

St. William Parish Council
January 19, 2021

- **Opening Prayer:** The meeting opened with prayer entitled “*The Word of God.*”
- **Welcome:** Fr. Balash welcomed the members to the meeting and extended a special welcome to the newest At-Large members to the Parish Council: Paul Mendik and Robin Walk. A roster of contact information was distributed and some corrections were made.
- **Overview / Function of Parish Council:** Fr. Balash provided a brief summary of the function and responsibility of Parish Council. The By-laws were reviewed and an overview of the parish model was discussed.
- **Ministry/Organization Reports:**
 - **Parish Life -- Diana Kirkwood:** Reports on the annual Thanksgiving Food Drive and Christmas Giving Tree were given. Both events were adapted this year because of the pandemic and were well supported by the parish. The Thanksgiving Food Drive became gift certificates that were given to the residents of Woodlawn Meadows. The Christmas Giving Tree used tags provided by the Salvation Army. 98 of 100 gifts were returned. All other usual events planned by the Parish Life Committee are either canceled or on hold because of the circumstances of the pandemic.
 - **Liturgy Committee -- Maureen Scott:** The committee met on January 19, 2021, and reviewed the Lent and Christmas season. The committee continues to mourn the passing of Barb Brdek and will attempt to continue the same quality of environments Barb was dedicated too. Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated at weekend Mass on February 13-14, 2021. The committee discussed the upcoming season of Lent and decided on the theme: *Mending our Hearts – A New Kind of Hope*. The members also discussed the environment for Lent and Easter. Confirmation will be held at St. William on February 28, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. Mass. *The Light is On for You ~ An Evening of Reconciliation* will not be held this year however opportunities for reconciliation during the season of Lent will be scheduled. Station of the Cross will be prayed on Friday morning during Lent after the 8:30 a.m. daily Mass.
 - **Women’s Guild -- Linda Horm:** The Women’s Guild held a “Car-o-ling” event on December 6, 2020, in place of the annual Parish Christmas Dinner. 200 take-out meals were prepared and 35 meals were delivered to homebound parishioners. Many expressed appreciation and thanks for the event, particularly those who received delivered meals. The Christmas Craft Show was held on December 12, 2020, with 36 vendors. There were no issues with volunteers, vendors, or customers following safe environment guidelines. Many expressed appreciation for having the event. The Women’s Guild will resume monthly meetings in January. The “Chance Auction” scheduled for January 26, 2021, has been canceled.
 - **Finance -- Bob Hardman:** As part of the Pastor’s Report, a summary of the first-half of the fiscal year (July 1 – December 31, 2020) Income and Expense report was presented. The report indicated \$4,137.00 surplus for the first 6 months of the year. A second report provided a Sunday Collection comparison from July-December 2019 vs. July-December 2020. It also showed a positive difference of \$2,435.00 in 2020 vs. the same period in 2019. This is significant in that 2019 was pre-pandemic and 2020 was during the pandemic. The result indicates that parishioners continue to

- respond in a positive financial way and are remaining faithful to their financial commitment to the parish during the pandemic.
- **Religious Education** -- **Bette Lloyd:** In-person PSR classes resumed in January and all appropriate safety protocols remain in place. The Confirmation candidates had their retreat on Sunday, January 10, 2021, in preparation for receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation on February 28, 2021, at 11:00 a.m. Mass at St. William. Second Grade students received the Sacrament of Reconciliation on January 16, 2021, and First Communion will be on April 25, 2021. The first PSR-FFC (Family Faith Celebration) will be on Sunday, January 31, 2021, from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. The theme is Play-Pray-Dine and will involve family games, crafts and a prayer service. The evening will conclude with a family dinner. There continues to be an opening for a teacher/helper in Grade 7-8. The final PSR class will be April 25, 2021. Adult Faith Formation is offered on Monday at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Bishop Robert Barron's *The Sacraments* by Word on Fire will resume on Monday, January 25, 2021. The study will focus on the Sacraments of Healing and Vocation. Currently there are 23 participants. A six-week study on *The Mass* will begin on April 19, 2021. Plans to expand faith formation to reach members not able to attend in-person sessions are being explored along with recommendations for other topics.
 - **Youth Ministry** -- **Frank DePascale:** The Senior Citizen Pasta Dinner scheduled in November had to be canceled. Youth Ministry members assisted with the delivery of the Thanksgiving Food Drive Project to Woodland Meadows residents by making small decorated gift bags. Monetary donations received in thanksgiving for the delivery of pumpkins in October was used to purchase two gifts for the Christmas Giving Tree. Teens assisted with the Women's Guild "Car-o-ling" event in December by passing out hot cocoa and delivering meals to homebound parishioners. Youth Ministry also helped to prepare food and worked the kitchen at the Christmas Craft Show. Plans are underway for the annual Souper Bowl of Caring event in early February.
 - **Knights of Columbus:** -- **Brian McCue:** The sausage sandwich sale in November was good and a portion of the proceeds was donated to the Children's Rehabilitation Center. A Corporate Communion Mass was celebrated on November 16, 2020, and muffins were offered to all parishioners. Meetings in November and December were canceled due to the pandemic. 40 "Keep Christ in Christmas" signs were sold at the Christmas Craft Show. The Basketball Free Throw and Reverse Raffle events have also been canceled. The Charity Cash Bonanza will begin on March 1, 2021. Tickets are \$5.00 each.
- **Pastor's Report:**
 - **Christmas Mass Weekend:** A brief discussion was held regarding Christmas weekend. Mass attendance was disappointing and the Christmas Eve snowstorm contributed to low attendance. Fr. Balash raised a concern about the long-term effects and impact of the dispensation on the future and people returning to Mass.
 - **Financial Review:** See Finance Committee report.
 - **Fish Dinner:** Fr. Balash indicated that the Fish Dinner Committee has been meeting to discuss the Fish Dinners for 2021. It has been decided that Fish Dinners will be offered as a "Drive-Thru Carry Out" only option for 2021. The Volunteer/Worker Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 28, 2021. The committee continues to meet and hopes to have most of the details in place by the Volunteer/Worker meeting.

- **Member Comments:** None
- The next meeting of Parish Council will be on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.