

Sheboygan North Catholic Parishes  
Pastoral Council Meeting in Dominican Hall  
Minutes 5-24-21  
Approved: 6-28-21

**Pastoral Council Members Present:** Fr. Mark Brandl (Pastor), Fr. Norberto Sandoval (Associate Pastor), Jeanne Bitkers (SD), Tom Clarke (HNJ), Mary Dalhaimer (SC), Tom Dinolfo (Staff), Laura Graney (SD), Mary Greenway (HNJ), Michael Johnson (HNJ), Michele Konrad (HNJ), Kym Leibham (HNJ), Mary Petrie (Staff), Chris Roenitz (SC), Rebecca Rupnik (SD), Kevin Sander (HNJ), and Anne Skowlund (SC)

**Excused Council Members:** Vern Baus (SC), Brad Bulkow (SD), Brett Goebel (SD), Bob Mair (SD), and Oscar Valdez (SC)

**Welcome:** Chair Michele Konrad called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

**Opening Prayer:** Rebecca Rupnik

**Mission and Vision Statements:** Read aloud by all Council members.

**Consent Agenda:** Minutes from April 26, 2021, and May 2021 Stewardship Committee Report. It was noted that a correction should be made to the minutes to reflect that the Council met in person at SC - Dominican Hall, and not via Zoom.

After noted correction is made, Motion made by Rebecca Rupnik to approve; seconded by Tom Clarke. Motion passed unanimously.

**Financial Reports:** Council members should have received (via email) the most recent copy of their respective parish financial reports. The SD Finance Council will be meeting tomorrow evening (May 25, 2021). **Action:** Council members are reminded to direct any financial questions or concerns to their respective parish trustees or liaisons.

**Pastor Report:** Fr. Mark Brandl

Auxiliary Bishop James Schuerman will be celebrating the 5 PM Mass at SD on Saturday, June 12<sup>th</sup>. Later that evening, he will be attending the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Organ Concert at HNJ. There are two candidates to interview for the Seton School Principal position. There is a major kitchen renovation project to be undertaken at Seton School in the immediate future. There is a large grease trap that has been hidden for many years, under the kitchen flooring, that is now attracting flies. There is also the possibility that there may be a break in the sewer pipe in the same vicinity. From now until the end of the present school year, cold lunches will be served at Seton. It has been a "good year" for Seton. They have the ability to give back a subsidy to each of our three parishes. Anna Stankewitz, our ECHO student, has now completed her term. We will have a new ECHO

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student beginning with our Northside parishes in August 2021. Our Stewardship Committee, under the direction of Mike Short (SD), is tweaking the "Time and Talent" booklet. It should be ready to "unveil" soon. Fr. Mark recommended to Kevin Sander (HNJ), to set up a date for them to meet, to discuss what topics should be highlighted at the Pre-Cana marriage prep classes. Fr. Mark's preference for meeting, is the first week of the month, and not on a Tuesday. **Action:** Kevin Sander (HNJ) to set up a meeting date with Fr. Mark to discuss topics to be highlighted at Pre-Cana marriage prep classes.

**Associate Pastor Report:** Fr. Norberto (Norbie) Sandoval

The activities planned in conjunction with displaying a replica statue of "Our Lady of St. John of the Lakes (Mexico) at HNJ were a big success! Fr. Norbie plans on doing a video presentation on the importance of being disciples of the Eucharist for both the Hispanic and Anglo communities. In conjunction with the Hispanic community, Fr. Norbie is planning a Mass in honor of Our Lady -- Virgin of Guadalupe on June 21<sup>st</sup>. Fr. Norbie is on a "mission" to recruit new servers for all three of our Northside parishes. He would like to start with our youth, but eventually would like to look at increasing the number of adults and families (Mom & daughter, Dad & Son, etc.) that participate in this vital ministry. From September 12-15, 2021, the International Catholic Stewardship Council, will be meeting in Orlando, FL. Fr. Norbie raised the question regarding how to involve members of our Stewardship Committee in this program? It will be an in-person conference; no Zoom option. It may be cost prohibitive. But, there is possibly a discount available via the Stewardship branch from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. Two Covid vaccination clinics have been held at SC, thus far. On average, 25-30 people have attended each session. People will be returning for their second dose of the vaccine, on either June 3<sup>rd</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup>, depending on when the first dose was given. People who would like to receive their first dose of the vaccine, are also welcome to attend. They will be scheduled for their second dose approximately 3-4 weeks from the first dose. Even some children were able to be vaccinated. Fr. Norbie plans to do a video presentation on the role that SC played as an original diphtheria vaccination site back in 1923. And, now, (approximately 100 years later), SC is playing an instrumental role, as a site for members of our community to receive their Covid vaccinations. In the near future, Fr. Norbie is planning on doing a presentation, to representatives from the Dane County Division of Public Health, on how to encourage members from our minority populations, on getting a Covid vaccination. Fr. Norbie also plans on speaking with Sheboygan's new Mayor, Ryan Sorenson, on the subject of photo ID's with our Hispanic community.

**Committee Liaisons/Guests:** None

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**Plan of Action:**

a. Faith Formation/Evangelization: Kevin Sander

Kevin mentioned that his committee for the "big speaker event" is having a hard time finding a speaker. But, they will keep trying. After finding out, this evening, that a First Reconciliation service is being planned at SD on December 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, it was recommended that the event be slated for December 10<sup>th</sup>. Now that our Northside Churches are beginning to open up more, and can accommodate more people, the event could be held at either HNJ or SD. The theme for this event has been determined. It is, "Journey with the Holy Family: Our Personal Call to Holiness". Fr. Norbie is checking into a potential speaker. **Action:** Fr. Norbie to provide Kevin with the name of this potential speaker.

b. Communications: Kym Leibham

No meeting of the whole committee was held in the month of May. Next meeting is slated for June 2021. Kym mentioned that Jeanne Bitkers and her Written Communications subcommittee should be recognized for all of the work that they have done in perusing various Church bulletins for items that we may wish to adopt when revising our Northside bulletin. Tom Dinolfo mentioned that various platforms are being reviewed that hopefully will be able to upgrade our bulletin, as well as our website. Hopefully, a final decision can be made within the next couple of weeks regarding the preferred platform that we will utilize.

c. Human Concerns - Laura Graney

In our most recent SNCP Bulletin, Anne Skowlund and Lulu Lubbers, Co-Chairs of the SC Human Concerns Committee, have written an article seeking a volunteer or volunteers from SC, to collect the food pantry donations on the second weekend of the month, and take them over to the Northside Christian Food Pantry, housed at SD. Laura Graney (SD) mentioned that this past weekend, she found perishable food items, sitting outside the Breezeway door at SD, following the 5 PM Mass. This is not the first time that this problem has occurred. Tom Dinolfo suggested that this topic be addressed further following this meeting. **Action:** Tom Dinolfo to touch base with Laura Graney, staff and possibly other parishioners (i.e., food pantry volunteers) regarding possible solutions to this problem. Lulu Lubbers (SC), Anne Skowlund (SC), Donna Karr (HNJ), Mary Petrie (Staff) and Fr. Mark met recently to review/discuss human concerns outreach efforts for 2021 for HNJ/SC.

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This same group plans to meet in fall again, to discuss plans for outreach efforts in 2022. Plan to invite the SD Human Concerns Co-Chairs to the fall meeting to discuss possible collaborative efforts in addition to the ones already in place, such as the Thanksgiving Food Boxes and Advent Tree of Hope. Hopefully, a Human Concerns representative from the SC Hispanic community can also be present. Next meeting for SD Human Concerns Committee is slated for June 22, 2021.

**Old Business:**

- a. Pre-Cana Couples/Tri-Parish Meeting - Kevin Sander

Already discussed this evening. Please refer to Pastor's Report - page 2 of this document.

- b. Status of Projects at Northside Parishes - Fr. Mark, Tom Dinolfo and Jeanne Bitkers

Plans for SC School are on hold. The tower and roofing at SC are almost done. The sidewalk in front of the office at HNJ is done. Now, the landscaping needs to be completed. New heating and air conditioning controls have been installed at SD. There has been at least a 5 year problem with the lighting at SD. The lighting in the Sanctuary has been completed. Hope to replace other burned out bulbs within the Church ceiling soon. Jeanne Bitkers reported that the SD Finance Council is beginning discussion regarding possible uses for the school classrooms, when Faith Formation classes are not in session. Classrooms are fully utilized on Wednesdays and Sundays. Keep in mind, that the school is not handicapped accessible. **Action:** Please let Tom Dinolfo know of any outside groups that may be interested in utilizing classrooms, when Faith Formation classes are not held.

- c. Election of Parishioners to Council and the Discernment Process - Michele Konrad

Michele met with Don Holmes (SD), Jeanne Bitkers (SD), Anne Skowlund (SC), and Kym Leibham (HNJ) on May 4<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM, to begin discussing how to organize/implement the discernment process for this year. Don has organized this process for many years. Michele has expressed willingness to take it over. This past weekend, at each Mass, a representative from the Elections/Discernment Committee gave a presentation regarding the Pastoral Council Nomination process.

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We are seeking two new representatives from HNJ, two from SD, and one from SC. The last day for parishioners to nominate another parishioner is Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. Parishioners are also asked to consider self-nominating themselves. Present Council members that will be stepping down at the end of this fiscal year on June 30<sup>th</sup>, are Kym Leibham (HNJ), Michele Konrad (HNJ), and Laura Graney (SD). Brad Bulkow (SD) indicated to Michele Konrad, that he needed to resign from the Council; resignation effective as of today. New Council members will officially join Council members continuing in their role on July 1<sup>st</sup>. The transition meeting will take place on June 28<sup>th</sup>.

In terms of trustees, Fr. Mark asked those present this evening, that are up for renewal, if they were willing to continue in their current role. Affirmations were received from Jeanne Bitkers (SD), Mary Dalhaimer (SC), and Tom Clarke (HNJ). Trustees that will be continuing in the second year of their two year term are Brett Goebel (SD), Mary Greenway (HNJ), and possibly Vern Baus (SC). **Action:** Either Fr. Mark or Mary Petrie (Staff) will check with Vern Baus, if he is willing to continue as a trustee for SC. Laura Graney (SD) will send a copy of the trustee forms that she has on record to Fr. Mark, Mary Petrie (Staff) and Tom Dinolfo (Staff). Mary Petrie (Staff) will obtain new trustee forms, from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, for all trustees to fill out and sign at our next Council meeting on June 28<sup>th</sup>.

**New Business:**

a. Catholics Coming Home: Fr. Mark

Fr. Mark would like to initiate this program within our Northside Catholic parishes. He indicated that this program had a profound influence on him, and was an instrumental reason why he returned "home" to the Catholic Church. There is probably at least one "canned" program out there that we could adopt; maybe more.

In terms of a RCIA promo weekend, maybe Roseanne Krueger, our RCIA Coordinator, could come and give a presentation to each parish, regarding the RCIA process? Hopefully, articles on the RCIA process could be incorporated into several SNCP bulletins. Maybe the SNCP bulletin, could spotlight former RCIA candidates that completed the RCIA process within the past 6 months.

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b. Staff - Tom Dinolfo

Laura TeWinkle will be retiring as the Administrative Assistant at SD, after more than 20 years of dedicated service, on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Several options are being explored in regards to Laura's replacement. Some of her present duties may be absorbed by internal staff. It has not been decided yet as to whether her potential replacement will be part-time or full-time. The position has not been posted yet.

**Action:** Let Tom Dinolfo know of any individual that may be interested in this position.

A reception will be held to thank Laura for her years of dedicated service to SD, on Saturday, June 26<sup>th</sup>, from 6 PM to 7 PM, and Sunday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, from 11:30 PM to 1 PM. Reception will take place in the SD—PAC. Ice cream sandwiches and bottled water will be served. Please come and say "good bye", "thank you" and "best wishes" to Laura!

It is anticipated that by September 2021 or October 2021, Fr. Norbie will receive a notice from the Archdiocese regarding the possibility of either "renewing" with our Northside parishes for another 3 years or "moving on". Fr. Norbie would like to stay, if at all possible. The Council indicated to Fr. Norbie that we would be willing to draft a letter of support that could accompany his request to stay, if desired. The Hispanic community at SC has also indicated an intent to draft a letter of support, encouraging the Archdiocese to allow Fr. Norbie to stay another 3 years, in order to carry out many of the projects that he has planned or recently initiated within the Hispanic community. Fr. Norbie will keep us posted as to when he receives this notice from the Archdiocese.

- c. It is anticipated that the Hispanic community will be able to return back to SC to celebrate Masses beginning July 2021. There will probably be a transition of leaders within many of the Hispanic committees as of this date, as well. Recently, there has been an increase in the number of Hispanic members that have joined SC. This may be due in part to the fact that the Pastor assigned to St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church, in Newton, WI, (who spoke Spanish), was recently reassigned to another parish within the Green Bay Diocese.

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- d. The Office at HNJ will be closed from June 21<sup>st</sup> through 25<sup>th</sup>, for the installation of new carpeting.

**Next Meeting: Monday, June 28, 2021, 6:30pm, SC - Dominican Hall**  
**Committee Reports-Due by the 15th of the Month, Email to: [laura9326@charter.net](mailto:laura9326@charter.net).**

Meeting ended at 8:24 PM.

Closing Prayer: Kevin Sander

Minutes respectfully submitted by Laura Graney, SNCP Recording Secretary