

St. William Parish Council
November 13, 2018

- **Opening Prayer:** The meeting opened with prayer entitled “*A Prayer for Our Church.*”
- **Welcome:** Fr. Balash welcomed the members to the meeting and the minutes from the September 18 2018, meeting were approved as submitted.
- **Ministry/Organization Reports:**
 - **Parish Life** -- **Penny Hudak:** The Parish Life Committee met on November 8, 2018, to begin preliminary discussions about options for the annual Parish Appreciation Event. The committee discussed possible dates, menu and themes. A couple ideas surfaced and the committee will meet on November 15, 2018, to continue. The committee also reviewed the following events sponsored by the Champion Pride Council: the Winter Clothing Drive; and the Thanksgiving Food Drive. Saint William Church will be the distribution point for Thanksgiving Food Baskets on November 17, 2018. The Giving Tree will be part of the parish’s Christmas outreach through Catholic Charities. The parish will sponsor 100 gifts and the Giving Tree will be available beginning November 25, 2018. Gifts will be due by December 9, 2018. A new Parish Pictorial Directory will be offered in 2019. Picture taking will take place in February. As an incentive to get more parishioners to get their picture taken, a \$100.00 prize will be offered to all those who sign up for pictures.
 - **Liturgy Committee** -- **Maureen Scott:** The Liturgy Committee met prior to the Parish Council meeting on November 13, 2018, and finalized plans for the Advent and Christmas season. The theme for Advent this year will be “*Hearts Full of Hope and Joy.*” The committee will decorate the Church for Advent on Tuesday, November 27, 2018, and for Christmas on Tuesday, December 18, 12noon and Sunday, December 23, 2018, after the 11:00 a.m. Mass. The committee reviewed the annual All Souls Remembrance that happened on November 3-4, 2018. Upcoming events include: Lessons and Carols, Tuesday December 4, 2018; and Advent Communal Reconciliation at Blessed Sacrament Church, Sunday, December 16, 2018. The committee will look to schedule the Anointing of the Sick after the holiday season. The committee also continued discussing plans for the upcoming Lenten Mission to be held March 31-April 1, 2019, featuring Mr. Frank Runyeon. The committee will be meeting informally in December to work on the environment for the Christmas season.
 - **Women’s Guild** -- **Theresa Craiger:** The Guild held its regular monthly meetings in October and November. Many members of the parish attended the “Safe Driving for Seniors” program in October. The Guild donated funds to help purchase t-shirts for the PSR students. A craft night was held at the November monthly meeting. The Guild will bake kolachi on November 28, 2018, and sponsor the Parish Christmas Dinner on Sunday, December 2, 2018. The annual Christmas Craft Show will be on Saturday, December 8, 2018, from 10:00 a.m-2:00 p.m. The next meeting of the Guild will be on January 9, 2019.
 - **Finance** -- **Bob Hardman:** The Finance Committee met on November 6, 2018, to review the current financial status of the parish. Currently the Sunday collections have not kept pace with expenses. As a result the parish is currently behind in its budget for the year. Fr. Balash will present the financial report to the parish on

- November 10-11, 2018, and ask parishioners to consider increasing their weekly offering. The committee will continue to monitor the financial status of the parish in order to maintain a healthy position. The committee also discussed the installation of new LED lights throughout the building. The current light bulbs for fixtures, in particular the church, are being phased out therefore new lights will need to be installed in the near future. The committee is currently exploring all options and will offer a recommendation in the near future. The committee also recommended that the parish offer an “on-line giving” option for parishioner’s weekly donations. Fr. Balash stated that he hoped to have this available beginning in January 2019. There will be few parishioners asked to test this program during December and it will then be opened to the entire parish in January.
- **Religious Education** -- **Jennifer Kusmierek:** PSR held their first FFC day on Sunday, October 21, 2018. After attending 11:00 a.m. Mass and having lunch, students and parents toured Saint Columba Cathedral as part of their on-going “Church” project. PSR students have also begun communicating with other PSR students in the diocese to learn about their parish and church. Grades K-1 are working with Blessed Sacrament Parish; Warren; Grades 2-3 with Holy Spirit Parish, Uniontown; Grades 4-6 with Saint Peter Church, Canton; Grades 7-8 with St. Mary/St. Joseph, Newton Falls. Students are also working on naming/building their own churches. On October 27, 2018, Make-A-Difference Day was canceled due to weather and the lack of leaves. As an alternative, the students washed and cleaned the tables and chairs used in the Social Hall. Grades 4-5-6 held their retreat on October 27, 2018, and focused on learning about different saints. The Women’s Guild provided funds to purchase t-shirts for PSR students to wear throughout the year as part of the 75th Anniversary of the Diocese. Grades 4-6 have created a prayer tree in the main hallway for special prayer intentions and PSR has also started a “secret prayer partner” program. Parishioners have signed up to be a prayer partner for a PSR student. Grade 7-8 are collecting “pop tabs” for Sr. Monica’s Tailoring Center in Gulu Uganda. Plans are being made for the next FFC on Sunday, January 27, 2019, which will be an afternoon gathering and dinner event.
 - **Youth Ministry** -- **Chase Kufchak:** Youth Ministry has been meeting each month and has been involved in a variety of activities. They helped to prepare lunch for the PSR FFC on October 21, 2018, and participated in Make-A-Difference day the following week. Youth Ministry will join with Warren Area Catholic Teens to sponsor a Senior Citizen Pasta Dinner on November 18, 2018. On December 21, 2018, there will be a Christmas Caroling and Bowling Night. Plans are underway for the March for Life event in Washington D.C. on January 19, 2019.
 - **Knights of Columbus:** -- **Brian McCue:** The Knights of Columbus have established a website and dropped their Facebook page. They contributed a box of 12 winter coats to Rene’s closet as part of the national Coats for Kids program. The Knights sponsored a Cornhole Tournament Night on September 29, 2018, with 10 teams participating. A Spaghetti Dinner was held on October 20, 2018, with over 100 dinners served. A Corporate Communion Mass was held on November 10, 2018, and after Mass, the Knights distributed letters of thanks and flag lapel pins to all veterans. The Knights will assist with the Thanksgiving Food Basket distribution on November 17, 2018, and the Women’s Guild Craft Show on December 8, 2018. The Knights will be selling “Keep Christ in Christmas” lawn signs as a fundraiser in December. The Basketball Free-Throw contest is scheduled for some time in January 2019, and the Knights Annual Reverse Raffle will be on Saturday, February 16, 2019.

- **Pastor's Report:**

- **New Pictorial Directory:** A new pictorial directory will be published in 2019. Picture dates have been scheduled for February 7-8-9, and 14-15-16, 2019. Details will be sent parishioners in early January. As an incentive to get as many people as possible to sign up for pictures, a \$100.00 prize will be given. Anyone who signs up to get their picture taken for the directory will automatically be entered into the raffle for \$100.00.
- **On-Line Giving:** Fr. Balash announced that beginning in January 2019, on-line giving will be available to parishioners for their Sunday contributions. Details are currently being worked out and parishioners will be informed about this service in January.
- **LED Lighting in Church:** Fr. Balash informed the members that Ross Lenhart and the Finance Committee are currently researching the replacement of the lighting fixtures in the Church, Vestibule and Social Hall with LED lights. The current light bulbs are being phased out and eventually all of the fixtures in the building will need to be replaced. Currently there are incentives and rebates available to replace fixtures. The cost of the project will continue to be researched.
- **Parish Appreciation Event:** Fr. Balash reported that the Parish Life Committee has begun planning the annual Parish Appreciation Event in January. Details will be forthcoming.
- **Building Loan Payments:** Fr. Balash stated that the parish has begun making its monthly payments of \$1,881.64 towards its loan balance of \$254,695.00.

- **Member Comments:** None

The next meeting of Parish Council will be held on Tuesday, January 15, 2019. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.