

St. William Parish Council
September 13, 2016

- **Opening Prayer:** The meeting opened with the Year of Mercy Prayer for September entitled “*Feeding the Hungry – Giving Drink to the Thirsty.*”
- **Welcome and Introduction:** Father Balash welcomed the members to the first meeting of the year. New members to the Council were also welcomed and include: Dan Gelet (K of C Representative); Jennifer Kusmierek (Religious Education Representative); Elizabeth McCue (Youth Representative); and At-Large Members, Eddie Kuhn and Maureen Thuman. The Parish Life Committee Representative still needs to be chosen when the committee meets on September 22, 2016.
- **Review of May 10, 2016 Minutes:** The minutes of the May 10, 2016, meeting were approved as submitted.
- **Parish Calendars and Parish Council By-Laws:** Father Balash distributed a 2016-2017 Parish Calendar to all members. The revised By-Laws of Parish Council were also distributed to all members. A brief discussion was held about the scope, purpose and vision of Parish Council as it relates to the mission of the parish.
- **Diocesan Pastoral Plan Update:** Fr. Balash reviewed briefly the Diocesan Pastoral Plan for Evangelization: “*Trusting in Christ: A Call to Discipleship.*” Last year the Council reviewed each section of the plan surfacing ways in which the parish is fulfilling the parish actions indicated in the pastoral plan as well as areas for improvement and new possibilities. Over the summer, Linda Horm collated the responses from the members. A summary was presented and after reviewing the summary, members were asked prioritize their top 2-3 items on “how/what we might do better,” and the top 2 “new ideas.” These will be discussed at the next meeting.
- **Ministry/Organization Reports:**
 - **Parish Life** -- Fr. Balash reported that the committee will be meeting on September 22, 2016, to discern a representative to the Council and will begin planning the Parish Appreciation Event. The committee will also discuss the Thanksgiving Food Drive and Christmas Giving projects.
 - **Liturgy Committee** -- **Donna Runtas:** The Liturgy Committee met previous to the Parish Council meeting. The committee began discussing plans for Advent and Christmas. The Diocesan Liturgy Day will be held on Saturday, October 15, 2016, at Saint William Parish. Members of the committee will be involved in hospitality for event.
 - **Women’s Guild** -- **Therese Tuttle:** The Women’s Guild held their yearly organizational meeting on June 5, 2016, and the first meeting of the year on September 7, 2016. At this meeting the members reviewed the Guild’s year-end financial audit. Maria Butcher agreed to serve as chairperson for the 2018 Card Party. Over the summer, the Guild held their annual Rummage Sale netting \$4000.00 in profit. The Guild also hosted the annual Parish Picnic. The Guild is continuing to pursue remodeling the handicapped bathroom and will also discuss replacing the freezer in the kitchen. Upcoming events include TNT Night on September 20, 2016, and monthly meetings on Wednesday, October 5, and November 2, 2016.

- **Finance** -- **Linda Horn**: The Finance Committee will meet on Thursday, September 8, 2016, to review the financial status of the parish. The committee will also review and finalize the yearly financial reports and budget for the Diocese. A financial report will be provided to the parish membership soon after.
- **Religious Education** -- **Jennifer Kusmierek**: PSR began on September 11, 2016. October 9, 2016, will be the first FFC of the year. The session will begin with breakfast at 9:00 a.m. and PSR students and families will attend the 11:00 a.m. Mass. Make a Difference Day will be on Saturday, October 22, 2016, from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon and will conclude with lunch for all the volunteers. A retreat for students in grades 4-6 will be held on October 30, 2016. A new addition this year is “Stories and Scriptures” for preschool children. These sessions be held on the second Sunday of each month.
- **Youth Ministry** -- **Elizabeth McCue**: Over the summer Youth Ministry served monthly at the Saint Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen. An outdoor movie night was held on June 24, 2016. 2 teens, 1 young adult and 2 chaperones participated in the iPlunge Retreat in Cincinnati, June 27-30, 2016. The group expressed thanks to Knights of Columbus and Women’s Guild for their financial support. Youth Ministry will begin on Sunday, September 18, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. for all young people grades 7-12 and parents. Gatherings will be held twice a month: high school students will meet on the first Sunday of the month, 9:30-10:45 a.m. and students in grades 7-12 will meet on the third Sunday of the month, 6:00-8:00 p.m. The Diocesan Youth Convention will be held on Sunday, November 6, 2016 at St. Michael Parish, Canton. Youth Ministry will join Warren Area Catholic Teens on November 19, 2016, for the Senior Pasta Dinner at St. Mary Church. A complimentary dinner will be served to seniors from the Warren area parishes.
- **Knights of Columbus**: -- **Dan Gelet**: The Knights of Columbus assisted at the Trunk Sale on June 11, 2016, and at the Parish Picnic on August 14, 2016. In addition to their monthly meetings, the Knights and families will attend a Corporate Communion Mass at 8:30 a.m. on Sunday, September 18, 2016. A Reverse Raffle will be held on Saturday, October 22, 2016. The Knights also participated as part of the honor guard for the traveling Vietnam Veterans Wall in Geauga County.
- **Pastor’s Report**: Father Balash reported that many of the groups and organizations are resuming activities after the summer hiatus. The Capital Campaign/Building Project is progressing. Invitations for bidding the project will soon be announced by the architects. Once bids have been received they will be reviewed by the Building and Finance Committee. The Capital Campaign continues to be successful. As of August 23, 2016, 79% of pledges have been collected totaling \$456,974.00.
- **Old Business**: None
- **New Business**: Members were informed of the Council Meeting Dates: November 8, 2016, January 10, March 14 and May 9, 2017.

The next meeting of Parish Council will be on Tuesday, November 8, 2016 at 7:00p.m. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.