

Our Family News

ST. WILLIAM CATHOLIC CHURCH

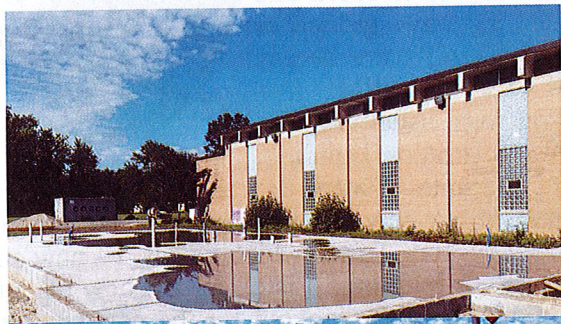
CHAMPION, OHIO

THIRD EDITION VOLUME 9

AUGUST 2017



BUILDING PROJECT TAKES SHAPE!



It is hard to believe that in October of 2014, our parish of St. William came together for meetings to learn about parish needs, and to dream about and discuss possibilities. We desperately needed a new office space and an expanded kitchen and we showed our dedication to our parish by pledging money to make these changes happen.

Now, three very long years later, we are finally seeing results. As I write this today, Monday, August 7, DeSalvo Construction has hung the windows in the new office building. Let me tell



you, if you haven't seen it yet... it is marvelous! The new kitchen addition is about to be dry walled, and they are days away



from putting in the doors through the wall to the current kitchen.



All that time spent hoping, sweating, and praying is finally paying off! I don't know about you, but I am surprised by something every time I walk to the front door of the church. Even though I have studied the drawings and plans in depth, the physical building is a little different than I imagined it. For one, the new structure is taller than I expected; and two, the new building is beginning to make St. William look like a church rather than a box with a box attached. It is beautiful!



A new page is available on the parish website that has regularly been updated with photos of the construction. Thanks to Bob Kane and his camera, we will have a construction journal of images showing the fantastic changes happening here at St. William. The link to the building photo album where all these pictures, and more, are is: www.stwilliamchampion.org/construction-photos.html



NEW PARISHIONERS

Lana Majersky
Albert Gargano
Christine Plant

BAPTISM

Angelina Lombardi,
Daughter of Ted & Julie Lombardi
Granddaughter of Larry & Linda Stepanic
June 17, 2017

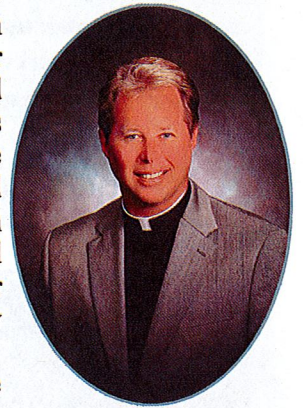
Grayson Devanny,
Son of Justin & Courtney Devanny
Grandson of Nicholas & Melanie Zappia
Great-Grandson of Ron & Marilyn Shay
June 18, 2017

IN MEMORIAM

Dorothy C. Janas
Rev. Michael J. Smar

...FROM THE PASTOR

It is hard to believe that June and July have come and gone and it is already now the middle of August. Another school year is upon us and soon air will get crisp, the days will get shorter, and Friday nights will be filled with football games and halftime shows! Here at Saint William many of our parish activities and meetings will soon be starting after the summer hiatus. Our parish groups and organizations are beginning to plan their events and activities for the upcoming year and I hope that you will be a part of the many good and exciting opportunities that happen at our parish during the year. You are always welcomed and encouraged to participate in any group or organization. Your talents and gifts are deeply appreciated and valued and we need you!!!



This summer has been far from usual with the construction of our new Administration Building, kitchen expansion, and storage area. Every day there has been new activity and accomplishments as our new buildings begin to take shape. Soon work will begin on our new Bell Tower which will add a new and distinctive look to the front of our building. Listen for the new bells to start ringing soon! In addition, be on the lookout for the new entrance doors to the Church building including an automatic opener for those in need, as well as a new walk from the parking lot to the building. This new walk is being done to meet current ADA codes and requirements. Finally, some have asked what will happen to the current house at the front of the property. As soon as we have moved out there will be a "Destruction Sale" for all the fixtures, paneling, and any other items that can be salvaged. Once this sale is complete the building will then be torn down.

As you can see, a lot of great things are happening at our parish due to the generous spirit and dedication of you...*our wonderful parishioners!* This is truly a remarkable and special time in our parish history. Saint William Parish continues to be a beacon of light and hope to our community and area thanks to you!

Thank you for your on-going support and commitment to all the activities of our parish. May God continue to bless you, your family, and our wonderful parish of Saint William!

Have you...

- ...been worshipping with us but never officially took the step to become Catholic?*
- ...been away from the Church...and now have returned but want to know more?*
- ...joined us from a different background and would like to find out more about the Catholic Church?*
- ...felt God leading you and want to find out where that might be?*

If any of these apply to you, your spouse, a family member, or if you know of anyone who could answer YES to any of these questions, we would love to help you on your journey! The **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)** is an informative and comfortable way to seek answers and discover more about the Catholic Church and our faith. It provides a spiritual opportunity to learn and discuss various aspects of the Catholic faith and its practices. If you or someone you know has expressed an interest in the Catholic faith we would love to help you on your journey. Join us for "muffins and coffee" on Sunday, September 17 at 9:30 a.m. or call the Parish Office for more information.

WOMEN'S GUILD

by Therese Tuttle

"It was a nice day. All the days had been nice. There had been rather more than seven of them so far, and rain hadn't been invented yet. But clouds massing east of Eden suggested that the first thunderstorm was on its way, and it was going to be a big one." ~Good Omens by Neil Gaiman and Terry Pratchett

The above quote sums up the beginning, the middle, and the fast approaching end of our summer break. The women's guild has had a few things going on this summer that we would like to share with those who could not participate. In early July, the Women's Guild and the Associates of Notre Dame celebrated Sister Mary Cora Skrivan's SND Diamond Jubilee by hosting a reception after Mass. The reception was well attended and Sister Mary Cora was very pleased to see everyone. Again, congratulations to Sister Mary Cora and thank you for your unselfish witness to God's goodness and provident care through your life of prayer and service.



Sr. Mary Cora Skrivan
celebrating her Diamond
Jubilee (60 Years!)

With the church undergoing construction, the Women's Guild felt that we could not put together a formal parish picnic which all could attend. However, we were able to arrange a "Family Fun Day" at the Warren Olympic Club. This sponsorship was to allow families to enjoy a picnic of their own and enjoy the amenities provided by the Olympic Club. We had very pleasant weather for our day of fun.

The annual "Rummage Sale" was held the first week in August. As always, a lot of work went into this project and it was successful. Many parishioners and community members donated belongings to be sold to others and over \$6,500 was realized repurposing those treasures.

September marks the beginning of our new year. At this meeting we will go over our Program Booklet for 2017-2018 and enjoy a delightful array of wine and cheeses. October's meeting, to be held October 4, will feature a K9 dog and handler, and is open to all parishioners. The K9 handler will demonstrate how he works with the K9 dog. November 8th will be our craft night—we will be making star ornaments. At the end of November, we will be making and selling the first of the Kolachi delights.

Hope to see you at our September 6 meeting at 6:30!



I have been diagnosed with celiac disease and unfortunately cannot have gluten in my diet. I read recently where the Vatican stated that "gluten free" hosts are not permitted at Mass. What am I to do about receiving communion?

Signed: In A Quandary

Dear "In A Quandary,"

It is true that the Vatican Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments did issue a "Circular Letter to Bishops on the Bread and Wine for the Eucharist" this past June. In this letter, reference was made to the use of gluten free hosts at Mass. Paragraph 4 stated "*hosts that are completely gluten-free are invalid matter for the celebration of the Eucharist. Low gluten hosts (partially gluten-free) are valid matter provided they contain a sufficient amount of gluten to obtain the confection of bread without the addition of foreign materials and without the use of procedures that would alter the nature of bread.*" As a matter of clarification, the current suppliers of low-gluten hosts approved by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops remain in compliance with the guidelines of the Congregation's letter. It is important to make every effort to accommodate and normalize the experience of Holy Communion for the faithful, including those suffering from celiac disease. Here at Saint William, low-gluten hosts, (*with a gluten content of 0.01%*) are available for those in need. Please inform Father Balash before Mass and a host will be provided. Likewise, every effort is made to also avoid cross-contamination when using low-gluten hosts. Finally, in extreme circumstances when there is a gluten intolerance of any amount, it is permissible to receive the Precious Blood only. It remains the teaching of the Church to receive one or both species is to fully receive Holy Communion. I hope this alleviates any confusion that the Vatican letter might have raised.

Have a question about faith or why we do what we do at Mass....submit it to A-A-A Ask/Answer Angle by email at parishoffice@stwilliamchampion.org or drop your question in the weekly collection basket.

MINCEMEAT IS FOR MURDER

by Gloria Alden

Mincemeat pie is my specialty. It's what I always bring for the Thanksgiving dinner at Ma Edna's. Now mincemeat is a pie some love, some hate and most can take it or leave it. To tell the truth, after making it for so many years, I'm rather sick of it myself though I always cut a small piece for me to make sure it's okay. Ya gotta do that. Every year my mother-in-law says, "I can always count on Alice to bring my favorite pie," followed by that whinnying horse laugh of hers. Once I tried to rebel tellin' her I was bringin' cherry pies instead. Her small dark eyes buried in pouches like a hound dog's, actually bulged out as her mouth dropped open. You'd have thought I'd committed blasphemy, and was goin' straight to that H place. She actually gasped tryin' to get her breath, if you could believe that, and she wailed "But ya have to bring it, Alice. Thanksgivin' won't be Thanksgivin' without your mincemeat pie." Then she paused. Ma Edna is sneaky that way. "Of course, if you was willin' to share your secret ingredient or ingredients that make it taste better than any other mincemeat pie I've ever eaten; I might be willin' to make it myself." As if I'd give away how I make my mincemeat pie, 'specially to her. So this year I'm makin' my mincemeat pie as usual.

Ma Edna is born again. She don't believe in playin' cards, dancin' or drinkin'. I like all those things. It's why I always add a liberal amount of brandy to my mincemeat pie. Of course, I don't never tell that, or how me and Tom met in a bar all those years ago where we not only drank, but also danced. We dance well together. We still like to go out Saturday nights to the Dew Drop Inn when there's a good band playin'. We been married most twenty-five years now. Ma Edna blames me for her son's drinkin' and what she calls his wayward ways. She claims he never drank 'til he met me, but truth is I think she's the one that set him on that path. You know, a rebellion against all that preachin'. Of course, I do think he carries it too far, but I'm not goin' to turn into a nag like his ma, 'specially since I like a little drink now and then, too.

She blames me for us not havin' kids, too. The truth is, it's 'cause Tom can't. He was checked, but I never told anyone 'bout it. He felt some bad when he found out. Took to drinkin' more than ever.

Tom's not a fussy eater. He'll eat just about anythin' I put before him, but he don't like my mincemeat pie. He says he'd rather have his brandy straight and not mixed up with that raisin junk stuff.

Every Thanksgivin' at Ma Edna and Pa's house, seems like there's some brouhaha goin' on. Ma Edna's sure to pick on one of the daughters-in-law. Seems like none of us was good enough for her three sons. It's not like they're any prizes. Tom's probably the best of the lot, and that's not sayin' much, believe me.

Tom's pa never says much when Ma Edna starts in on whichever daughter-in-law is in her sights be it Margie, Ruth or me. Tom says he's pussy whipped, but I think he's just a coward, a weaklin'. She's one mean woman! None of the boys stand up to her, either. Last year it was me she aimed her mean words and comments at. I put up with it long as I could tryin' to ignore things like, "Can't see why Tom picked a woman who can't have kids. Thank the Good Lord I've got Margie and Ruth to give me and Pa grandkids."

I bit my tongue and didn't say nothin' about how she don't have much to do with her grandkids anyway. Not that they're much to brag on. They were wild ones when they were young, always actin' up. The kind you don't want to see comin' for a visit. And now that they're in their teens? Well, I sure hear enough about what's going on with them. Small towns are like that. Can't keep many secrets here. I don't blame Margie and Ruth none. Takin' after their fathers, I'd say. They're lazy and drink way more than Tom does. They just manage to keep it more of a secret, at least one that don't seem to get back to Ma Edna.

But it was when she criticized my mincemeat pie, after she'd eaten a huge piece, sayin' it wasn't quite as good this year, and I must've forgotten somethin' like my secret ingredient, that I blew up. The old witch! I'd call her somethin' else, but in spite of drinkin', dancin' and playin' a little poker, I don't hold with cussin' much. I feel it sort of cheapens a woman. Still I told her how I felt before I stormed out with Tom followin'. He tried to tell me she don't mean no harm; it's just her way. Yeah, right! She does mean harm. She'd like to get rid of all her sons' wives and get her little boys back.

We spent Christmas with my family. We ain't the perfect family, but there's no meanness there. Even Tom has to admit he'd rather spend holidays with my family, but Thanksgivin' has to be spent with his

family. It's always been that way, and I guess it always will be that way as long as Ma Edna's around. At least this year it'll be one of the other girls she'll turn her spite on, I'm guessin'. Not that I like to see them suffer. They're nice enough if a little wishy washy. No spine in either of them two gals. They take all the venom that woman spews out without ever sayin' anythin' back. They're born again, too.

So like I was sayin', I'm makin' the mincemeat pie again only this year I'm makin' two instead of just one. I'm makin' a special one for Ma Edna for her to eat the next day; one with a little somethin' added; somethin' to take the meanness out of her.

* * *

It's a nice funeral if I do say so myself. Lots of pretty flowers. I 'specially like the spray of roses on the casket. Red roses for love. Lots more people showed up than I would've expected. Tom's pretty broken up. I feel bad about that. I certainly didn't want him hurt. Reverend Martin had nice words to say at the end of the calling hours last night. I've always liked him. He's a good man for a preacher. He'll probably have some more good words to say during the service later, too.

When the results of the autopsy come back, they'll find out it was arsenic. I made sure only one tiny area, enough for one slice, had the arsenic. Knowin' Ma Edna, I knew she'd eat the whole special pie I'd made just for her. When the rest of the pie is checked, if there's any left, they won't find arsenic in it. I didn't have to worry about Pa since he don't like mincemeat pie anymore than Tom does. I made sure I ate a small piece of the pie so as no one would suspect me, and no one would know how she got the arsenic.

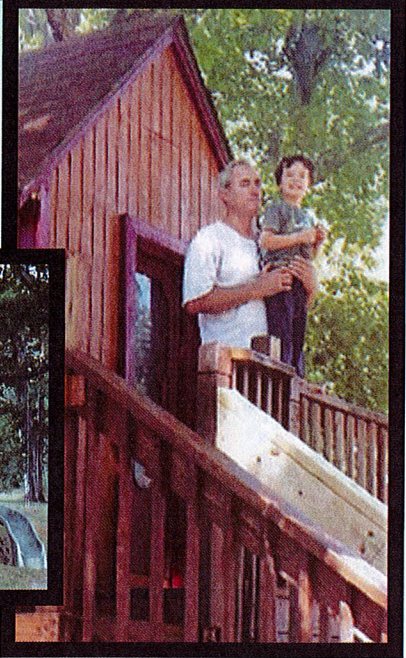
I can't believe somehow her special pie got switched with the one I made for the Thanksgivin' dinner. I sure never thought about that happenin'. I just heard Ma Edna say somethin' almost nice about me. She said, "Alice made a mean mincemeat pie, and now she's takin' her secret ingredient to the grave with her so we won't have nothin' like it again."

[Editor's Note: This is a work of fiction from our very own St. William parishioner Gloria Alden. If you like this story, you will love her Catherine Jewell Mysteries. (available through Amazon in print and e-book.)]

TREEHOUSE MASTER OF CHAMPION OHIO

By Cathy Poponak

Chuck Poponak is renovating the tree house he originally built in 1990 for his daughter Erin and son Jonathan. The tree house, located in the Poponak's backyard, has been boarded up for the last 15 years. Prompted by his grandson Collin Lee, Chuck has been replacing boards, building a new set of stairs, and staining the deck in order to re-open it for play-time again. According to Chuck, his car garage needs repaired and his shed needs replaced, but he couldn't say no to his little "apprentice."



A little boy was listening to a long and excessively boring homily in church. Suddenly the red sanctuary lamp caught his eye. Tugging his father's sleeve, he said, "Daddy, when the light turns green can we go?"

From Nancy's Kitchen

by Nancy Hart

I know that I say this regularly, but this recipe is now my all-time favorite. I have made this several times and shared the recipe with all my friends and family. So, I am super excited to be able to share this very easy recipe with all of you! Enjoy this one and have a great end to summer 2017!

Love ~Nancy

SUNNY SEAFOOD SALAD

Cook & drain 1 lb Cavatappi pasta

Toss with:

Zest of 1 lemon

Juice of 2 lemons

½ cup olive oil

Parsley

Garlic powder to taste

Salt to taste

¼ tsp crushed red pepper

½ lb thawed cooked shrimp without tails

½ pkg faux crab meat, shredded and flaked

Sprinkle liberally with parmesan cheese.
Refrigerate leftovers. This makes a lot of salad. You may wish to cut this one in half.

PSR NEWS

by Carol Timko

On Sunday, September 10, from 9:30 to 10:45, we will have registration and our opening parent/student meeting for our first PSR. All parents and students from kindergarten through grade 8 are required to attend.

A required meeting will be Sunday, September 24, from 9:30 to 10:45, in the Social Hall with all students in grades 8 and 9 with their parents. You will receive more Confirmation information at that meeting.

Mark your calendars for October 8 at the usual time. You don't want to miss taking your preschooler to the First Stories and Scripture class. Watch the Bible come alive for your child!

Don't forget about our Make a Difference Day Service project on Saturday, October 21, from 9:00 to noon. You'd be surprised at how much fun and satisfaction you can derive from helping people who have difficulty helping themselves.

Last but not least on our list, the first FFC for the year will be on Sunday, October 22, from 9:00 to noon.

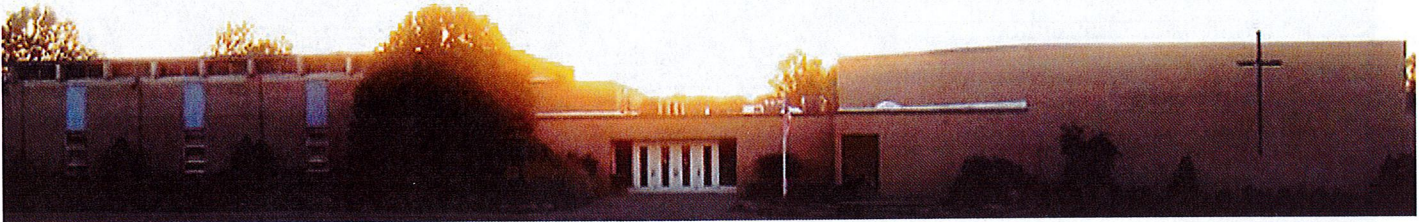
Finally, let's all offer a warm welcome to our new PSR teachers, Ed and Carol Baniak. We hope to see you all in September!



Upcoming Events ~ SAVE THE DATES

- Sept. 10 ~ PSR Begins
- Sept. 13 ~ Women's Guild TNT Night
- Sept. 17 ~ RCIA Opening Session
- Sept. 24 ~ Confirmation Preparation Opening Session
- Sept. 30 ~ Blessing of Pets
- Oct. 21 ~ Make A Difference Day

IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER
**Summer Mass Schedule Ends
Sunday, September 3**
**11:00 a.m. Mass returns on
Sunday, September 10**



<http://www.stwilliamchampion.org>

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