

St. William Parish Council
March 8, 2016

- **Opening Prayer:** The meeting opened with the Year of Mercy Prayer for March entitled “*Forgiving Offenses and Bearing Wrongs Patiently.*”
- **Welcome and Review of January 12, 2016 Minutes:** The members were welcomed to the meeting and the minutes of the January 12, 2016, meeting were approved as submitted.
- **Review Diocesan Pastoral Plan:** The members continued to review the Diocesan Pastoral Plan for Evangelization: “*Trusting in Christ: A Call to Discipleship.*” The section discussed at this meeting was on Discipleship and Christian Formation. The members offered their input on how St. William Parish is fulfilling this area of ministry and how the parish might also improve in these areas. The results of the discussion will be summarized and a full assessment of the strengths and weaknesses of the parish will be compiled after all of the sections of the plan have been reviewed. At the next meeting members will offer input in the final section of the plan – Finances and Parish Administration.
- **Ministry/Organization Reports:**
 - **Parish Life** -- **Patty Heib:** Fr. Balash stated that the committee will be meeting on Thursday, March 17, 2016, to review the Parish Appreciation Event that was held on January 30, 2016. The committee is also coordinating a trip to the Cleveland Indians game on July 29, 2016. Tickets and a bus have been reserved. The committee will also review the *Awakening Faith* program that has been held during Lent. The parish is currently collecting food for Easter Baskets as part of the Champion Pride Council.
 - **Liturgy Committee** -- **Donna Runtas:** The Liturgy Committee met on February 9, 2016. The committee is hoping to form a Funeral Hospitality Committee that would assist at funeral liturgies by providing hospitality. The hope is to form three groups to rotate serving at funerals. Currently there are six people interested in being part of this ministry. The parish theme for Lent will be “*Awakening Faith in the Year of Mercy*” to coincide with the Awakening Faith program. All activities and opportunities for Lent have been scheduled with particular attention on the Diocesan Year of Mercy event -- *Leaving the Light On ~ An Evening of Reconciliation*” on March 2, 2016. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available at all parishes throughout the diocese during this time. Soup Supper and Lenten Prayer nights are scheduled for every Wednesday. Each week the prayer will alternate between Lenten Evening Prayer and Stations of the Cross. Plans are being made to have a Parish Mission during Lent 2017. Fr. Balash asked for suggestions of possible presenters. Bishop Murry will visit St. William Parish on Sunday, June 26 for the 10:30 a.m. Mass. The annual Diocesan Liturgy Day will be held at St. William Parish on Saturday, October 15, 2016. The committee will meet next on April 12, 2016.
 - **Women’s Guild** -- **Therese Tuttle:** The Women’s Guild met on February 3 and February 29, 2016, for their monthly meetings. A sub-committee has been reviewing the Women’s Guild By-Laws and the amended By-Laws were passed at the February 29, 2016 meeting. The Guild is still in need of someone to fill the Treasurer and Secretary position for 2016-2017. The Guild donated \$1000.00 towards the purchase of the Three King statues for the parish Nativity set. The Guild is working on their upcoming Card Party on April 6, 2016, and they will be having their annual TNT night on March 15, 2016. The installation of officers meeting will be held on May 4,

2016, and the annual Mary Devotion/Mother-Child Banquet will be held on May 15, 2016. The Guild is also interested in sprucing up the handicapped restroom in the Church. This project will take place in the summer.

- **Finance** -- **Linda Horm**: No report.
- **Religious Education** -- **Maria Butcher**: The eighth and ninth grade students of the parish celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday, February 28, 2016, at St. Columba Cathedral with Bishop Murry. Six students will be receiving their First Communion on Sunday, April 24, 2016, at the 11:00 a.m. Mass. The last PSR class day will be Sunday, April 24, 2016. Youth Ministry served at the Saint Vincent DePaul Soup Kitchen in January and participated in the National "Souper" Bowl Hunger Campaign in February. The youth have been involved in Warren Area Catholic Teen activities during the past months. Plans are underway to provide retreat opportunities for youth this coming summer.
- **Knights of Columbus**: -- **John Timko**: The Knights of Columbus held a successful Reverse Raffle on Saturday, February 13, 2016. The council welcomed three new members recently. The Knights will attend the 8:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, March 13, 2016, and sponsor breakfast afterwards as part of their Corporate Communion Day.

- **Pastor's Report**: Father Balash reported on the following items:
 - **Building Project Update**: Father Balash updated the members on the work of the Parish Building Committee. The committee has been meeting since January and has recommended securing the services of Phillips/Sekanick Architects Inc. of Warren, Ohio for the building construction. Approval has been received from the Diocese and Fr. Balash is currently waiting for the formal contract. The first phase of the project will be the construction of the new Office Building, expansion of the kitchen and building of a storage room. The tentative construction schedule is set for this summer with completion in November. As of February 14, 2016, \$541,917.00 has been collected for the project representing 71% of payments on pledges.
 - **Fish Dinners Update**: The Fish Dinners have started and will continue through March 18, 2016. A full financial report will be provided upon the completion of the dinners..
 - **Trunk Sale**: The annual Trunk Sale will be held on Saturday, June 11, 2016. The Trunk Sale committee will meet after Easter to being planning the event.
 - **Bishop Murry Visit**: Fr. Balash informed the members that Bishop Murry will visit St. William Parish on Sunday, June 26, 2016, and celebrate the 10:30 a.m. Mass.

- **Old Business**: None

- **New Business**: Fr. Balash informed the following members of the completion of their terms are coming in May 2016:

<u>First Term</u>	<u>Second Term</u>
Donna Runtas	John Timko (yearly)
Deanna Barco	Maria Butcher
Edward Baniak	Felicia Mooney
Therese Tuttle (yearly)	Nancy Lucanski

According to Parish Council By-Laws, a person can serve for 2 two-year terms. After the second term, a person must be off Council for one year before joining again. Fr. Balash will be contacting those completing their first term about their intentions. Discernment of new members to replace those completing their second term will be held in April/May 2016

The council will meet next on Tuesday, May 10, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.