

# St. William Parish

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**March 29, 2020 ~ Fifth Sunday of Lent**



## Pastor's COLUMN

As we enter into this second week of “unusual” circumstances that no one ever thought imaginable, I am reminded of two episodes from the Scriptures –one from the Old Testament and this weekend’s Gospel reading about Lazarus being raised from the dead. From the Old Testament, I recall the very first Passover. Much like the Israelites waiting for the Lord God to pass over their marked homes, we too are waiting in our homes for the passing over of this virus. In both instances, from the first Passover to today, the end result is knowing that God will always take care of His people. From this Sunday’s gospel we hear the story of Lazarus being raised from the dead as his sisters, Martha and Mary, come to believe in Jesus as the Messiah. The familiar and often quoted verse “*I am the resurrection and the life, whoever believes in me, even if they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die,*” is included in today’s reading. As we continue in this unusual and challenging time, I think these two Scripture references can offer us a sense of hope and comfort. God does and will take care of us and as strong as our belief in the resurrection is, we should have the same confidence and conviction that we will survive and come through this situation with even a greater faith and belief in the divine providence of God. Know of my continued prayers, best wishes, and good thoughts for you and your family. Stay safe...be well...and remain strong! *This too...shall pass!*

Since last week a few changes have been made. As part of the “stay-at-home” order, the Parish Office is now open on Monday and Friday ONLY from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon; however I encourage you to conduct any business by phone or mail. The Church building remains closed and it is asked that no one enter the building without checking in at the office first.

### **PLEASE JOIN THE PARISH APP AS A MEANS TO RECEIVE UP-TO-DATE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NEWS!**

We continue to be under the directive of the Ohio Bishops which temporarily suspended all public Masses through Easter Sunday, April 12, 2020. Please view Mass on television or on-line and remember that this Sunday’s homily has also been posted on the website for your reflection. During this time of absence from receiving the Eucharist, I encourage you to make a “Spiritual Communion” as you view Mass. The Act of Spiritual Communion has long been a Catholic understanding that when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion, it is possible to make an Act of Spiritual Communion. Spiritual Communion is an ardent desire to receive Christ in the Most Holy Sacrament and lovingly embrace Him at a time or in circumstances when one cannot receive Him in sacramental Communion. See the announcement in this bulletin about how to make an Act of Spiritual Communion.

Finally, next weekend Palms will be blessed privately and available for curb-side pick up on Saturday at 5:00 – 5:15 p.m. and Sunday at 10:00 – 10:15 a.m. Also, if you are looking for an alternative place to take a walk, get outside, and enjoy some fresh air, you are welcomed to use our parking lot and grounds to do so. Starting at the main entrance of the Church, one lap around the perimeter of the entire parking lot including the back area by the kitchen and down exit driveway = ½ mile!

*Have a Good Week and Stay Safe!*  
*Fr. Balash*



To all who continue mail, drop off, or use myEoffering to make their current weekly contribution. With limited office hours, if you plan to drop off your offering, you can place it in the mailbox at the main entrance. It is checked daily 12:00noon, 3:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. I very much appreciate and am grateful for your support during these unusual circumstances as we continue to meet our financial obligations. I will keep you up to date as we continue to move forward.

THANK YOU!  
Fr. Balash

**OFFERTORY SUMMARY ~ March 22, 2020 (WK 37)**

	LAST WK	YTD
Sunday Collection	\$ 4,343.31*	\$ 272,776.70*
Amount Needed	\$ 7,100.00	\$ 269,800.00
Difference	\$ (2,756.69)	\$ 2,976.70
Performance	61%	101%

\*Includes MyEoffering: \$ 665.31 LAST WK — \$ 24,832.25 YTD  
Special Donations ~ \$1,500.00  
Envelopes ~ 89 out of 552  
Children's Envelopes ~ \$ 2.00 (1 out of 62)

**Pot-of-Gold: #390 drawn on 3/25/20. No Winner.  
Winner would have received \$228.00.**



Mass Intentions through Easter will be rescheduled to open dates beginning June 1.

**Check the parish website from time to time for information about what is happening at the parish...**

**www.stwilliamchampion.org**

**Online Mass**

Daily Mass is available at [www.CatholicTV.org](http://www.CatholicTV.org)

**PARISH APP**

**URGENT ~ PLEASE SIGN UP TODAY!**



During this time it is important that we stay connected. Circumstances are changing daily and the BEST way to stay in touch, get news to you, and keep as many as possible informed is through the Parish APP. Text APP to 88202 to download myParish APP. Select our parish and follow the easy instructions or

visit our website for more information. Questions??? Call the Parish Office.

**PICK-UP PALMS**

Next weekend, April 4-5 you will be able to pick-up Palms curb-side on Saturday 5:00-5:15 p.m. and Sunday 10:00-10:15 a.m. at the main entranceway of the Church building. Palms will be blessed privately.

**Scripture that will be proclaimed THIS WEEKEND**  
or visit [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) for the Readings

~ March 29, 2020 ~  
**Fifth Sunday of Lent**

**Ezekial 37: 12-14**

*Thus says the Lord GOD: O my people, I will open your graves and have you rise from them...*

**Romans 8: 8-11**

*Brothers and sisters: Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh...*

**John 11: 1-45**

*Now a man was ill, Lazarus from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who...*

**Spiritual Communion via Televised or On-Line Mass**

The Act of Spiritual Communion is made when circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion at Mass. The way to make an Act of Spiritual Communion is listed below and can be adapted based upon personal and family needs:

1. Gather with others in your household and begin a time of prayer with the sign of the cross.
2. Watch Mass on television or on-line, or if unable, take time to read and reflect upon the readings from Sunday Mass. Scripture readings can be found at [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org). A schedule of televised Mass is available at [www.doy.org](http://www.doy.org) under Media tab.
3. Share prayer intentions quietly or aloud.
4. Pray the Lord's Prayer.
5. Offer a prayer for healing, strength, or forgiveness or any prayer available during the coronavirus pandemic. If viewing Mass, offer a prayer during the normal time of Communion.

**PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

*My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.*

*I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul.*

*Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally,*

*come at least spiritually into my heart.*

*I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you.*

*Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.*

6. Close with the sign of the cross.

**HAVE YOU CONSIDERED myEoffering?**

Remain current on your weekly offerings by signing up for myEoffering today. Electronic giving is safe, secure and easy! Information can be found on the parish website: [www.stwilliamchampion.org](http://www.stwilliamchampion.org) Follow the easy sign-up registration and instruction step to establish your account. Questions??? Call the Parish Office.



# SPECIAL PROJECT GETS AN EARLY START!



During this unexpected hiatus some of our special projects are getting an early start. Pictured here is work currently being done in the Church vestibule to replace the existing lights with new LED lighting fixtures. *As with any project...it has become more involved than originally planned!* The current fixtures require a U-shaped fluorescent bulb that has been delayed in being manufactured as an LED bulb. Rather than waiting, it was decided to replace the entire fixture with a new LED fixture. *Simple!* However, once one fixture was installed, the new bright LED light only highlighted the dilapidated look of the entire ceiling. After considering painting or replacing the ceiling tiles, it was decided to do a full replacement. Thanks to the generosity of the Knights of Columbus to pay for the ceiling tiles the project is well underway! When you return you should notice a big difference in the vestibule!

## WE ALL NEED A BIT OF HUMOR!

Over the past days, I have received many email and phone messages of concern and inquiry about how I am doing, how things are here at the parish, and how to describe all of these unusual happenings and circumstances!

After thinking it over of how to best describe things here at the parish...here is my answer!



*Entering our second week of isolation  
and it's like Vegas here!  
--We're losing money...  
--Cocktails are acceptable at any hour...  
--...and nobody knows what time it is!!!*

**Be Safe....Fr. Balash**

## A PRAYER FOR ALL OF US DURING THIS TIME

by Pat Maciejewski



Lord, God,  
creator of all good things,  
help us in these days of concern and unrest,  
of the unknown and maybe even panic.  
Be with all medical personnel,  
and all in charge of keeping us safe and calm.

We trust in you, O Lord,  
to give us the strength and courage,  
words and actions,  
that we might need in the days and weeks ahead.

Keep us prudent in caring for ourselves,  
our loved ones, and all others,  
We implore you, O God, to send  
your healing and spirit into the whole world.

Remain with us, grant us peace.

**AMEN**

## NEW MEMBERS

**Demski Family**  
Lisa and Michael

*Welcome to our parish family.  
May you find warmth and  
spiritual growth in our parish.*

