

**Sheboygan North Catholic Parishes  
Pastoral Council Minutes**

**Thursday, October 23, 2025, 6:30 p.m., Dominican Hall, St. Clement Parish  
Approved November 10, 2025**

**Pastoral Council Members and Staff Present:** Fr. Nick Baumgardner (Pastor), Luanne Bemis (SC), Jeanne Bitkers (SD), Tom Clarke (HNJ), Nick Devine (SD), Dan Duessing (SD), Mary Greenway (HNJ), Don Holmes (SD), Lauren Jacobs (HNJ), Tom Jetzer (SC), Donna Karr (HNJ), Jeanne Kobuszewski (SC), Michele Konrad (HNJ), Bob Mair (SD), Mary Petrie (SNCP Pastoral and Administrative Assistant), Anne Skowlund (SC), James TenPas (SD) and Lori Woelfel (SNCP Office Manager, Bookkeeper, Safeguarding).

**Excused:** Fr. Dennis Beltré (Associate Pastor), Danilo Batres (SC), Mary Jo Bugembe (HNJ) and Anahi Escobar (SC).

**Opening Prayer: Bob Mair**

**Mission/Vision Statements: Read by all**

**Note: Michele Konrad took individual photos of council members during the meeting.**

**1. Consent Agenda:**

- a. **Minutes: September 25, 2025 (Online Approval: October 2, 2025)**
- b. **Committee Reports**
  - i. **SD Human Concerns, September 11, 2025**
  - ii. **SNCP Life and Worship, September 23, 2025**
  - iii. **SNCP Stewardship, September 23, 2025**

No additional questions or concerns.

**2. Pastor and Associate Pastor Reports**

**Fr. Nick Baumgardner**

Confirmation Retreats. Confirmation retreats are scheduled for this weekend at Spiritus Retreat Center in the Green Bay Diocese, with Father Nick providing confessions on Saturday night.

Stewardship of Treasure. November 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> is designated as SNCP Stewardship of Treasure weekend. Personal witness testimonies will be delivered after communion at all Masses to promote financial giving and online donations.

Calvary Cemetery. John Jacobchick will step back from administrative duties while continuing to oversee grave digging. This will reduce cemetery expenses. Volunteers have assumed responsibility for 100% of the lawn mowing and will also provide administrative duties. These volunteers contribute a substantial cost savings for the cemetery budget.

Seton School. A stricter dress code has been implemented this year to improve student appearance. Monthly adoration and confession opportunities continue to take place on the second Friday of each month. Also, Seton School and SNCP staff continue to work together looking for additional opportunities for prayer, adoration and confession.

#### **Fr. Dennis Beltré**

Fr. Dennis is currently on a family visit in the Dominican Republic. He will be returning after his visa paperwork is successfully completed, most likely next Monday, November 3.

### **3. Financial Report – Lori Woelfel**

Lori shared the financial report that will be appearing in the bulletin with the September and FYTD information for each parish, Seton School and Calvary Cemetery.

Financial reports show Holy Name and St. Dominic are running surpluses while St. Clement continues operating at a deficit. Total weekend Mass attendance has been averaging close to 1,300 people across all parishes. It was also noted that Mass attendance has significantly recovered from COVID lows of 600 people per weekend to current levels. This represents a substantial improvement in parish participation.

### **4. Book Discussion: *Why We're Catholic* by Trent Horn, Chapters 3, 4 and 5.**

Book discussion focused on three challenging chapters addressing the problem of evil, with participants sharing personal experiences about faith, science, and maintaining belief during difficult times.

Next meeting we will discuss Chapters 6, 7, 8

### **5. Courageous Conversations**

Appropriate demeanor during communion distribution was discussed, with an emphasis on maintaining a balance between joy and reverence while allowing Christ to be the prominent figure.

### **6. Old Business**

#### **a. Update on Pastoral Council Appointments/Committee Liaisons –**

LuAnn Bemis has stepped forward to be Council Vice Chair. Nick Devine will serve as liaison to SD Finance Council and Jim Tenpas will be liaison to SD Human Concerns.

#### **b. SNCP Volunteer Recognition –** The Volunteer Recognition Planning Committee suggested holding a bingo night in April. The committee did not meet since the last pastoral council meeting. Council members will be asked to share their thoughts and ideas at the December Pastoral Council meeting.

- c. **Report on Trivia Night sponsored by Holy Name on October 11** - the recent trivia night was a success with 11 tables and positive community participation from all three parishes. The goal of the event was to provide an opportunity for fellowship and the committee believes that this goal was met along with making a small profit as an added bonus.

## **7. New Business**

### **a. Upcoming Parish Events**

- i. **Veterans Underwear Collection, November 1-9**
- ii. **Stewardship of Treasure Weekend, November 8-9**
- iii. **Fall Fest at St. Clement, November 9** – looking for volunteers and raffle items
- iv. **Thanksgiving Food Box Outreach, November 22** – looking for bakers, basket delivery help and financial support, expecting to have at least 350 food baskets for our community.
- v. **Advent by Candlelight, December 1, SD PAC**

## **8. Next Meeting**

- Suggestion to have our new Director of Child & Youth Discipleship, Jennifer Branecky, speak to the Council at the next meeting.
- Chair Dan Duessing will take the lead on the pastoral council goal of building community among our three parishes, with a focus on how this could be accomplished outside of the liturgy.

**Closing Prayer: Donna Karr**

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Greenway and Donna Karr on behalf of Mary Jo Bugembe, SNCP Pastoral Council Secretary

November 4, 2025

**Next Meeting Date: Thursday Dec 11<sup>th</sup> this meeting will cover both November and December due to Thanksgiving and Christmas both being on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month. Opening prayer: Tom Jetzer; Closing prayer: Luann Bemis**

**Committee Reports- Due by the 15th of the Month, Email to: [mjbugembe@gmail.com](mailto:mjbugembe@gmail.com) (Mary Jo Bugembe, Council Secretary)**