

Our Family News

St. William Catholic Church
Champion, Ohio



Third Edition Issue 17
November 2019

St. William Teens Enjoy Holy Fire!!

by Bob Mintus & Melanie Shoaf

Can you imagine being in the presence of thousands of middle school Catholic youth in a University Basketball gymnasium? HOLY FIRE!!

On Sunday, October 13, seven of our middle school teens joined up with their peers from dioceses throughout Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Pennsylvania, and New York. The event, Holy Fire Great Lakes, is the largest Catholic youth event in our country, and was held this year at the Stroh Center at Bowling Green State University.

For everyone that made the trip, it was a long but exciting day. Our group left the St. William parking lot at a bright and early 6:15a.m. and many of our young people took advantage of the commute to get a little extra stories and sleep. The extra beauty rest did the personal trick and everyone was "ready to go" when we arrived.

The day started with plenty of music and excitement, as we enjoyed a concert by Joe Melendrez and music by Sarah Kroger and the Holy Fire House Band. Joe Melendrez is an amazing performer! His music and dancing was inspiring and captivated the youth as he brought them to the stage. The morning also included a welcome from Toledo Bishop Daniel Thomas

and keynote speaker Katie Prejean McGrady, as well as other young people who shared their stories via video and spoke of the importance of their own faith life. Katie's talk focused on the face of Christ in all aspects of our life. Our youth are confronted with daily obstacles and situations which can tempt them to stray. Katie reminded us in her



WHAT WAS HOLY FIRE LIKE FOR THE STUDENTS?

by Melanie Shoaf

It was exciting for me to interview the teen attendees regarding their experiences at Holy Fire at Bowling Green State University on October 13. I was stunned that they wanted to attend Holy Fire, not only because they "were open to trying something new and different," but also to "strengthen faith" and to be among other Catholic teens. All of the students expressed surprise at the excitement resonating during the event, which was apparent the moment we entered the stadium. There was music, and although it was Christian music, it was exciting, uplifting, and tailored to the teen's generation and culture. It was not what they expected. One student commented, "I did not think it would be so exciting. Our church is very ritualistic with our Mass and prayers, but Holy Fire was very exciting and uplifting"

All were in agreement that they liked the music the most and, more specifically, Joe Melendrez.

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...FROM THE PASTOR



“Our challenge
is to take a
moment of quiet
each day and
reflect...”

~Fr. Balash

If I was to pick one month of the year that signifies “dramatic change” it would have to be November. When it starts, the leaves are usually at their peak of color, the air is crisp and the days are bright. The grass is green and the plants are beginning to prepare for their winter nap. By the end of the month, the leaves are gone, snow is on the horizon, daylight is much shorter, and the holiday season is upon us. In four short weeks our world and environment undergoes a significant change and transformation.

This significant change and transformation also takes place in church as well. We begin the month with the Feast of All Saints followed by the Feast of All Souls – a day to remember and reverence our loved ones who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith and who are now enjoying their eternal reward in the presence of the Lord. The weekly Scripture readings throughout the middle of the month focus on the end times and the reward of eternal life we hope to share. We end the month giving thanks to God for the many blessings He has bestowed on us, for the goodness in our lives and faith; and in doing so, ready ourselves for the upcoming holiday season. From brightness to darkness; from remembrance to hopefulness; and from our thanksgiving table to our season of waiting and preparation; it all happens in November!

This year our Advent Season begins on Sunday, December 1. We have chosen the parish theme “*Wonders of His Love*” for Advent. The weeks between Thanksgiving and Christmas are a time of promise and wonder that points us toward the coming of Jesus into our world to save and redeem us. This time leading up to the holidays can best be described as days of “hectic busyness!” Yet our challenge is to take a moment of quiet each day and reflect on how the “*wonders of His love*” are a part of our life, faith and family. It is hoped that you will take advantage of this opportunity to truly prepare for the “*wonders of His love*” that we will celebrate on Christmas this year.

As always, thank you for making Saint William Parish a wonderful and vibrant community of faith. Great things continue to happen at our parish because of your enthusiasm, support and generosity. We have welcomed a number of new members in the past weeks and hopefully they are feeling the “spirit and welcome” that is the hallmark of Saint William Parish! As we get ready for this special time of year, know of my continued prayers and best wishes to you and your family for a wonderful and blessed holiday season. May the coming weeks truly be a time of preparation, joy, and thankfulness as we remember all the blessings and goodness God has given to us, our family and our parish!

Fr. Balash





NEW PARISHIONERS

THE SWIGER FAMILY

Gina, Randy, James & Nathan

SANDRA MEYER

SYLVIA KUNA

MARIE CHINCHIC

THE BELLOMO FAMILY

Melissa, Sophia, & Natalie

BAPTISM

Burkley Analynn Barco

Daughter of JP & Lauren Barco

*Granddaughter of John & Deanna Barco
September 28, 2019*

WELCOME MINISTRY

by Linda Horm and Ellen Millik

As our parish continues to grow in number, the Welcome Ministry's mission is to assist in making new parishioners, and those who may have 'been away' for a while feel welcome! What better way to do this than to have a social gathering where families, couples, and individuals can get to know one another. It also provides an opportunity for them to consider where they might offer their time and talent to the parish mission.

On September 15, our new parishioners gathered to be formally welcomed into our parish. Twenty-eight people attended! In the opening prayer we praised God for all the gifts He bestows upon us, and especially for all who gathered. During a wonderful luncheon, everyone shared their stories about themselves. They shared where they were from, and how and why they decided to join St. William. Many said they felt the warmth and friendliness of our parish from the very beginning. Deacon Bob Mintus spoke briefly about his role as our new Deacon, and Father Balash gave a brief summary of each of the ministries offered at St. William. Among them being: Altar Server, Eucharistic Minister, Greeter, Youth Ministry, Knights of Columbus, Women's Guild, Golden Agers, and Fish Dinner Volunteer. Father Balash indicated volunteers are always needed in all ministry areas. Cards listing the various ministries were distributed, and attendees were asked to reflect on where their time and talent(s) might be of service to the parish. The event ended with a closing prayer recognizing God's gift of unity and the perfect placement of others who inspire us to work together as Christians with the gifts that we have been blessed with to further God's plans.



Our Family News

Is published on the first Monday after the first full weekend in February, May, August, and November of every year. Articles and submissions are due three 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 ~
drobinson@stwilliamchampion.org
*Reporters and Photographers of all ages
are needed! No writing experience needed.*

Editors: Nancy Tuttle, Lynn Valentino

November 16 ~ K of C Spaghetti Dinner ~ 6 – 8 p.m.

December 3 ~ Lessons and Carols ~ 7 – 8 p.m.

December 8 ~ Santa Social ~ 12 – 1 p.m.

February 1 ~ Parish Appreciation Event ~ 6 – 9 p.m.

BLESSING OF PETS

by Therese Tuttle

On Saturday, October 5, Deacon Bob Mintus officiated the 2019 Blessing of Pets. There were approximately 15 beloved pets and their humans in attendance. Deacon Bob blessed our best friends with sprinkles of holy water and prayer. This religious custom is conducted in remembrance of Saint Francis of Assisi's love for all creatures. Pets are true companions, loyal and loving, and the bond between person and pet is like no other relationship. Every creature, whether a treasured pet or an animal in the wild, is important, and the love we give and receive from our non-human companions is a wonderful gift from God.



PRAYER TO SAINT FRANCIS FOR OUR PETS

Good Saint Francis, you love all of God's Creatures.

To you they were your brothers and sisters.

Help us to follow your example of treating every living thing with kindness.

Saint Francis, Patron Saint of animals, watch over my pet and keep my companion safe and healthy.

Amen



(Continued from page 1)

our legs before the afternoon session began. Joe Melendrez and the House Band got things moving again, and we welcomed Brian Greenfield, our afternoon speaker. Brian maintained the attention of the audience with his inspiring story of his own leadership and overcoming obstacles through the metaphor of a maze. We really wanted to know what happened when he finally got out of the maze! During the afternoon all attendees had the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. After Brian reminded us of our call to be leaders, we renewed our Baptismal promises, and then experienced a Eucharistic Procession with Exposition. Adoration of the Holy Eucharist was a new experience for many attendees. We wrapped up the day by celebrating the Mass with Bishop Earl Bovea from the Diocese of Lansing, Michigan. During the procession for Mass a prayer chain created by all attendees was presented to the altar. There was a sense of awe and wonder at the faith of our youth shown in this long prayer chain. God is so good!

What were some of the things we learned on the trip? I think that first and foremost, our young people are not just the Church of Tomorrow – they are the Church of Today, with their own special mission. They can connect to God and express their faith in many ways. Finally, they are not alone in their



mission. Being surrounded by thousands of their peers living out their faith was very uplifting and inspiring. We, adult leaders, were personally in awe of the many faces of Christ and our young leaders celebrating their faith together as Disciples of Christ.

We would like to provide a special thank you to all the chaperones and drivers for their time and devotion, as well as Tina McCue and Carol Timko for organizing this special event for our youth. Thanks go to Father Balash and St. William Parish for sponsoring this event. We would also like to thank all the parents for entrusting their youth to our care for the day.

Last but not least, we would like to thank the following youth for courageously living out their faith knowing they are never alone: Brooke, Dominic, Joseph, Kayla, Mario, Nathan, and Taylor. Holy Fire!! You are all amazing!! Thank you for attending. It was our pleasure and honor to accompany you on this faith inspiring life experience.

IS MOSES THE PATRON SAINT OF THANKSGIVING?

by Therese Tuttle

Here is something to ponder as you are preparing your Thanksgiving Feast. Author Bruce Feiler in his book, "America's Prophet: How the Story of Moses Shaped America", states that Thanksgiving has deep biblical roots. His reasoning begins with the Protestant Reformation. All through the middle ages, Catholics were not allowed to read the Bible directly so these holy parables were read by clergymen and recited during prayer and Mass. The Reformation, and the printing press gave ready access to the Holy Bible. Protestants felt oppressed by the Catholic Church and compared their situation with that of the Israelites, who were enslaved in Egypt around 1200 B.C., were set free by Moses, before setting out for the Promised Land. By comparison the Pilgrims who sailed to the New World, a band of Protestant outcasts, saw themselves as fulfilling this biblical story. They too crossed a tumultuous sea to arrive in an unsettled wilderness. They described themselves as the chosen people fleeing their pharaoh, King James. The pilgrims were so enamored by Moses that the Bibles they carried with them were emblazed with pictures of Moses on their title pages. They even named their children biblical virtues like Fear, Patience, and Wrestling, as in "Wrestling with God," the English translation of Israel. The Pilgrims gave thanks to God for their safe passage to the New World.

Thanksgiving has historical roots as well; it began as a day of giving thanks and sacrifice for the blessing of the harvest and prayers of thanks. Special thanksgiving ceremonies are

common among all religions. In English tradition, days of thanksgiving and special thanksgiving services became important during the reign of King Henry VIII and the English Reformation in the 16th century. In the United States, Pilgrims who emigrated from England carried the tradition of Days of Fasting and Days of Thanksgiving. There are several different "First Thanksgivings" identified in early American history; the Native Americans and Spanish settlers held a feast and a Holy Mass in St. Augustine, Florida on September 8, 1565 (feast of the Blessed Virgin). A second similar "Thanksgiving" celebration occurred on April 30, 1598 in Texas when Don Juan de Onate declared a day of Thanksgiving to be commemorated by the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. In New England, the "First

President Abraham Lincoln who proclaimed Thanksgiving an official national holiday to be observed on the last Thursday of November. On December 26, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed a joint resolution of Congress changing the National Thanksgiving Day from the last Thursday in November to the fourth Thursday.

The Catholic origins of Thanksgiving could be contributed to three historical events which occurred on American soil. First, the Feast and Holy Mass held in St. Augustine, Florida in 1565; second, when Don Juan de Onate declared a day of Thanksgiving in Texas (1598), and the third event involved a Native

American man named Squanto, who mediated between the Puritan Pilgrims and the Native Americans. Squanto was enslaved by the English but freed by Spanish Franciscans and then baptized Catholic. An interesting fact is the word "Thanksgiving" in Greek means "Eucharistio." Thus, the Body and Blood of Christ is the true "Thanksgiving Meal." As

Catholics and Americans, we are overwhelmed with blessings, joy, and gratitude at the gifts that God has given us. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

The Catholic Church does not recognize Moses as the patron saint of Thanksgiving. However, several saints do indeed celebrate their feast day on November 28, this year's Thanksgiving Day.



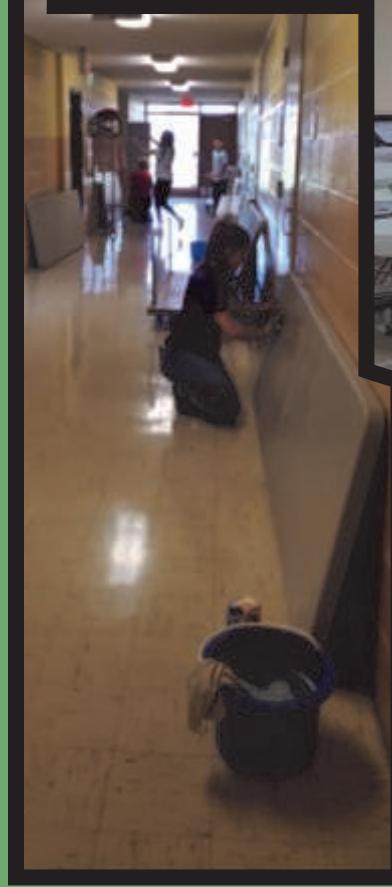
"Thanksgiving" was celebrated by the Pilgrims in Plymouth in 1621 and 1623 and also the Puritan holiday in Boston in 1631. President George Washington proclaimed the first nationwide thanksgiving celebration in America marking November 26, 1789, "as a day of public thanksgiving and prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty God." It was



They're Back!!!!!!
Saint William "Fabulous FISH DINNERS"
Fridays ~ February 21 ~ April 3, 2020

MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

Our make a difference day service project for St. William PSR, confirmation and youth ministry students was held on Saturday, October 26. About 30 students, parents, and teachers were in attendance. We “made a difference” this year by cleaning all the tables and chairs at the parish, making cards for our homebound parishioners, and cleaning the kitchen. When the hard work was finished, we enjoyed a delicious lunch with pizza, chips, cupcakes, and candy.



FAMILY FAITH CELEBRATION (FFC)

by Carol Timko

On Sunday, October 27, we held our first Family Faith Celebration (FFC). The theme for this event was the World Mission Rosary. Families arrived at 9:00 a.m. and everyone enjoyed a pancake and sausage breakfast. After breakfast, we opened our session with prayer and explanation of the World Mission Rosary.

The World Mission Rosary was created in 1951 by Venerable Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen. Each decade of the World Mission Rosary represents a different area of the world where missionaries continue to share the Good News of Jesus. He used to say that when you finished praying the World Mission Rosary, you gave the world a "great big hug."



an

The colors represent the following:

- YELLOW is for Asia, where the sun rises first each day.
- RED is for the Americas, where missionaries journeyed, "on fire" with faith in Jesus.
- WHITE is for Europe, home of the Holy Father, shepherd of the world.
- BLUE is for the ocean surrounding the Islands of the Pacific.
- GREEN is for the forests and grasslands of Africa.

Upon arrival, the families were given a color that represented the rosary decade they were to help assemble. After the rosary was assembled, we joined together to pray a living World Mission Rosary. The students then processed into the 11:00 a.m. Mass with the rosary during the opening procession. They laid the rosary at the foot of the altar where it stayed during Mass. The rosary will be displayed on the bulletin board in the hallway during our PSR year.



PSR A LOOK AHEAD

November 17 ~ First Reconciliation Parent Meeting
December 1 ~ No PSR

December 22 ~ No PSR

December 29 ~ No PSR

January 5 ~ PSR classes resume

January 18 ~ Saturday - First Reconciliation

January 26 ~ FFC - Evening session and dinner

February 2 ~ First Communion Parent Meeting (1 of 2)

February 9 ~ No PSR

March 1 ~ First Communion Parent Meeting (2 of 2)

March 29 ~ FFC - Morning session w/breakfast and Mass

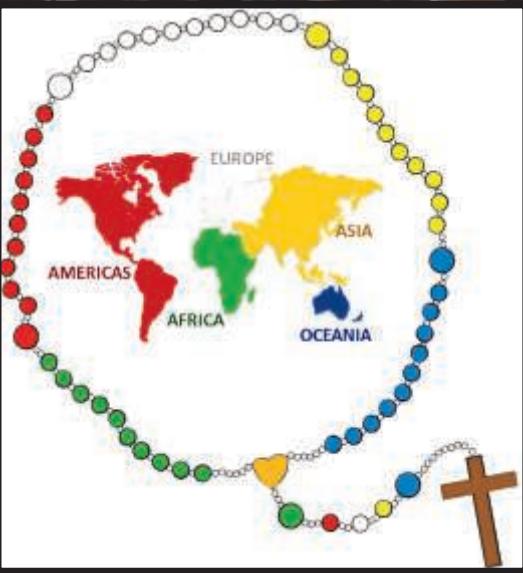
April 4 ~ Saturday - Jesus Day Retreat for Grade 2

April 26 ~ Last Class - End of year breakfast/celebration

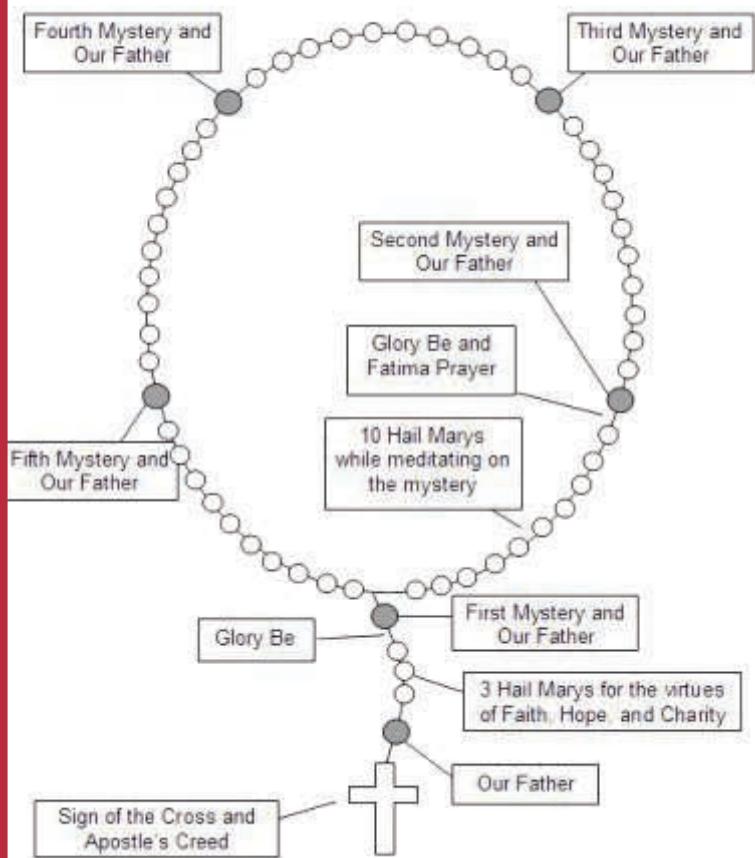
April 26 ~ First Communion - 11a.m. Mass



F.F.C. 2019



The Rosary



QUI LT RAFFLE 2019

by Janice Ventling

The St. William Quilters have completed another beautiful, handmade raffle quilt. This year the quilt is a bright colored, hand appliqued, and hand quilted flower quilt. Twelve ladies diligently worked on the applique and the quilting over several months to create an amazing work of art!

Tickets are now being sold for a chance to win this lovely quilt. It will be raffled on December 14 at the Annual St. William Christmas Craft Show. Be sure to get your ticket for a chance to win. All the money raised will be used toward St. William church building projects.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS AND BELLA HELP SAVE LIVES

by Brian McCue

The Knights of Columbus Order has provided organizational and financial support for the March for Life since 1974. As Catholics, we are committed to protecting the sanctity of life. As such, we are charged with protecting these vulnerable babies. This may seem a daunting task, but thankfully we have tools at our disposal to impact change in expectant parents. Nothing is more central to this call than the Knights of Columbus Ultrasound Program. This program empowers councils to partner with qualified pregnancy centers to raise funds to obtain 3D/4D ultrasound machines. All funds raised are matched by the Supreme Council. As of January 14, 2019, the Knights are proud to have donated their 1000th machine.

Research suggests that over 80% of parents who see an ultrasound

image will choose to carry their baby to term. Seeing the beating heart of their unborn child can be life changing. The first step is making sure that there are quality machines available to help parents make informed choices.

Locally, the Knights in the Warren area are currently working to bring a 3D/4D video color ultrasound to the Bella Women's Center. To this end, the Knights 4 Life Foundation has been established. 100% of all funds raised will be applied toward the purchase of this machine. An account has been opened at the 717 Credit Union. Anyone may donate at any branch location by simply asking to make a deposit into the Knights 4 Life account. You will receive a receipt for your donation, and all contributions are made anonymously. Our goal is to raise half of the funds, with the remaining balance being matched by the Supreme Council.

The Bella Women's Center's mission is to honor God and share the love of Jesus Christ through offering life affirming information and education to empower women to choose life. Bella currently boasts 1,195 babies saved since they opened in 2011. Without pressure, Bella provides guidance and counseling to help the mother to make the decision to either parent or start an adoption process for her child. The Knights believe that the only way to stop abortion is to change the mother's mind. This can come true through the image provided her on the color monitor and the live video.

The Bella Women's Center, located at 1192 North Road in Warren, operates solely on donations, and there are no funds available to purchase this ultrasound equipment. The need is clear; the Knights are committed to filling this void!

Please consider supporting this important cause by attending a Knight's event or donating directly to the Knights 4 Life Foundation at 717 Credit Union.

2019 ST. WILLIAM PARISH PICNIC

MUSIC SURVEY RESULTS!

The St. William music ministry held a survey during the Summer Parish picnic this year to determine the **TOP TEN** favorite Hymns. Here are the results, chosen by parishioners:

OVERALL WINNERS

1. On Eagle's Wings	29
2. Amazing Grace	22
3. Be Not Afraid	20
4. Tie: Ave Maria	19
How Great Thou Art	19
5. Rain Down	14
6. Here I Am, Lord	13
7. Tie: Christ, Be Our Light	11
Take and Eat	11
8. Tie: Hail Mary, Gentle Woman	10
Immaculate Mary	10
Table of Plenty	10
We Are Called	10
9. Lead Me, Lord	9
10. Tie: All Are Welcome	8
Glory & Praise to Our God	8
Go Out, Go Out	8
One Bread, One Body	8
You Are Mine	8

HONORABLE MENTION!

Taste and See/Moore ~ Whosoever You Do
Enter the Journey ~ Gather Us In
City of God ~ God Has Chosen Me
Gift of Finest Wheat ~ Holy God We Praise Thy Name
Blest Are They ~ Life Is Changed, Not Ended
Praise to the Lord ~ Open My Eyes
Unless a Grain of Wheat ~ Prayer of St. Francis
Rise Up With Him ~ Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee
In The Breaking ~ I Have Loved You

SAVE THE DATE

SANTA SOCIAL

On December 8 after the 11:00 p.m. Mass, Santa will be arriving at St. William to enjoy a social event with the parish. This year, in lieu of the Annual Parish Christmas Dinner, the Women's Guild will be hosting

a Santa social!

Cookies and Hot Cocoa will be served in the social hall.



MUSIC MINISTRY

by Pat Maciejewski

Here are the results from our 2019 Parish Picnic Music Survey! Everyone was asked to list their top choices of favorite liturgical songs and hymns. We mirrored a national survey matching the top three: On Eagle's Wings, Amazing Grace and Be Not Afraid. Other top Saint William favorites are: Here I Am, Go Out Go Out, Ave Maria, How Great Thou Art, Hail Mary Gentle Woman, Table of Plenty, Rain Down and Christ Be Our Light among others. See the results of the Top 10 chosen songs on this page. Thanks to all who participated!

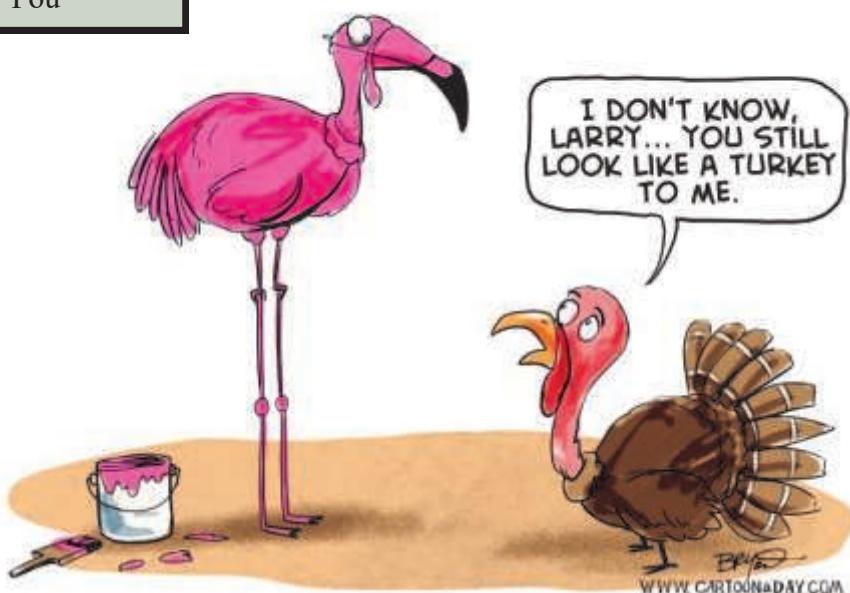


Cantor workshops were held recently with almost 100% attendance of our 11 cantors. Thank you and bless you for your dedication, talent, and devotion to our liturgies. We strive to be leaders of sung prayer and bring the psalms to life at Mass.

St. William Advent Lessons and Carols will be Tuesday, December 3 at 7:00 p.m. We celebrate with scripture, prayer, and song the "Wonders of His Love." Please attend and enjoy a reflective and joyous hour to begin our Advent Season.

CHRISTMAS YOUTH CHOIR! Please register soon to help sing at our 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass. Two rehearsals for this Mass are: 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. on Saturday, December 14 and 21. All St. William youth second grade and above are welcome to attend!

St. William Music Ministry wishes all St. William parishioners a blessed Thanksgiving and a peaceful and holy Christmas Season.



COPING WITH THE HOLIDAYS

by Tina McCue

This Christmas will be the fifth anniversary of my mother's entry into heaven; the third holiday season that my siblings and I have "celebrated" without our parents and the second holiday season without our brother. Celebrate: a word that usually invokes cheer, laughter and smiles, however I must admit that these past few years of "celebrating" the holidays have been weighed down by the depth of our trifecta grief of losing mother, father and brother in just a few short years. One thing we have learned is that if we do not "celebrate" we continue to sink into the darkness. So we gather with our grief along with our casseroles and gifts to celebrate the lives of those who have gone ahead of us, those who are left behind, and those who are yet to come.

Every family has their holiday traditions. We divide up who will make our favorite comfort food that brings alive the holiday feast of this Italian/Slovak family. As firstborn, my sister Vikki has carried on the tradition of making the infamous Kolachi. Someone makes the Italian Wedding Soup and someone makes the Slovak Stuffed Cabbage. Someone brings the shrimp and



vegetable trays that are needed to keep us nourished during our endless games of Canasta and each of us bring our own favorite dish to add our personal touch to the feast. We also bring our grief, for we have come to realize that we can face it when it is opened up with our boxes and bows rather than staying wrapped up in the deepest corners of our hearts. Among the sadness, we share the joys and successes everyone has experienced throughout the year. We celebrate the growth of our family and make sure that Mom, Dad and Joe are remembered and celebrated as well.

Several years ago I came across a lovely Holiday Memorial as part of my training for ministry. (*See the insert in the center of this Newsletter*) I tucked it away until St. William Bereavement Ministry began to gather to celebrate the lives of those who have gone before us. This prayer now is part of my advent wreath as I work through my grief, with courage and treasured memories. I pray that this little prayer helps your journey through the holiday season as you remember and treasure your own loved ones who have been called home. May you feel the presence of God surround you as you remember! May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

A PRAYER FROM MY CHILDHOOD:

Jesus, through the power of the Holy Spirit, go back into my memory as I sleep. Every hurt that has ever been done to me – heal that hurt. Every hurt that I have caused to another person – heal that hurt. All the relationships that have been damaged in my whole life that I'm not aware of – heal those relationships.

But, Lord, if there is something that I need to do – if I need to go to a person because he is still suffering from my hand, bring to my awareness that person. I choose to forgive, and I ask to be forgiven.

Remove whatever bitterness may be in my heart, Lord, and fill the empty spaces with your love.

Thank you, Jesus.

Amen

"I found this card in a prayer book that belonged to my mother, Arlene Frankhart. She lived in Tiffin, OH and was a member of St. Mary's Parish. I found it interesting and wanted to share it with everyone at St. William."

~ Irene Bellex

Prayer by Phyllis Devereux
Originally Printed by Franciscan Mission

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas ~ Tuesday, December 24 / Wednesday, December 25

Tuesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve: 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.
Wednesday, December 25 – Christmas Day: 10:00 a.m.

New Year ~ Tuesday, December 31 / Wednesday, January 1

Tuesday, December 31 – New Year's Eve: 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, January 1 – New Year Day: 10:00 a.m.

***Note: New Year's Day is a holy day of obligation. All Masses will be held at St. William Church.**

FROM THE WOMEN'S GUILD

by Therese Tuttle

All women over the age of 18 are members of the Women's Guild. The first step in becoming an active member is to simply attend Women's Guild meetings, which are held from September to May. The meetings begin at 6:00 p.m. with refreshments and social time, followed by a business meeting, and ending with a variety of programs and/or activities. Hope to see you there and all are welcome to attend.

The Women's Guild finished the 2018 -2019 year with the Installation of Officers: Theresa Craiger, President (second term), Linda Horm, Vice President (third term), Cathy Poponak, Secretary (third Term) and Jamie Taneri, Treasurer (first term). These are talented and wonderful women who have volunteered their time to serve as the 2019 - 2020 officers.

The Women's Guild will be making, baking, and selling their delicious Christmas Kolachi rolls on December 4. This year, the Women's Guild will not be hosting the Parish Christmas dinner but instead, will be holding a SANTA SOCIAL for ALL children on December 8, at 12:00 p.m. Santa will be dropping by to share in cookies and gift giving. Plans are already being made for the annual Christmas Craft Show which will be held December 14 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

See what other activities are happening by visiting the Women's Guild webpage. It can be found under the "Ministries" tab on the parish website. We hope everyone has a wonderful Thanksgiving and a very merry Christmas.



In Memoriam

All Souls Day - 2019

We remember all of our parishioners who passed away and were buried
from our parish in the last year.

We pray for their families who continue to grieve their loss.

May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed,

through the mercy of God, Rest in Peace.

www.stwilliamchampion.org/in-memoriam.html

Eledore Stefanik

Rita Kittle

Michael Sawayda

Helen Spano

Rose Watson

Richard Hudak

Dolores Loftus

Mitchell Pealer

Denise Tombor-Fox

Ann Sekerak

Frank Fiest

FROM NANCY'S KITCHEN:

Let me tell you...when my family gets cooking they are a powerhouse of flavor and deliciousness! Check out this recipe from my awesome sister-in-law, Therese Tuttle. She is an amazing cook and this is just one of her many signature dishes. If she says she is making this dish, you best bet that I am going to show up on her doorstep with bowl in hand! Trust me...it is that good!

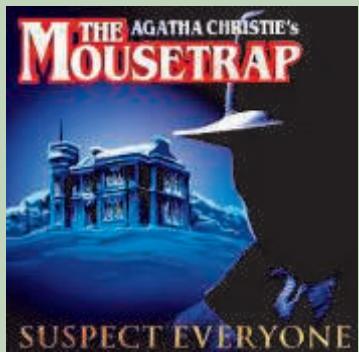
Love ~ Nancy

TNT NI GHT

by Therese Tuttle

Hosted by the Women's Guild, the annual TNT Night was held November 12 with Wine and Hors d'oeuvres. The Play "The Mousetrap" by Agatha Christie was performed by the Trumbull New Theatre is located at in Niles.

This event is one of the most popular events in which the Women's Guild hosts. The wonderful women who volunteer each year could use your help. Please contact Theresa Craiger if you can help in any way (donate food, ticket sales, set up, etc.). Help is always needed and most appreciated.



A group of strangers are stranded in a boarding house during a snow storm, one of whom is a murderer. The suspects include the newly married couple who run the house, a spinster with a curious background, an architect equipped to be a chef, a retired Army major, a strange man who claims his car has overturned in a snowdrift, and a jurist. Into their midst come a policeman, traveling on skis. He no sooner arrives, when the jurist is killed. The policeman must probe the background of everyone present and rattles a lot of skeletons!

WHITE CHICKEN CHILI

1 pound boneless skinless chicken breast
1 medium onion, chopped
1 tablespoon olive oil
2 garlic cloves, minced
2 can (14 ounces each) chicken broth
1 can (4 ounce) chopped green chilies
2 teaspoons ground cumin
2 teaspoons dried oregano
1 ½ teaspoons cayenne pepper
3 can (14 ½ ounces each) great northern beans, drained, divided
1 cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese
Sliced jalapeno pepper, optional

1. In a Dutch oven over medium heat, cook chicken and onion in oil until lightly browned. Mix in garlic. Transfer to a medium sized stock pot. Add broth, chilies, cumin, oregano, and cayenne; bring to a boil.
2. Reduce heat to low. With a potato masher, mash one can of beans until smooth. Add the rest of the beans. Simmer for 20-30 minutes or until chicken is no longer pink and onions are tender.
3. Top each serving with cheese and, if desired, jalapeno peppers.
Yield: 10 servings



K OF C #7491

St. William Knights of Columbus # 7491, donated \$1,040.00 to Fairhaven Industries Inc. in Champion, a non-profit organization committed to working with individuals with disabilities. Money was collected at Champion Sparkle Market through the Knights of Columbus Measure Up program.



Picture L to R: Keith Bowser, Richard Gilronan (Fairhaven Production Supervisor), Bob Kane



Christmas Cash Raffle Now Underway

Christmas Cash Raffle Tickets Now Available!

\$10.00 ~ 13 PRIZES!

12 ~ \$30.00 Winners

(Drawn Every Other Day - November 28 – December 20)

GRAND PRIZE ~ \$500.00 Drawn on December 22

Win Some CaSh...Just in time for Christmas



(Continued from page 1)

His Christian Pop music is full of energy and his singing and dancing is energizing. He really drew the different personalities of the young people in and maintained their attention. They crowded around the stage to enjoy the music and dancing. Well, not all of them were dancing but...it was fun! Joe Melendrez brought the adults down to the stage for a dance off!! I am fairly certain we embarrassed the kids. In addition to the music,

students also liked the singing and Reckless Love and the words were on the screen for all to sing along. It is a song about the reckless love of God for us. If you have not heard this song, I highly recommend you listen to it. It is so touching and powerful, especially when listening to it in a stadium of thousands singing it together.

Everyone liked speaker Brian Greenfield, who shared his life by experience of taking a group of them to be with God."

students to a maze and how they became frightened as they could not find the way out of the maze. He wove together his take on the young people in and maintained students and his own insecurities, to."

God that day among so many other Catholic teens that I could relate to him. "I learned that there are so many other teen Catholics, and I felt I could express my feelings better. Sometimes, I feel alone as a Catholic teen." All the students were amazed at the many other Catholic teens like themselves working to be Disciples of Christ. This was very empowering for them as was their first experience of Adoration where they spent about 20-30 minutes on their knees in the stadium in the presence of Christ. It was an unforgettable experience.

Some of the students said they would go again but would like to see more teen or young adult speakers with whom they could relate. They would also like to take a bus! (hint...hint...)

It was an honor and privilege to accompany these passionate teens on this exciting faith filled journey as they experienced Jesus and discipleship among so many other

Catholic Teens from the Great Lakes Region. Please stop and ask Brooke, Dominic, Joseph, Kayla, Mario, Nathan, and Taylor about their experience.

As an adult chaperone that attended the same event as our St. William Students, I wanted to know what it was that resonated with them and I was very surprised by the responses! One student stated, "I felt closer to



Joe Melendrez in Concert!



UPCOMING EVENTS AT A GLANCE

Nov. 28: Thanksgiving Day Mass – 8:30 a.m.
Dec 3: Lessons and Carols – 7 p.m.
Dec. 8: WG Santa Social – 12 noon

Dec. 11: Advent Communal Reconciliation
~7 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament

Dec. 14: WG Christmas Craft Show 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Mass – 5 p.m. and 10 p.m.
Dec. 25: Christmas Day Mass – 10 a.m. only
Dec. 31: New Year Eve Mass – 5 p.m.
Jan. 1: New Year Day Mass – 10 a.m.



<http://www.stwilliamchampion.org>

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