Sheboygan North Catholic Parishes
Pastoral Council Minutes
March 27, 2023 6:30 p.m. Dominican Hall
Approved April 3, 2023

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), Ken Borowski (SC), Mary Jo Bugembe (HNJ), Tom Clarke (HNJ), Mary Dalheimer (SC), Don Holmes (SD), Betty Johnson Macknick (HNJ), Bob Mair (SD), Mary Petrie (SNCP Staff Liaison), Joel Sandersen (SD), Ron Spaulding (SD)

Excused Council Members: Tom Dinolfo (SNCP Staff Liaison), Mary Greeneway (HNJ), Michael Johnson (HNJ), Kevin Sander (HNJ)

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

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

Opening Prayer: Tom Clarke

1. Consent Agenda
   a. Minutes January 23, 2023
      Online approval January 30, 2023
   b. Committee Reports
      The following committee reports were sent electronically to council members prior to the meeting and will be posted online.
      • SD Prayer and Worship Committee 2/13/23
      • SNCP Stewardship Committee 3/13/23
      • HNJ Prayer and Worship Committee 3/13/23
      • SC Prayer and Worship Committee 3/16/23

2. Guest: Mike Short, SNCP Stewardship Committee Chair
   The Stewardship Committee is requesting council’s input on three items of importance to Sheboygan North Catholic Parishes. It is hoped action can be taken within the next 12 months.
   a. Parish Directories
      A parish directory not only connects people with one another, but also provides a sense of belonging and aids in building relationships. It’s been 5+ years since SD produced a directory and longer for HNJ and SC. The issue raised a number of questions.
      Production
      • One directory for each parish or a combined version?
      • Include photos or just contact information?
      • What content should be included (in addition to parishioner listing)?
      Privacy
      • What data should be included for each parishioner? Address, phone number, email, listing of children?
      • How will the directory be distributed – printed, online only?
      • How can a parishioner opt out?
Vendors

- **Guide Book Publishing** – Free, annual printing, collating and mailing of directories to each registered parishioner. The company secures advertisers that cover the production costs.
- **Universal Church Directories** – Lori Woelfel, SNCP staff, has scheduled a meeting with a representative.

Ron Spaulding and Joel Sandersen will coordinate this initiative on the council’s behalf. Lori Woelfel will be invited to a future meeting to provide details of her meeting with Universal Church Directories.

b. **Showing Gratitude to our Volunteers**

The Stewardship committee believes that showing gratitude to our volunteers is a key element to maintaining a healthy volunteer program and can benefit charitable giving as well. A Parishioner Appreciation Meal offering a light, catered supper with refreshments will be part of the SNCP Town Hall Annual Meeting on May 15, 2023.

c. **“Come to Me” Shoulder Tap Training**

This Archdiocesan program includes training videos for parish leaders to empower them to reach out to people, especially Catholics who have been away from Mass for whatever reason. The Stewardship Committee believes this program could not only apply to bringing Catholics back to Mass, but also encouraging individuals to a deeper engagement in their faith and involvement in our many ministries and events.

SNCP is actively involved in the National Eucharistic Revival and the Archdiocesan Called and Gifted Workshop. Both of these initiatives will work hand-in-hand with Shoulder Tap Training. Kym Leibham, SNCP Director of Adult Faith Formation, will be a guest at an upcoming council meeting to provide further details on these important programs. Also, refer to Item 7a of these minutes for additional information.

3. **Financial Report**

Father Mark gave the report in Tom Dinolfo’s absence. Regular contributions from parishioners are the most significant source of income in each of our parishes. Contributions are down in all three parishes. This significantly impacts our operating expenses. A number of reasons for this drop in contributions have been given, including low church attendance, individual preference for timing (some only give once a year), current state of the market, historically high inflation, competition with other charitable giving (Love One Another Campaign, Archdiocesan Stewardship Appeal).

Council members agreed it is important to be open and honest with parishioners. Can we go back to providing a mini report in each Bulletin (what was collected that week compared to previous week) to give parishioners an ongoing status report? Ron Spaulding will meet with Tom Dinolfo to discuss.
4. **Pastor/Associate Pastor Reports – Father Mark and Father Norberto**

**Father Mark Brandl**

SNCP Director of Religious Education
Kate Reidel, ECHO student, SNCP intern from Notre Dame, has agreed to accept the position of Director of Religious Education. She has already begun some exciting curriculum planning. Welcome Kate.

**Love One Another (LOA) Campaign Update**
Monies collected before January 1 have been distributed to each parish. Going forward, the parishes can expect quarterly installments over the next five years. Overall, monies received will be used for Faith Formation curriculum expenditures, Evangelical initiatives and Called and Gifted Workshop expenses. Additionally, each parish has specific repair and replacement needs, i.e., Holy Name—repair of steeples; St. Clement—replaster and repair ceilings and St. Dominic—HVAC and roof repairs.

**Town Hall Annual Meeting**
A Town Hall Annual Meeting and Parishioner Appreciation Meal is scheduled for May 15, 2023 at St. Dominic Parish after the Monday afternoon Mass. Representatives of parish councils and committees will be asked to prepare summaries of their activities and accomplishments from the past year. These will be compiled in an Annual Meeting report that will be distributed to all parishioners via email, the website, social media and the Bulletin prior to the meeting. The meeting will include some speakers (to be determined) and time for questions and discussion. Pastoral council presence at this important event is essential.

**Common Cup**
The Archdiocese has indicated that the Precious Blood can be returned to Communion in our Masses. However, there are a number of logistics that need to be worked out before we reintroduce the Cup at Mass. Foremost will be the identification and training of volunteer Eucharistic ministers.

**Called and Gifted Workshop**
Two workshops are scheduled to take place on Saturday, April 29 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Dominic Parish – one in English and one in Spanish. The workshops are designed to assist individuals to discover their unique charism and how to use that special grace in service to others.

**Father Norberto Sandoval**

**Lenten Retreat**
The Hispanic community just completed a very successful, week-long Lenten retreat that began on April 1. The focus was “Building Families on the Way to Holiness” and featured psychologist Ferny Ramierz.

**Padre Jose Pablo Valencia Poblete**
Father Jose, a visiting priest from Chile, spoke at St. Clement on March 12th where he talked about being a disciple of Christ and the difficulties faced due to Catholic persecution in his country.
Faith Formation
St. Clement parishioner, Oscar Valdez, volunteered to act as a resource for Spanish RCIA candidates.

Palm Sunday Celebration
Adding interest for parish children, a donkey will be part of the procession on Palm Sunday.

Spanish Musician
At the present time there is no Spanish-language choir. Father Norberto has submitted a proposal for a paid musician to be a part of the Sunday Spanish Masses. $100 per Mass was suggested. Music for Weddings and Quinceaneras will continue to be the responsibility of each family.

Support for Hispanic Ministry
In the past, other parishes in Sheboygan County had given financial support to the Hispanic Ministry. It is unclear why this practice is no longer in place. Father Norberto will be sending a letter to Sheboygan area pastors to follow-up. Also, the Hispanic Ministry at St. Clement is organizing another raffle for fundraising.

Seton School Casino Night
The Hispanic group will be donating tamales as well as Venezuelan Arepas. Also, Starbucks has donated a number of glasses and coffee cups for the silent auction.

Second Collection for Love One Another Campaign
The Hispanic Community has been holding a second collection each Sunday for the Love One Another Campaign and will continue to do so for the duration of the campaign (five years). This has proven to be a successful effort as approximately $130-$230 has been collected each week.

John Michael Kohler Arts Festival
The Hispanic Community is looking forward to participating in this summer’s arts festival by once again setting up a beverage booth during the festivities.

5. Plan of Action
   a. Pastoral Council Roster
      i. 2022-2023 Vice Chair Opening
         Joel Sandersen, SD, has agreed to serve as vice chair for the remainder of the 2022-2023 Term. He will move into the chair position for 2023-2024.
      ii. 2023-2024 vacancies
         The following vacancies will exist for the next term:
         St. Clement – one position from the Hispanic community
         St. Dominic – two positions
         Holy Name – two positions
         Council members were asked to reach out and encourage parishioners who may be interested in serving on the council. Mary Petrie, SNCP Pastoral Assistant, will coordinate announcements for the Bulletin and at Mass. Concurrently, she will also be managing the trustee vacancies.
6. Old Business
   a. Remaining Lenten Events
      • 12 Hours of Reconciliation – March 28th, 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. at St. Peter Claver.
      • Stations of the Cross devotions – 5 p.m. Monday evenings at St. Dominic
      • Seton School Live Stations – 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 6th at Holy Name Church.

7. New Business
   a. Archdiocese of Milwaukee Eucharistic Revival
      National Eucharistic Revival
      The goal of the National Eucharistic Revival is to unite all Catholics once again around the source and summit of their faith in the celebration of the Eucharist. This journey began in June 2022 at the Archdiocesan level with a number of events taking place in which some of our parishioners participated. The second phase will emphasize Eucharistic devotion at the parish level. SNCP’s participation is being coordinated by Kym Leibham, Director of Adult Faith Formation. A planning committee has been formed and their first meeting has already taken place. The minutes of this meeting are attached (Attachment A). One of the first parish events to take place will be a Corpus Christi Eucharistic procession on both Saturday and Sunday on that weekend in early June.

      Engagement of pastoral council members is essential. As mentioned previously, Kym Leibham will be invited to the April pastoral council meeting to provide a status report on the many exciting events being planned.

      The National Eucharistic Revival will culminate on July 17-21, 2024 in Indianapolis, Indiana where it is anticipated that more than 80,000 Catholics of all ages will gather for the National Eucharistic Congress.

   b. Other new business
      Life Fest Music Festival
      Ron Spaulding and Dylan Zastrow, SNCP Youth Ministry have begun planning for the Life Fest Music Festival tentatively scheduled for July 7-9.

      Formation Committee
      Betty Macknick volunteered to be the parish council liaison to the SNCP formation committee. She will reach out to the faith formation team to have them include her at their next meeting.

      Pastoral Council Listing on SNCP Website
      Mary Jo Bugembe, Council Secretary, will work with Lori Biebel, SNCP Director of Communications, to update the listing.

      Special Needs Ministry
      Preliminary discussion with both North and South side parishes has begun to address this much needed ministry.
Next Meeting: Because the Mass of Atonement is scheduled for April 24th, the next Pastoral Council meeting will be held on Monday, May 1, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in Dominican Hall at St. Clement.

Committee Reports – Due by the 15th of the month. Email to mjbugembe@gmail.com (Mary Jo Bugembe, Council Secretary).

Closing Prayer: Ron Spaulding

Respectfully submitted
Mary Jo Bugembe
SNCP Pastoral Council Secretary
March 29, 2023