

St. William Parish Council
November 8, 2016

- **Opening Prayer:** The meeting opened with the Year of Mercy Prayer for November entitled *“Praying for the Living and the Dead.”*
- **Welcome and Introduction:** Father Balash welcomed the members to the meeting and introduced Mrs. Penny Hudak to the Council as the Parish Life Committee Representative.
- **Review of September 13, 2016 Minutes:** The minutes of the September 13, 2016, meeting were approved as submitted.
- **Diocesan Pastoral Plan Discussion:** As a follow-up to the Diocesan Pastoral Plan for Evangelization: *“Trusting in Christ: A Call to Discipleship,”* the members engaged in a discussion of the summary that was provided from the last meeting. From the summary, the members were asked to reflect on 2-3 items of “how/what we might do better” and “new ideas” we as a parish might engage in. Members offered a variety of suggestions focusing on expanding and growing a greater spirit of “welcoming” and “invitation” among parishioners. In particular to focus on how to invite and better welcome new and lapsed parishioners to connect back to their faith and the parish. Some ideas included: a welcoming dinner for new parishioners; more opportunities to inform members about different activities/ministries within the parish; more family friendly activities; and reaching out to people beyond the parish. The second suggestion raised by the members centered on creating a greater connection of the Church/parish to youth and younger families. Some ideas included: making a special effort to invite young members to become part of different ministries; to continue to grow our youth ministry; and to utilize the schools as a way of publishing/making known activities happening within the parish. The members will continue this discussion at the next meeting.
- **Ministry/Organization Reports:**
 - **Parish Life -- Penny Hudak:** The Parish Life Committee coordinated the October Clothing Drive and is currently involved in the November Food Drive through the Champion Pride Council. The Christmas Giving Tree will begin towards mid-November. Gloria Mintus is hoping to turn the project over to a new chairperson next year. The committee will be meeting on November 10, 2016, to continue planning the Parish Appreciation Event scheduled for January 28, 2017.
 - **Liturgy Committee -- Donna Runtas:** The Liturgy Committee met previous to the Parish Council meeting. The committee reviewed the Diocesan Liturgy Day that was held at St. William on October 15, 2016. Two-hundred people attended and the day was very successful. Fr. Balash thanked the members of the committee for providing hospitality and assistance throughout the day. The Advent theme for this year will be *“From Heaven to a Manger.”* Advent and Christmas plans have been finalized. Lessons and Carols will be celebrated on November 29, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. The Christmas mass schedule was discussed. Masses for Christmas will be at 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m (note new time) on Christmas Eve and at 10:00 a.m. on Christmas Day. For New Year’s Eve and Day the normal weekend schedule will be observed. Liturgical Ministry workshops will be held in January for all current and new Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers. The All Souls Remembrance was held the weekend of

- October 29/30, 2016. The committee will meet in January to begin planning the season of Lent. Currently there are 4 RCIA candidates and one more is possible.
- **Women's Guild** -- **Therese Tuttle**: The Women's Guild held their regular meetings on October 5 and November 2, 2016. The September TNT night produced a profit of \$2,300.00. The Guild donated an addition \$5,000.00 to the Capital Campaign and also approved the purchase of new audio-visual equipment for the parish. Upcoming events include: Kolachi Bake, November 30; Parish Family Dinner, December 4; and the Christmas Craft Show, December 10, 2016.
 - **Finance** -- **Linda Horm**: The Finance Committee met on Thursday, November 3, 2016. The parish remains current on all of its financial obligations. A 2% increase in weekly collections is needed to meet the current budget and an appeal was recently made by Fr. Balash to parishioners to consider increasing their weekly contribution. The parish remains in a good and positive financial position.
 - **Religious Education** -- **Jennifer Kusmierek**: PSR held their first FFC (Family Faith Celebration) on October 9, 2016. Make a Difference Day was unfortunately cancelled due to not having leaves to rake on the scheduled day. Currently five students are preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Eucharist later this year. Students in grades 4-6 participated in a yearly retreat recently and it was a good experience. "Stories and Scriptures" for preschool children has been well received.
 - **Youth Ministry** -- **Elizabeth McCue**: Youth Ministry prepared and served breakfast for the PSR-FFC event in October. Youth Ministry served 138 meals at the Saint Vincent DePaul Dining Hall on October 29, 2016. The Diocesan Youth Convention was held on Sunday, November 6, 2016 at St. Michael Parish, Canton. Youth Ministry will join Warren Area Catholic Teens on November 19, 2016, for the Senior Pasta Dinner at St. Mary Church. A complimentary dinner will be served to seniors from the Warren area parishes. Youth Ministry will prepare and serve food at the Women's Guild Craft Show in December.
 - **Knights of Columbus**: -- **Dan Gelet**: The Knights of Columbus held their annual Reverse Raffle on Saturday, October 22, 2016. A Fourth Degree Exemplification was held on Saturday, November 5, 2016 at Saint William and 5 candidates from St. William earned their 4th degree. The Knights donated a case of girl's coats to Rene's Closet for the "Coats for Kids" program. A tribute to all Veterans will be observed at all weekend Masses on November 12/13, 2016. The Knights will sponsor a Spaghetti Dinner on Friday, November 18, 2016.
- **Pastor's Report**:
 - Father Balash updated the members on the status of the Capital Campaign and the Building Project. The Finance Committee and Building Committee met jointly on November 3, 2016 and received an update from Bruce Sekanick on the status of the project. Bids for the project from general contractors are currently being reviewed, revised and summarized. This process is taking longer than anticipated due to some unexpected developments. In September initial bids were submitted from interested general contractors. However they were significantly over the original statement of probable costs and well above the project industry norms. Subsequently, the drawings were revised and second round of bids were received in October. While these were lower than the original ones, they still exceed the projected cost of the project. Presently the architects are continuing to negotiate with the general contractors to meet the budgeted estimates for the project while at the same time keeping the original design intent. Once this is achieved a construction schedule will be developed.

○ Capital Campaign Update as of 11/1/16	
Number of Pledges	156
Total Pledged	\$575,860.00
Collected Pledges	\$456,974.90 (79%)
Other Donations	\$10,387.40
Previous Fish Dinners	<u>\$160,910.00</u>
Total Collected	\$628,272.30
○ Campaign Totals	
Total Pledged	\$575,860.00
Other Donations	\$10,387.00
Previous FD	<u>\$160,910.00</u>
Campaign Total	\$747,157.00

- **Old Business:** None

- **New Business:** None.

The next meeting of Parish Council will be on Tuesday, January 10, 2017 at 7:00p.m. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.