

St. William Parish Council
January 11, 2011

Members Present: Father Balash, Ann Coursen, Gerry Dines, Linda Horm, Bob Kane, Gary Kittle, Gloria Mintus, Cathy Poponak, and Mo Thuman

Members Excused: Bob Hardman, Rebecca Murphy, and Rich Zigarovich

- **Opening Prayer:** The meeting opened with a prayer entitled “*Give Me Your Sense of Timing.*”
- **Welcome and Review of November 9, 2010 Minutes:** Fr. Balash welcomed the members to the meeting. The minutes from the November 9, 2010 meeting were reviewed and accepted without any corrections.
- **Ministry/Organization Reports:**
 - **Parish Life - Gerry Dines:** The First Step for Change program held in October 2010, raised close to \$1600.00 which was sent to Catholic Charities. The Senior Thanksgiving Dinner on November 21, 2010, was a success with 175 dinners prepared. About 120 were in attendance, not including helpers. The next dinner will be in two years (November 2012) because of the Christmas Tour of Homes. The PSR students made centerpieces for the dinner and helped with serving and clean-up. Ten families from St. William Parish received Thanksgiving Food Baskets on November 20, 2010. 130 tags were on the Christmas Giving Tree and all the gifts were taken to Catholic Charities. Gloria Mintus offered thanks and appreciation to all who participated in the Thanksgiving Food Basket and Christmas Giving Tree programs this past year. Discussion continues regarding the establishment of a sister parish relationship, however action on the matter was tabled until after the completion of the many events the committee has been involved in over the past months. The committee will be meeting on Thursday, January 13, 2011, to finalize plans for the Parish Appreciation Dinner Dance on Saturday, January 29, 2011.
 - **Liturgy Committee -- Ann Coursen:** The committee held its meeting prior to the Parish Council meeting at 5:30pm. The committee reviewed the recently completed Advent/Christmas season. Members of Parish Council offered their support and affirmation to the Liturgy Committee for their hard work and efforts during Advent and Christmas. Special acknowledgement was made regarding the Service of Lessons and Carols held during Advent. The committee began discussing the upcoming Lent/Easter season. The parish theme for Lent this year will be “*Let this be the time...*”. Stations of the Cross will be held on Friday’s during Lent after the 8:30am Mass. Soup and Scripture Evenings will be held on Wednesday evenings (March 16, 23 & 30) from 6:00-7:45pm. Lenten reflection booklets for adults and children will

be provided once again this year. Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated at all weekend masses on February 26/27.

- **Women's Guild** -- **Mo Thuman**: The Guild reported that the Parish Holiday Dinner was very successful this year with close to 200 in attendance. The Christmas Craft Show was also successful netting a profit of \$2,791.99 for the Guild. Plans have begun for the annual Guild Card Party scheduled for March 6, 2011, and tickets are currently on sale for the January 19, 2011, TNT night
- **Finance** -- **Bob Hardman (excused)**: In Bob Hardman's absence, Fr. Balash reviewed the Sunday Collection totals for the first half of the fiscal year. The total collected is about \$10,000 ahead of last year for the same period. The Christmas collection was also about \$2000.00 more than last year. The Finance Committee will be meeting on February 1, 2011.
- **Religious Education** -- **Rebecca Murphy (excused)**: The PSR program continues to develop and expand in its mission and ministry. Members of the Youth Ministry presented a special lesson about St. Nicholas on Monday, January 10, 2011 to the students in grade 1-4. The second graders will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesday, January 12, 2011. The first all PSR session was held on December 12, 2010, and the next all PSR will be Sunday, January 16, 2011. The students sent Christmas cards to those serving in the military and received two responses back. The PSR Bowl-A-Thon will now be held on Saturday, March 5, 2011 from 3-6pm. The change in dates was made at the bowling alleys request.
- **Knights of Columbus**: -- **Bob Kane**: The Knights of Columbus will sponsor a casino bus trip to The Rivers Casino in Pittsburgh on Saturday, January 22, 2011. They are also beginning plans for the annual Easter egg hunt in April. Breakfast with Santa was a success serving 181 people and realized a profit of \$522.30. The Knights will hold another breakfast on Mother's Day in May. Three upcoming meetings of the Knights on January 19, March 16, and April 6, 2011, have been cancelled due to parish conflicts.
- **Pastor's Report**: Fr. Balash reported that the Saint William statue purchased from Ss. William and Robert Parish in Euclid has been repainted and is ready to be picked up. Pictures of the newly painted statue can be found on the parish website. The Social Hall remodeling project is moving ahead and should be completed by January 21, 2011. Rev. James Musumeci from Cross International Outreach will be at St. William Parish on January 22/23, 2011 to speak at all weekend masses. Members of Council were reminded that the annual Fish Dinners will begin on Friday, February 25, 2011 and continue through April 15, 2011. A meeting for all Fish Dinner workers has been scheduled for Friday, February 11, 2011
- **Member Comments**: None

- **Old Business:** Fr. Balash reported that the gentleman that inquired about the possibility of leasing the field in the back of the church for farming and raising crops has never returned.
- **New Business:** A brief discussion was held about the future possibility of constructing a new office wing onto the Church. Fr. Balash reported that the current condition of the old rectory (parish offices) continues to deteriorate and that something in the near future would need to be considered. Members mentioned that the current kitchen in the church also needs to be looked at for possible expansion and updating.
- **Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the Parish Council scheduled for Tuesday, February 8, 2011. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.