

Our Family News

St. William Catholic Church ~ Champion, Ohio

Third Edition Volume 4 May 2016



Eagle of the Cross

Awarded to Two St. William Parishioners

On April 14th two young parishioners of Saint William Parish received the Eagle of the Cross Award from Bishop Murry. Olivia Kochunas and Jonathan Mahan were among 29 young people from across the Diocese to receive the award. The Eagle of the Cross, created originally by the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry, is the highest recognition that the Diocese confers on a youth. It is given to extraordinary teens who selflessly serve their peers and parishes.

Since 1999, the Eagle of the Cross has been given annually to select high school junior and seniors who show particular zeal in the life of their parish. The recipients must be practicing Catholics who exemplify the qualities of moral integrity, prayer, good



Eagle of the Cross Recipients

Johnathan Mahan, Fr. Balash, Olivia Kochunas

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Bishop Murry to Visit

Groundbreaking Ceremony After Mass!

Join us on Sunday, June 26 for the 10:30 a.m. Mass as we welcome Bishop Murry to Saint William Parish.

After Mass Bishop Murry and parishioners will celebrate the construction of our new office building with a groundbreaking ceremony on the lawn in front of the Social Hall. Bishop Murry will greet parishioners in the Social Hall afterward and the Women's Guild will provide a light reception.

Congratulations Graduates 2016!

Clifford Berry
Rachael Bickford
Matthew Callahan
Michael Eltman
Alexa Helman
Eric Karafa
Olivia Kochunas
Jonathan Mahan
Morgan Nichols
Zachary Shoaf
Keith Stepanic
Erica White

Welcome New Parishioners

February 2016

Marilyn Titchnell

March 2016

Struthers Family
Clayton & Rebekah

Joey Harris

Lapmarado Family
David & Georgana

Anna Campagna

April 2016

Jamie Seyer

Andrea Gabrielson

...from the Pastor

The "Year of Mercy" continues

....and....

"Sharing the Light for Tomorrow" moves forward!

The Year of Mercy declared by Pope Francis last year continues throughout the Church and world. In the Diocese of Youngstown each month every parish is asked to focus on a particular Spiritual/ Corporal Work of Mercy. In May our focus is "*Visiting the Homebound and Imprisoned.*" At Saint William Parish we are very blessed to have an active ministry to the sick and homebound.

A number of parishioners volunteer their time each week to bring Holy Communion to those recovering from illness at home. In addition, visitation and Holy Communion are also offered to parishioners who are in nursing homes and senior living facilities. This ministry of visitation and care remains part of our baptismal call as members of the Body of Christ. If you or a family member would like to be included, please call the Parish Office to make arrangements for visitation and reception of Holy Communion. Likewise, if you would like to be part of this ministry to the homebound, please contact the Parish Office as well. For other ways that all of us might fulfill this work of mercy during the month of May visit our parish website.

On Easter Sunday I was very happy to announce that our "*Sharing the Light for Tomorrow*" Capital Campaign took a major step forward by hiring the architectural firm of Phillips-Sekanick of Warren to facilitate Phase 1 of our building project. The construction of our new office building, expansion of the Social Hall kitchen and our new storage room will begin this summer with completion anticipated by November 2016. Phillips-Sekanick Architects has been in business for nearly 100 years. This firm has been involved in many local projects and is highly regarded as a premier architectural firm in our area.

To date the Building Committee has reviewed the first set of drawings, made recommendations and raised keen insights. We are awaiting a new set of drawings and will continue to move forward on this new and exciting project for our parish. All of this has been made possible by the generous and dedicated commitment of many parishioners through pledges made to the Capital Campaign, the hard work at our Fish Dinners and by the faith and prayer of so many. In just 15 months, over 75% of pledged money has

(Continued on page 10)



Spotlight On...

by Incognito

The dedication and spirituality of the St. William families, past and present, have made our parish the “family friendly” church that it is today. One of these families is the Vince and Rita DeSalvo family. For this issue of Our Family News, they are “in the spotlight!”

Vince and Rita were born and raised in Clearfield, Pennsylvania. They attended and graduated from the same high school and in 1960 were married at St. Francis Church in Clearfield. Seeking employment they relocated to High Street in Warren, Ohio where Vince began working at General Refractories. In 1964 their first child Vince Jr. was born. He was baptized at their home parish of St. Pius.

In 1965 the family moved to their present home on Durst Drive in Champion. Their daughter Robin was born in 1969. In 1970 Vince was

hired by General Motors fabrication plant. He retired in 2000 after 30 years of service. Rita worked for a time at Hills Department Store before Robin was born and then for 20 years as office manager for Champion pediatrician Dr. Agnardo.

The DeSalvo family quickly became active members of St. William Church. Vince started Cub Scout Pack 100 at St. William and was a Eucharistic minister and usher. Rita was a member of Parish Council in 1978 and a choir member. She taught PSR (a.k.a.-CCD) and was the “music lady” for PSR. She went from room to room with the “music cart” and led the students in song. As a couple, they

worked bingo in the kitchen and hall, the annual festivals, were on the first Christ Renews His Parish team, and have volunteered for the Annual Parish Fish Dinners for as long as anyone can remember.

Many of you will remember Rita’s mother, Rosaline Ianaro. She was a gracious, feisty, and always friendly lady. Rosaline passed away in 2015 at the age of 98.



Vince Jr. and Robin both received their sacraments at St. William. Vince and his wife Theresa are the parents of 3 children, Katie, Michael, and Sarah. They live in Garrettsville and visit our parish often. Robin and her



husband Leon Walk were married at St. William and are active members along with their children Anthony and Natalie. Leon can be seen helping to making sure the beverage tables are running smoothly on Fish Dinner Fridays! Like the rest of his large and friendly family he always has a quick smile and a willingness to help where needed.

When asked why they like St. William, Rita and Vince agreed that it is a privilege to be members of such a faith-filled, friendly church that enriches their lives and that of their family.

“Let all that you do be done in Love.”

~1 Corinthians 16:14

Summer Faith Formation

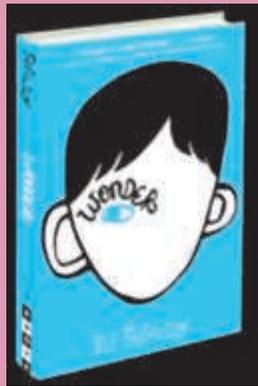
by Tina McCue

I don't know about you, but life for me seems to slow down just a little bit over the summer months. I tend to use this time to try to get my house back in order after a busy school year, read a few good books, and devote some much needed time to my life of prayer. Being lucky enough to work for the church both in the Parish and Catholic School setting, my prayer life is continually nurtured; however, I don't spend enough quiet time with God.

A few years ago I started a summer book club thinking that perhaps there are a few other folks out there like me, struggling to find time to nurture their spiritual life and have a love of reading! Growing in faith is a 24/7, 365 days a year journey, but for me, those blessed 80 or so days of rest between the traditional academic and fiscal years are like a present wrapped in a bright big yellow box which calls to me to slow down and smell the freshly cut grass!

So, my friends, if you feel the same way, I invite you to meet me on the lawn this summer for the 2016 Summer Book Club! This year we will read *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio and, in honor of the Jubilee Year of Mercy, *Mercy in the City* by Kerry Weber.

Wonder is about a young boy, August (Auggie) Pullman who was born with a facial deformity that prevented him from going to mainstream school. His parents decide to enroll him at Beecher Prep as he entered the 5th grade. Being a new kid at school is

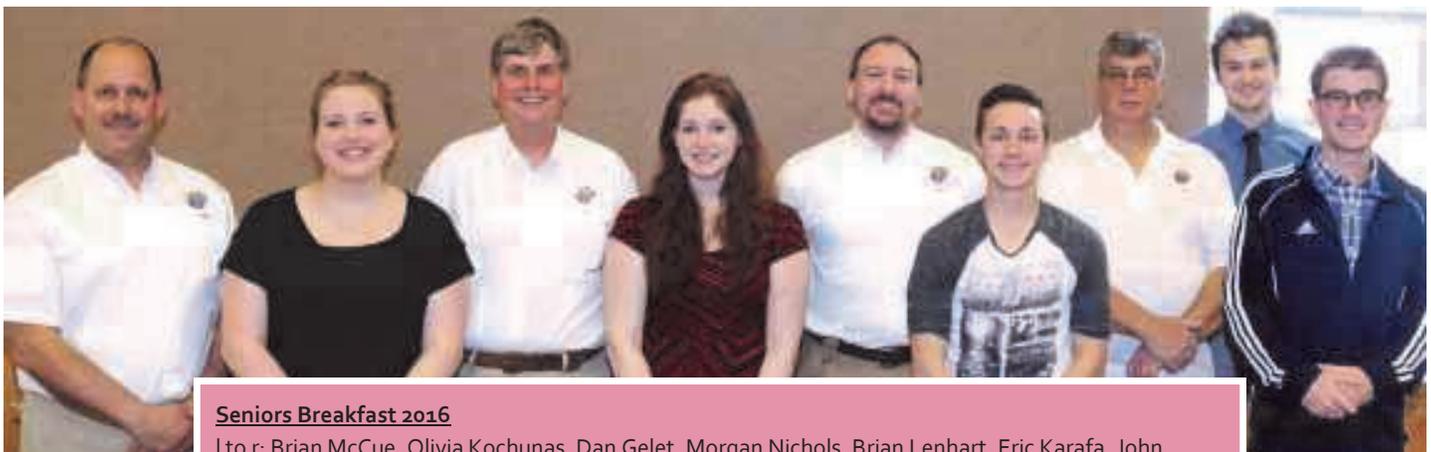
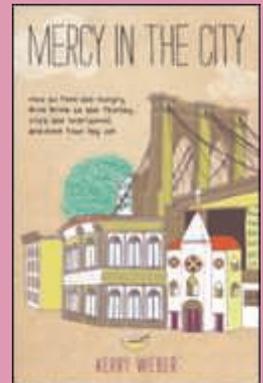


difficult at any age, but just imagine how much more difficult it would be if you were an "ordinary kid with an extraordinary face." It is a story of kindness, courage and wonder. It is my greatest hope that this particular book leads us to a "family book club" with moms, dads and children of all ages; especially middle school and high school. I have a feeling that once this book is read, we will learn how it is easy to touch the leper, the blind, and the afflicted, just as

Jesus taught us by his example. Catch a sneak peek by watching this video: <https://goo.gl/1Nnjcc>. Since July is the month to focus on "Comforting the Afflicted" we will gather to share our thoughts about *Wonder* on Monday, July 25.

Kerry Weber shares with us "how to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, visit the imprisoned, and keep your day job" in her book, *Mercy in the City*. A resident of New York City, Weber "explores the challenges and rewards that accompany a lay Catholic trying to practice the Works of Mercy in a 24/7 city of eight million people." We will gather to share our ideas of living the Works of Mercy in our everyday life on Monday, August 22. Want to know more? Check out this video: <https://goo.gl/XtfGvH>

For those of you who are movie lovers, we will gather to watch *God is Not Dead* on Friday, June 24. Weather permitting, this PG rated film will be an outdoor movie night for families including hot dogs and of course, popcorn!



Seniors Breakfast 2016

l to r: Brian McCue, Olivia Kochunas, Dan Gelet, Morgan Nichols, Brian Lenhart, Eric Karafa, John Timko, Johnathan Mahan, Zachary Shoaf

Working for You

by Gary Gates

Working as a Maintenance Engineer at St. William can be fun, but it is often a challenge to keep the buildings and the grounds functioning smoothly. Although the sanctuary is my main concern, I make it a priority to keep the restrooms, hallways, and classrooms clean, shining and



pleasant smelling. I also am responsible for keeping walks cleared and salted in the winter. In the summer when it is not raining, I need to keep the grounds mowed, trimmed and cleared. It is also important to keep light bulbs changed and many other items fixed or adjusted throughout the year.

Although I try to catch these things and correct them as soon as possible, in the course of a busy day, some things can go unnoticed. I can't fix what I don't know about. Therefore, I must rely on our other staff members to help keep me

informed. We have a great staff with whom I enjoy working and I appreciate it when they promptly call these problems to my attention.

Parishioners, also, can be part of the team. After all, this is your church. When parish events are finished, leftover food that is not given away, taken home, or discarded is often stored in our walk-in or standing coolers and freezers and then forgotten.

Organizing these items would be a great help. Everything should be marked with a date and the name of the person or group storing it. We all know that leaving things too long can cause spoilage and mold. Anything that is not dated will be discarded.

If you are planning to save food for another group's use, please make sure the members are aware of your intentions. Unfortunately, too many times the good intentions of sharing items are forgotten. You know what happens then!

All in all, it is a pleasure and an honor to serve the fine people of St. William and to make this a clean and welcoming place of worship and fellowship.



St. William Archives

Newsletter staff dug up this picture in the St. William archives and we just knew it needed to be added to this edition of the Our Family News. If we ignore the dapper couple in the foreground, you will notice that in addition to those very familiar chairs, some construction is going on in the background. The date on the back of the picture is May 1977.

Our guess is that the square indent above the "gentleman's" head is for the Tabernacle when the Sanctuary was where the Social Hall is now. This picture might have been taken during the remodel of the Sanctuary when the altar was moved from the south end of the Sanctuary (where the present day kitchen is now) to the West side of the Sanctuary

(where the social hall stage is now.) The Tabernacle was relocated to this location at the South end of the Sanctuary during that remodel.

If you have any pictures that you would like to share from our early years it would be greatly appreciated...by so many of us. By the way, this dapper duo is none other than our own Mary Jane O'Shaughnessy (looking spectacular in knee-high stockings) and Rita DeSalvo (who doesn't look half-bad with a mustache!)

Thank you, Rita DeSalvo for sharing this photo and for the fun trip down memory lane.



Life is Good...

I found a brown spot on the back of my hand today. Some people call them age spots or liver spots. (Ugh! How horrible is that one? That name should be illegal.) I, however, called them a word that I can't repeat. Well, really, I didn't call them "that" word, but I said a bad one. Loudly. With Emphasis. And I repeated it. True story.

How can I be awesome with that on the back of my hand? Awesomeness is youthful, full of energy, vital, fun. Did I mention youthful? Awesome doesn't include age spots. Pimples, yes. Age spots, no.

Could it be that I am having a mid-life crisis? Should I run out and buy a sports car? I've heard that a red one will negate an age spot. Should I date someone much younger than I? That could be awesome...and tiring...and probably really annoying. I didn't like young when I was young.

My mind is frantic with options to counteract this spot, and the only thing I can think of is Lady Macbeth (anyone that had good ole MP in Senior English class at Champion HS will understand that one.) THIS. IS. NOT. FAIR.

[Insert hyperventilation sequence]
[Repeat]

Lentigo. That's the official name. It doesn't sound any better, but they mark something. And it turns out that the mark is pretty important. Not because my youth is slipping away, (OK...it's flat out racing away in the rearview mirror) but because it is a reminder. In my case a pretty strong one.

Many of us humans forget that life is temporary. I pray that I haven't hit that middle point yet. I also pray that these spots will disappear. And I pray for chocolate...LOTS of chocolate.

These darn spots are the reminder from the Creator that my life is moving forward. Always. I don't get a choice in this matter. These spots are the little pushes forward saying "Get Going. You don't have forever." These spots are beautiful reminders that I am moving towards the completion of a story that I can't write and live if I'm sitting here worrying about something as minor as a tiny spot on the back of my hand.



These age spots are more like beauty marks. They remind me that some of my friends and loved ones never had the chance to cultivate their spots. They moved on to another story while their hands were still youthful. They never had the chance to listen to the message that their spots could tell them.

They remind me that I have hands with which I can touch others and skin with which to feel the sun's warmth and the wind's kiss. I am honored to realize that my hands, spots and all, look like

my parents and grandparents hands. They remind me that I had many wonderful years with my grandparents and, hopefully, will have many more with my parents. Their hands are a road map that my hands will copy.

With this gentle reminder from my Creator, I rub this age spot that connects me to my purpose, my

future, and my history. I am at peace with this addition. And while I will fight getting older with every ounce of my being, I will accept the process of aging with grace and dignity. But I will never, ever, call them liver spots. Ever.

PRAISE HIM

by Rose Ann Radnothy

Do you wake up very early and hear birds chirping in the trees??

They are giving GOD the glory for the early morning breeze!!

Every breath should PRAISE HIM, from morn till setting sun!

Matters not if where or when we PRAISE HIM for the victory is won!

Seek HIM early in the morning and HE will visit you all day,

And your joy will be surmounting just because you knelt to pray!

Oh how sweet to walk with JESUS, HE will keep us from all harm,

And HIS presence will suffice us while HE holds us in HIS arms!

Oh to seek HIS will divine for what HE would have us do,

May every soul that touches mine persuade others to follow YOU!!

Then when it's time to go to bed, at the closing of the day

We humbly bow our weary head, saying THANKS, YOU led the way!

Life is Good.

Angels on Board

by Lynn Valentino

Back in July of 1998, my husband, John, my elderly father, and I boarded a plane for Dallas. It was a happy occasion. My niece and her husband, who had been married by a JP, had decided that they wanted their marriage sanctified in the Catholic Church. They were now the proud parents of a two year old, who was the first of the four children they would have.

Well into the flight, as the three of us sat lost in our own thoughts, I glanced up to see my husband sweating and ghostly white. The pain on his face was apparent. I immediately stood and called out, "I need help. My husband is having a heart attack!" Miraculously, I was suddenly surrounded by a group of cardiologists. They were on their way either to or from a medical seminar. I stepped out

of the way as they took over. As they calmly and efficiently worked on John, the captain appeared by our side. One of the doctors took him aside and asked how soon we would be landing in Dallas. According to the captain, we had another 40 minutes before touch down. "He won't make it that long", replied the doctor. "We have to land at the nearest airport!" That turned out to be in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Before I knew it, our plane was met by an ambulance which quickly whisked John away to a University Hospital. You'd think that I'd had my share of unexpected help. Not so. There I was with my hard of hearing and confused father in a strange city. We didn't know a soul there or anywhere nearby. Enter the next angel sent to help. Yes, by then I had begun to think of the cardiologists as angels sent

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A Chicken Story

by Cathy Poponak

Have you ever made a decision that you know without a doubt you will come to regret? I have. It's just a gut feeling I get when I say yes to something, while a nagging voice inside of me is saying "don't do it, not a good idea." Every time I think I've learned my lesson, I do it again. With age comes wisdom, or so I've been told. After all, this isn't my first walk around the block. However, I now realize what an influence a grandchild can have on reason and sensibility. Gone, oh yes, gone is my ability to say no when my grandson Collin is involved.

A friend of ours came to my husband and me with an idea that we split a clutch of chicks with her. A terrific idea, she said, a wonderful way for our grandson to understand where eggs come from, a great way for him to appreciate the reality of food, and how to care for animals. Best of all, fresh eggs! No one is worried about cholesterol from eggs anymore. You can eat them every day! "Well sure, if you put it that way, why not," we said. "We can handle 5 or 6 chickens. We're not afraid." "OK, we'll do it!"

We actually have a strange history with chickens, although we have never owned them ourselves. Many years ago our former neighbors raised them. Having moved here from Australia, they were the most interesting neighbors we have ever had, and we still keep in touch with them. They too thought raising chickens would be a great experience for their four children. The experience left us all with more chicken stories than it did eggs.

I still remember one of those stories. One dark and stormy summer night, my husband left to work the midnight shift at RG Steel in our minivan which had a luggage rack on the roof. He

(Continued on page 11)



Jesus Day 2016
Front: Savannah Wright, Taylor Kuhn
Back: Evan Sitko, Samuel Wright, Aiden Wright

Women's Guild

by Therese Tuttle

Spring is here and summer is fast approaching. This warm and friendly season will bring many events, both in our personal lives and in the church. Spring always brings graduation parties to attend, parties for the ladies to enjoy and much mowing for the gentlemen to grumble about. This spring/summer season, the Women's guild will be celebrating, organizing and hosting a few spectacular events.

First we will be holding our May meeting – Installing officers for the upcoming year and enjoying a “Women in History” program. Next on our itinerary is the annual Mary Devotion and Mother-Child Banquet which we will be celebrating May 15th.

In June and July, the Women's Guild will be preparing for our annual Rummage Sale, to be held in August. Remember - your junk is someone else's treasure. Also in August the Women's Guild will be hosting the parish picnic. This summer is going to be a blast. Join in the fun and have a fantastic and safe summer!



2015-2016 Officers



That's Why I Never Eat!

Everybody has an excuse for not attending Mass. If we take those excuses and apply them to something else we do or don't do, they might look a lot like this list:

“I don't eat anymore because...”

- I was forced to eat as a child.
- People who eat all the time are hypocrites; they aren't really hungry.
- There are so many different kinds of food; I can't decide what to eat.
- I used to eat, but I got bored.
- None of my friends will eat with me.
- I only eat on special occasions, like Christmas and Easter.
- I'll start eating when I get older.
- I'm too busy working to eat.
- I don't really have the time to eat.
- I don't believe that eating does any good. It's just a crutch.
- Restaurants and grocery stores are only after your money.

Laughable, isn't it? Regular attendance at Mass is vital for a healthy soul (Hebrews 10:25). Our relationship with God is extremely important for living a *full* life. Without spiritual food, we will die (1 Peter 2:2). Please share this with a family member or friend and invite them to join you for Sunday Mass. We'll save them a seat!

PSR News

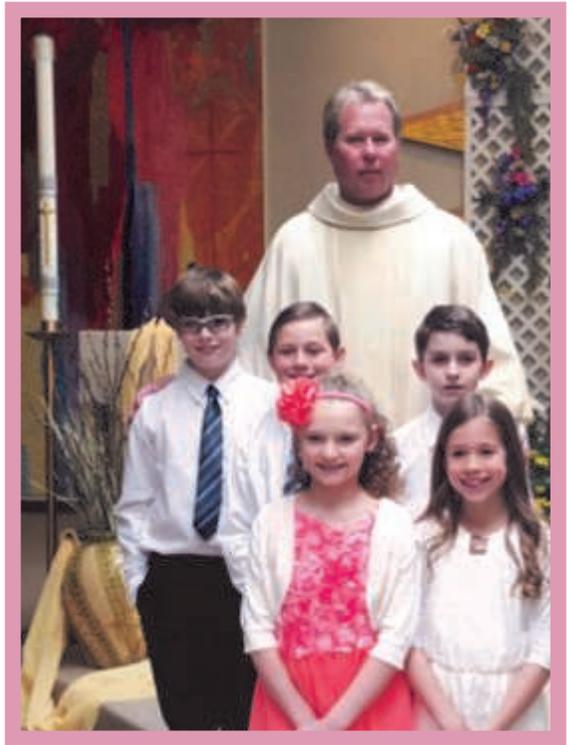
by Carol Timko

The 2015-2016 Parish School of Religion (PSR) ended with a fun and games Family Faith Celebration (FFC.) Students and their parents took part in activities and fellowship. The featured game this year was Family Feud – The Catholic Edition! Students challenged parents in an entertaining and interactive game of Catholic trivia hosted by our own Tina McCue! By the way, students and parents each won one round! In other areas of the Social Hall, our own Father Balash took part in a fun game of Apples to Apples Bible Edition. Students colored stained glass window pictures and made beautiful picture frames.

As a group, we all attended the 11am Mass, where six students received their First Holy Communion. Congratulations to Marissa Murphy, Taylor Kuhn, Evan Sitko, Samuel, Savanna and Aiden Wright. It was a fun day capped off with a beautiful ceremony.

The PSR program is an important part of our religious life here at St. William Parish. Helping children to understand and cherish our Catholic faith is one of the most important missions our entire parish community will ever undertake. I would like to thank all of the teachers for everything that they do throughout the PSR school year. Their dedication and willingness to serve are greatly appreciated by everyone in our parish. This program would not run as effectively without their hard work.

Looking forward to the 2016-2017 PSR school year, we will be searching for helpers to aid in keeping our program strong and vibrant. If you are interested, or just want to know how you can help make a difference in the lives of our students, please contact me at ctimko@stwilliamchampion.org or call 330-847-8627.



First Communion 2016

Back: Samuel Wright, Aiden Wright, Evan Sitko
Front: Savanna Wright, Taylor Kuhn



(Continued from page 1) Eagle works and Christian leadership.

Jonathan is a senior at Champion High School. He has been an altar server since 4th grade and also serves as a lector. He has helped serve at St. Vincent DePaul dining hall and has participated in retreats as a teen leader and witness. He is courageous in talking about his faith among peers and adults and is at ease in stimulating conversation at faith formation sessions.

Olivia is also a senior

at Champion High School. She is an altar server, lector and cantor for the parish and is also part of the Saint Columba Cathedral choir. In 2015, she represented the diocese by participating in the National Catholic Youth Choir in Minnesota. She has served at retreats and has done witness talks on ministry.

This award is given to three recipients from each county of the Diocese and Saint William Parish is fortunate to have two out of three candidates this year from Trumbull County.

(Continued from page 7) Angel by God. It turned out that they were only the first of many.

I'm ashamed to say that I can't remember the name of the next angel who appeared. I do know that he was in charge of Southwest Airlines at that airport. He saw to it that our luggage was taken off the plane and loaded into the trunk of his car. He then took my father and me to the hospital. He not only saw us safely there, but he connected us with a social worker, who was the next helper to arrive.

At the hospital, I was able to witness a nurse administer CPR to my husband. They brought him back from the brink and rushed him into surgery where they were able to put in stents which kept him in good health for a long time. After the surgery, my dad and I settled into our rooms. Of course, I'd already notified my niece, but I had to call my stepdaughter. She canceled her plans and flew in to be with us for a couple of days. When I learned that we had to stay a while, she took over and made arrangements to put my

father on a plane for Cleveland. She even boarded with him and remained for the first leg of the journey. Hence, another angel was there to help. I contacted friends in Warren who were kind enough to meet my father in Cleveland and take him to his home in Brookfield. More angels!

During our stay, the Southwest manager not only visited when John was well enough, he also called me several times at my hotel to see if there was anything I needed. At one point, he even invited me to a backyard barbecue with his wife and children. His secretary also offered to wash my clothes. Fortunately, the hotel laundry room made that unnecessary.

When it was time to return to Warren, Southwest treated us to our first, and I imagine our last, experience in first class flying. All in all, for a traumatic experience, it turned out to be as pleasant as possible. I'm sure this was due to all the angels on board.

Macaroni Salad

by Nancy Hart

The ultimate summer comfort food for me. This is my mom's recipe, and she actually made the salad you see in the picture. Sometimes we put tiny canned shrimp in it to make it a little more special.



Dressing

1 cup Miracle Whip
3-4 T water or milk
2 T red wine vinegar
1 T sugar
½ t salt
¼ t garlic powder
¼ t pepper

Salad

16oz Macaroni
1 sm red/yellow pepper, chopped
1 sm green pepper, chopped
1 celery rib, chopped

Mix all salad ingredients with 1 cup dressing. Cover and refrigerate 2 hours or overnight. Add remaining dressing to serve.

(Continued from page 2) Pastor

been collected. Fish Dinner profits for the last 3 years have been saved and the support for this project has been overwhelming.

It goes without saying that the many good and exciting things happening at our parish are because of so many enthusiastic and dedicated parishioners. Please know of my sincerest thanks and appreciation for all your support, kindness and dedication shown to our parish and for making Saint William the wonderful parish it is. God has been good! May we always thank Him for his blessings and abundant goodness given to our parish and each of us!

Senior Citizens

by Mo Thuman

What is a Senior Citizen?

I have asked myself that question since I was 65. For most of us, but not all, by the time we are seniors, we have retired. We have unfortunately learned the names of many diseases. We have discovered that these golden years are made golden by the money we spend on Doctors. We are supposed to be more forgetful, yet still remember the birthdays of our children and grandchildren. We have conquered smart phones or iPhones, the computer, iPads, and a G.P.S. We've lived through World Wars, the Korean War, the Bay of Pigs invasion, Vietnam, Kuwait, Iraq, Desert Storm, and Afghanistan. We've witnessed women's liberation, gay rights and civil rights for minorities.

We have become a part of recy-

cling through our annual rummage sale where we sort the "stuff" for the rummage sale, straighten the piles, and use our best sales techniques to sell what seems impossible to sell. We renew our relationships with our children at the annual Mother-Child Banquet. We seniors are found rolling kolachi dough, stuffing cabbage, and making tiny meatballs for wedding soup. We work the Fish Fries, the Card Party, the Trunk Sales, and contribute our baked goods to many functions throughout the year. We cook for the Parish Christmas Dinner and we have established strong bonds with "the other church ladies and men."

We are witnesses for each funeral at St. William. We distribute our Lord to local nursing homes and assisted living homes twice a week. We visit those who are ill at home, or in the hospital and we can be found crocheting prayer shawls for our ill and hospitalized. We socialize through the NAIM Club and the

Golden Agers, whose current membership ranges in ages from 55 to 89.

So, if you thought I was going to say we are rocking in our chairs or becoming couch potatoes...we are not! We are involved, we are productive, we are mentors, and we live life to the fullest.

We are Golden!



(Continued from page 7)

mindlessly hopped in the van which had been parked in our driveway, with thoughts only of what he would be facing at work once he arrived. Hearing something sliding back and forth across the roof as he drove 45 mph down North Park Avenue toward Warren, he thought perhaps a small branch had dropped from a tree and got stuck in the luggage rack. Once in town, he decided to stop at a convenient mart for a coffee and to remove the branch from the roof of our van. What he found was a trembling, teary eyed chicken still clinging for its life on the luggage rack. He had no idea how many chickens had started out on the journey, but this one was a steadfast survivor. He didn't have the heart to release the frightened hen onto the streets of Warren, nor did he have time to turn around and return her to the neighbors. Instead he bashfully asked the convenient mart clerk if she had an empty box large enough to hold the chicken that was sitting on his roof. He arrived at work telling the guys he had brought in some chicken. They hungrily hurried to his side, only to be greatly disappointed, even though she had laid an egg for them in the wee hours of the morning.

That incident happened many years ago, though I remember it like yesterday. Yet I seemed to have forgotten about it and all of the other close chicken encounters we had experienced when I said yes to this new venture. All I could think of was Colin watching the chicks grow and collecting eggs, and perhaps having a few chicken stories of his own to tell about his grandparents. Yes, with age comes wisdom; but with age sometimes comes the blessing of grandchildren, and that seems to change everything.





Upcoming Events

- **June 5** – Summer Mass Schedule Begins
Saturday 5:00 p.m. // Sunday 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
- **June 11** – Summer Trunk Sale
- **June 26** – Bishop Murry Visit to St. William
- **July 29** – St. William Night at Progressive Field
- **August 4-6** – Women's Guild Annual Rummage Sale
- **August 14** – Parish Picnic

Details can be found on the website at <http://www.stwilliamchampion.org> or in the Sunday bulletin as they become available.

OUR FAMILY NEWS

will be published on the first Monday after the first full weekend in February, May, August, and November of every year. Articles and submissions are due two weeks before the publish date.

Parish organizations are encouraged to participate and submit materials for publication. Contact the editors or publisher for more information.

Publisher: Dan Robinson
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Editors: Lynn Valentino

Reporters and Photographers
of all ages are needed!

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