

Sheboygan North Catholic Parishes
Pastoral Council Minutes
September 25, 2025, 6:30 p.m., Dominican Hall, St. Clement
Approved October 2, 2025

Pastoral Council Members and Staff Present: Fr. Nick Baumgardner (Pastor), Fr. Dennis Beltré (Associate Pastor), Danilo Batres (SC), Luanne Bemis (SC), Jeanne Bitkers (SD), Mary Jo Bugembe (HNJ), Tom Clarke (HNJ), Dan Duessing (SD), Anahi Escobar (SC), Mary Greeneway (HNJ), Don Holmes (SD), Lauren Jacobs (HNJ), 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: Nick Devine (SD) and Tom Jetzer (SC).

Welcome: Chair Dan Duessing called the meeting to order at 6:50 p.m.

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

Opening Prayer: Mary Greeneway

1. Consent Agenda

a. Minutes August 28, 2025

Online approval September 4, 2025.

Chair Dan Duessing introduced Jeanne Kobuszewski who will fill the open position for St. Clement. Welcome Jeanne.

2. Pastor and Associate Pastor Reports

Fr. Nick and Fr. Dennis' reports were included with the SNCP Annual Report presentation that preceded this pastoral council meeting. See attachment. Also, Fr. Dennis noted he will be in the Dominican Republic in October for a family visit. He asked for prayers for a successful trip.

3. Financial Report—Lori Woelfel

Current financial data was also reported at the SNCP Annual Meeting. In addition, it was noted that the Archdiocese's required confidential financial statements (CFS) are works in progress for St. Dominic and St. Clement. Holy Name's statement has been completed.

4. Book Discussion: *Why We're Catholic* by Trent Horn, Introduction and Part 1, Chapters 1 and 2.

Council members had positive feedback for the author's writing style and agreed that the book provided a good understanding of the basic levels of why we are Catholic. Understanding our faith is important to being an effective evangelist. It was acknowledged that evangelization is not easy, and many may not feel "intelligent" enough. This book will definitely be a valuable resource on an individual's journey to becoming a successful evangelist.

Council members also agreed the chapter on science was enlightening. The discussion of Galileo was particularly interesting. It is significant to note that science is only one tool we can use to explore truths about reality. Other thought tools like logical reasoning also play an important role.

Readings for next month are Part 1: Chapters 3, 4 and 5.

5. Old Business

a. Pastoral Council and Committee Liaison openings

i. Vice Chair

This position still remains open. Council members were asked to pray and consider this matter which will be discussed again at the October pastoral council meeting.

ii. St. Dominic Liaison to Finance Council

Due to a change in schedules for the finance councils, Jim Tenpas is no longer able to serve as liaison for SD. Chair Dan Duessing will follow up with Nick Devine to see if he is willing to exchange roles with Jim. Nick currently serves as the Council's liaison to SD Human Concerns.

b. SNCP Volunteer Recognition

National Volunteer Week is April 19-25, 2026. Council members supported planning a volunteer appreciation event to potentially take place on Thursday, April 23rd with a kick-off on the previous Sunday to include a special blessing at weekend Masses. Ideas for an event included a bingo night or an ice cream social. It was suggested that prizes could be solicited from local businesses. Further discussion to take place at the October meeting.

6. New Business

a. Upcoming Parish Events

- Trivia Night sponsored by Holy Name at St. Clement, October 11. 5:30-9:00 pm. This fund raiser is modeled after a similar event at Blessed Trinity. Tickets are \$20 for a lasagna dinner and trivia or \$15 for trivia only. Six individuals per team. Cash prizes for 1st and

2nd place teams. 50/50 Raffle plus prizes for best table decorations/costumes. Sign up online or at the parish office.

- **Pilgrimage to St. Joan of Arc Chapel and Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, October 17.**
There are still a few spots open. Contact Kym Leibham to register or see the SNCP website.
- **Fall Fest at St. Clement, November 9**
Parishioners Mike and Sandy Beil are heading up the volunteers for this event. Jeannine Battaglia will coordinate the food and Patty Harms is managing the raffle. Thank you to all the volunteers who contribute to the Fall Fest's success.
- **Thanksgiving Food Boxes**
Solicitation for donations will take place the beginning of October.
- **SNCP Merchandise**
SNCP branded apparel will be available online September 28-October 12. These items make great gift giving for Christmas.

7. Miscellaneous

Council member Luann Bemis shared her experience visiting St. Thomas More Catholic Church in Denver. The parish had some unique ideas, including a coffee shop which was an outpost for evangelization. She also shared the church's idea for a passport used by their religious education department. It acts as an incentive as it is stamped as a student makes progress on their faith formation journey.

Closing Prayer: Jeanne Bitkers

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Jo Bugembe
SNCP Pastoral Council Secretary
September 29, 2025

Next Meeting:

Thursday, October 23, 2025, St. Clement Dominican Hall. Opening prayer: Bob Mair; Closing prayer: Donna Karr.

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

Attachment: SNCP Annual Meeting 2025