

St. William Parish Council
March 12, 2019

- **Opening Prayer:** The meeting opened with prayer entitled “*With Grace and Gladness,*” for Lent.
- **Welcome:** Fr. Balash welcomed the members to the meeting and the minutes from the March 12, 2019, meeting were approved as submitted.
- **Ministry/Organization Reports:**
 - **Parish Life** -- **Penny Hudak:** Fr. Balash reported that the Parish Life Committee would be meeting on Thursday, March 14, 2019, to review and evaluate the Parish Appreciation Event held in January and to discuss plans for a summer outing for the parish.
 - **Liturgy Committee** -- **Maureen Scott:** The Liturgy Committee met on February 12, 2019. Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated at all weekend Masses on February 16-17, 2019. The Lenten theme for the parish this year will be “*With Grace and Gladness.*” Lenten booklets for parishioners will be available once again this year. During the season of Lent, Stations of the Cross will be prayed every Friday morning after the 8:30 a.m. Mass. “The Light is On For You ~ An Evening of Reconciliation,” will be held on Wednesday, March 20, 2019, from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. and the Lenten Communal Reconciliation Service will be on Sunday, March 24, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament along with the other parishes in Warren. The Parish Lenten Mission will be held March 31 – April 1, 2019, and feature Mr. Frank Runyeon. The theme of the mission will be “*Luke: Stories on the Road and the Sermon on the Mount.*” The committee will meet next on April 2, 2019.
 - **Women’s Guild** -- **Theresa Craiger:** The monthly Women’s Guild meeting was held on February 6, 2019, followed by a seminar on “Life and Estate Planning.” The seminar was well-attended. The Guild recently purchased a new steam table for the kitchen and voted to increase the recommended donation for funeral luncheons. Upcoming events include: Monthly meetings March 13, and April 3, 2019; annual Card Party, April 7, 2019; and Kolachi Bake, April 10, 2019.
 - **Finance** -- **Bob Hardman:** New LED lights were installed in the Church seating area and sanctuary. The committee will continue discussing the installation of new LED lights throughout the building. The parish remains in a good financial position for the current fiscal year.
 - **Religious Education** -- **Jennifer Kusmierek:** PSR students continue to correspond with their pen-pal churches roughly once a month. The January FFC was held on Sunday, January 27, 2019. PSR families made Easter baskets and discussed different foods for Easter. The next FFC will be on Sunday, March 24, 2019. Each class will present their model church and meet their secret prayer partners. The final PSR session will be on April 28, 2019, and will begin with breakfast followed by the last class of the year. First Communion will be held on April 28, 2019, at 11:00 a.m. Mass. Grades 4-6 are hoping to donate 100 pieces of clothing to Renee’s Closet as a Lenten project. Grades 7-8 continue to collect pop tabs. The closing teacher meeting will be held on April 28, 2019, at 12:00 noon.
 - **Youth Ministry** -- **Chase Kufchak:** On January 27, 2019, Youth Ministry served dinner for the PSR families. February 2-3, 2019, the Souper Bowl of Caring event collected \$678.00 and 196 non-perishable food items. On March 22, 2019, St.

- William will host the Warren Area Catholic Teens for Stations of the Cross following the Fish Dinner. On March 24, 2019, teens will prepare and serve breakfast for the FFC. On April 27, 2019, the seniors from the Class of 2019 will be honored at Mass followed by dinner. Warren Area Catholic Teens will host a weeklong local summer mission retreat June 24-28, 2019.
- **Knights of Columbus:** -- **Brian McCue:** The Knights of Columbus held their Basketball Free-Throw contest on January 19, 2019, at Champion High School gym and their Valentine's Day Reverse Raffle on Saturday, February 16, 2019. The Knights Corporate Communion Mass and Breakfast will be on Sunday, March 17, 2019, at 8:30 a.m. Mass.
- **Pastor's Report:**
 - **Pictorial Directory Update:** 183 families had their pictures taken for the parish directory. A design meeting will take place on March 14, 2019. A make-up date for pictures will be scheduled if there is enough interest. .
 - **On-Line Giving:** Fr. Balash reported that the on-line giving option is working well. Approximately 20 parishioners have signed up for this service so far.
 - **Fish Dinner Update:** The Fish Dinners began on Friday, March 1, 2019. The Fish Dinner Steering Committee is overseeing this year's dinners with a particular focus on the quality of food. Thus far the price increase has not been considered a negative factor. The addition of "haluski" has been popular along with hourly raffles. Advertising on Facebook has been happening each week. Those logging into Facebook within a 20 mile radius are receiving an ad for the Fish Dinners. In the first week of advertising over 2000 people received our ad.
 - **Bishop's Appeal Update:** The 2019 Diocesan Bishop's Appeal is currently underway. The first mailing to parishioners was sent February 15, 2019. Over \$10,000.00 from 41 parishioners have been pledged so far. This year's appeal is focusing on prayer, support and volunteering. A special effort is being made to increase the number of people participating in the appeal. The overall goal of the Appeal is \$4.2 million and Saint William's goal is \$43,636.00.
 - **Parish APP:** Fr. Balash reminded the members that the Saint William Parish App is now available. The app includes helpful information about the parish. Fr. Balash asked that members sign-up for the Parish Council group.
 - **Eagle of the Cross Award:** Fr. Balash informed the members that two parishioners have been chosen to receive the Eagle of the Cross award this year: Bridget DePascale and Scott Mintus. The Eagle of the Cross is an honor given to high school teens in the diocese recognizing them for their service to their parish, school and community. The award will be given on April 30, 2019.
 - **Parish Staff Employment:** The position of bookkeeper and secretary will be advertised in the coming weeks. Each position will be for 3 days per week.
 - **State of the Diocese:** Fr. Balash began a discussion with the members about a recent meeting of clergy regarding the future of the diocese and the number of priests. A new plan has been created to address this issue assigning every parish into one of seventeen regions. Each region will be tasked with creating a collaborative model of ministry based on the number of priests available to minister in the coming five years. More information about this process will be forthcoming.

- Parish Council Terms: Fr. Balash informed the following members that their terms are coming to completion in May 2019: Finance Committee Representative – Bob Hardman (1st); Youth Committee Representative – Chase Kufchak (1st); Knights of Columbus Representative – Brian McCue (yearly); Women’s Guild Representative – Theresa Craiger (yearly); At-Large Representative – Nancy Hart (1st). Fr. Balash asked the members eligible for a second term to let him know of their intention.

- Member Comments: None

The next meeting of Parish Council will be held on Tuesday, May 14, 2019. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.