgiving, but it was decided that the pastors of all the churches involved were not in a position to plan this type of an event for this year.

   d. Pastoral Council Roster
      Rebecca Rupnick notified the council of her resignation as she is moving from the area. She was thanked for her contributions to the council and wished the best for her future move.

      Judy Calderon has also moved from the area and Father Norberto is looking to the Hispanic community for a replacement. Best wishes were extended to Judy in abstentia.

Closing Prayer: Jeanne Bitkers

Next meeting
   • Monday, January 23, 2023 at 6:30 p.m., Dominican Hall at St. Clement
   • Committee Reports: Due by the 15th of each month. Email to Council Secretary Mary Jo Bugembe at mbugembe@gmail.com

Respectfully submitted
Mary Jo Bugembe
SNCP Pastoral Council Secretary
November 29, 2022