

Sheboygan North Catholic Parishes  
Pastoral Council Meeting in Dominican Hall  
Minutes 9-24-18

Present: Father Matthew Widder, Father Gideon Buya, Jeanne Bitkers, Tom Clarke, Rhonda Fouts, Laura Graney, Mary Greeneway, Steve Heun, Don Holmes, Jane Kautzer, Michele Konrad, Peggy Kress, Kym Leibham, Kate Nienhuis, Mary Petrie, Jeremy Rauwerdink, Steve Scharrer, Maureen Stoelb, Bea Van Geffen

Excused: Brad Bulkow, Pat Dinolfo, Tom Dinolfo, Rosa Flores, Joe Leonard, and Vince Karls

Prior to the start of the meeting, a picture of the 2018-19 SNCP Pastoral Council was taken. A special thank you to Jacqueline Guilbeault, Director of Youth Ministry, for being our photographer.

Chairperson Jeanne Bitkers called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Bea Van Geffen offered the Opening Prayer.

Michele Konrad, vice-chair, and Mary Greeneway facilitated "Circle Time." Our overarching theme for Circle Time is "Do whatever he tells you." The specific topic addressed tonight was, "What do you love most about your Catholic faith?"

The training video, "A Call to Serve: Ministry, Mission and Method", was viewed. This video is available on the Archdiocese of Milwaukee website -- <https://www.archmil.org/offices/parish-councils/council-training-webinars/Parish-leadership.htm>.

Jeanne referred Council members to the Archdiocese of Milwaukee website for review of the "Parish Pastoral Council Norms" (guidelines for all Pastoral Councils) -- <https://www.archmil.org/ArchMil/Resources/ParCnl1/Finance-and-Pastoral-Councils/PPCNorms20120510.pdf>. New SNCP Pastoral Council members were given a copy of the "Pastoral Council Appendix" - specific operating guidelines for our SNCP. Jeanne then disseminated a document that listed the Mission Statement for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, along with the 2017-18 Vision Statement, Core Values, and Strategies/Actions for

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our SNCP. The three strategies that were selected as priorities for our SNCP were highlighted.

Goals for 2018-19 were tabled until next month, when more time could be devoted to discussion of this topic.

The Consent agenda was approved, but it was noted that one committee report (Faith Formation) was inadvertently not included. Laura will send out under separate cover following this meeting. The minutes of the August 27, 2018 meeting were approved, but one statement was recommended to be revised. In regards to "Undie Sunday", underwear is not being collected for the military. Items are being collected for veterans at the VA Hospital in Milwaukee. Steve Scharrer asked for an updated "SNCP Pastoral Council Membership Roster", so that representatives from each respective parish can receive financial reports via email. Laura will follow-up on this matter and disseminate an updated "Membership Roster" to each SNCP Pastoral Council member.

Pastors' Reports:

Father Matthew complimented each liaison and their respective committee on their committee reports. Special mention was given to the Evangelization report and the effort made to describe evangelization based on its' three dimensions. Father Matthew thanked our Sheboygan "community" for being present at the funeral Mass for John Valukas. John may not have had "family" (other than a few cousins), but he had God's greater "family" present for his "celebration of life". Roseanne Krueger, has been hired as the new RCIA Coordinator for the Sheboygan North parishes. Her office will be in the Reinl Center (HNJ). Project 177 will be held at SD on Sunday, October 7<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is invited to attend this evening of adoration and contemporary Christian music. Sure to be a powerful evangelizing encounter! The "40 Days for Life" event will be held from September 26<sup>th</sup> through November 4<sup>th</sup>. Here is your opportunity to take a stance on a "peaceful" end to abortion. The Northside Christian Food Pantry (based at SD) will be

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holding an open house on November 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. Barb Richter (Coordinator) will be stepping down from this position as of December 31<sup>st</sup>. She is looking for a replacement. For more information, please contact Barb.

Father Gideon reported that since school started the first week of September, he has been visiting the K through Grade 4 students and Father Matthew has been visiting the middle school students. Father Gideon described his experience with the students, as a "joy to have in class". The "Women of Christ" conference will be held on November 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Washington County Fair Grounds. Early sign-up will end on October 6<sup>th</sup>. Scott Hahn, a well renowned author and theologian, has been asked to speak at this event. The emcee is Grace Urbanski. Besides being at the "Women of Christ" conference, Grace will be at St. John the Baptist School in October, to speak to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students.

Old Business:

Laura gave an update regarding our potential Refugee/Latino Immigrant Project. Please refer to attached handout. The SNCP Pastoral Council recommended to develop and implement this project. The first step will be to form a sub-committee that reports to Human Concerns. Jeanne briefly described a new Archdiocesan initiative entitled, "Companion Parishes". We might be able to incorporate some components of this initiative (presently in "draft" format) within our Refugee/Latino Immigrant project. A brief explanation of this concept is, due to the high percentage of Hispanic parishioners within the SC congregation, they could be partnered with other "companion parishes" (in this case HNJ and SD), to look at addressing some of the unique needs of this population. In some respects, we are "ahead of the game", as we have started some collaboration between our Sheboygan North Catholic Parishes. Stay tuned for more information, as this initiative unfolds!

New Business:

Jeanne distributed the 2018-19 "SNCP Pastoral Council Committee Liaisons" list. The list not only contained committee assignments, it also defined what a liaison is, and good liaison skills. She also disseminated a "Key Strategies

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Summary" handout pertaining to each of the six committees (Prayer & Worship, Faith Formation, School Board, Stewardship, Human Concerns, and Financial).

October 2018 Agenda: Possible items to be considered include: 1) the development and implementation of a Refugee/Latino Immigrant project, 2) A strategy that focuses on key words that came to the forefront tonight as a result of "Circle Time" - Sacraments and Eucharist, and 3) Possibly developing a support/social group for students (high school grads) that are developmentally delayed and not going to college.

Upcoming Events:

- On September 29<sup>th</sup>, from 6 to 10:00 PM, there will be a "Celebrating our Independence from Mexico" event held at SD; sports related raffle prizes will be awarded.
- On October 7<sup>th</sup>, at 2:15 PM, there will be a pet blessing event held on the Seton playground.
- On November 26<sup>th</sup>, a fall retreat (led by Father Pat Heppe) will be offered to our SNCP Pastoral Council members. Mass (in commemoration of Father Dan Lasecki) will be celebrated at 5:30 PM at SD. Pot luck and Father Heppe's presentation to follow. All SNCP Pastoral Council members are encouraged to attend. Stay tuned for more details!

Next meeting: October 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 6:30 p.m. in Dominican Hall

Reports for the Consent Agenda are due by October 15<sup>th</sup>.  
Please send to [laura9326@charter.net](mailto:laura9326@charter.net)

Closing Prayer: Laura offered the closing prayer at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura Graney, recording secretary