

St. William Parish Council
January 14, 2020

- **Opening Prayer:** The meeting opened with prayer entitled “*A Prayer to Begin the New Year.*”
- **Welcome:** Fr. Balash welcomed the members to the meeting and the minutes from the November 5, 2019, meeting were approved as submitted.
- **Ministry/Organization Reports:**
 - **Parish Life** -- **Penny Hudak:** The Winter Clothing Drive combined with the other churches in Champion ended on October 12, 2019. The Thanksgiving Food Drive was held in November. Food was distributed at St. William and 63 families were provided food for Thanksgiving Dinner. The annual Christmas Giving Tree delivered 100 gifts for Catholic Charities. The committee is making final plans for the Parish Appreciation Event on Saturday, February 1, 2020. It will be “A Night at the Races,” and will include dinner, ten races, gift baskets and other surprises.
 - **Liturgy Committee** -- **Maureen Scott:** The committee has begun planning for the season of Lent. Ash Wednesday will be on February 26, 2020. The theme for Lent will be “*Lenten Blessings Await.*” In addition to reconciliation opportunities and Stations of the Cross, a special Lenten activity is being planned. A Lenten journal will be available for those who want to participate and will cover 4-weeks of different reflections and activities. A “Pasta and Prayer” night will begin the Lenten journal activity on Monday, March 2 and a “Soup Supper and Prayer” night will conclude it on Monday, March 30, 2020. Anointing of the Sick will be held the weekend of February 8-9, 2020, at all Masses.
 - **Women’s Guild** -- **Theresa Craiger:** The Women’s Guild annual TNT Night on Tuesday, November 12, 2019, had 98 tickets sold. The December Kolachi Bake sold out in the afternoon. A Santa Social was held for the parish children and families on December 8, 2019, and the annual Christmas Craft Show was held on December 14, 2019. To capture the history of the Women’s Guild, photo books of events and activities have been made and will be stored in the library. There are currently five books beginning with 2015 to the present. The Quarterless Auction will be held on February 11, 2020, and is co-sponsored by the Camelot Center which is a non-profit therapeutic horseback riding and integrated horsemanship center. The monthly February meeting will feature a speaker from the Bella Women’s Center. The presentation will be made to both the Women’s Guild and the Knights of Columbus.
 - **Finance** -- **Bob Hardman:** The Finance Committee will meet in February. The financial goals of the parish continue to be met for the current fiscal year.
 - **Religious Education** -- **Jennifer Kusmierek:** PSR continues with their prayer partners. In addition, a prayer intention wall in the main hallway has also been created. PSR continues to collect pop can tabs. First Reconciliation will be held on Saturday, January 18, 2020, for our four second grade students. The Confirmation retreat was held on Sunday, January 12, 2020, at Blessed Sacrament Parish. The next FFC will be on Sunday, January 26, 2020, beginning at 4:00 p.m. and concluding with a family dinner at 6:00 p.m. The FFC will focus on the theme of “Prayer,” and plans are still being finalized.

- **Youth Ministry** -- **Frank DePascale**: The Senior Citizen Pasta Dinner was held on November 18, 2019, at Saint Mary Church. 140 meals were served --22 guests being from St. William. Youth Ministry assisted with the kitchen/food at the Women's Guild Craft Show on December 14, 2019. Four teens attended the planning session for the PSR-FFC session that is planned for January 26, 2020. Youth Ministry will participate in the annual Souper Bowl of Caring event on February 1-2, 2020, collecting non-perishable food and monetary donations for St. Vincent de Paul food pantry. Upcoming events include: March for Life, January 24; Family Movie Night, February 22; and Stations of the Cross, March 27, 2020. Eagle of the Cross nominations are currently being accepted. The deadline is February 14, 2020. The "Eagle of the Cross" is an annual award given to high school juniors and seniors participating in and showing zeal and enthusiasm for parish ministry programs, high school youth ministry teams and youth involvement in the Church.
- **Knights of Columbus**: -- **Brian McCue**: It was reported that the Knights Council #7491 is celebrating 40 years as a council in 2020. They anticipate hosting a special anniversary event this summer. The Knights Christmas Dinner was held on December 18, 2019. The Knights sold 100 "Keep Christ in Christmas" signs during December. Upcoming events include: Basketball Free Throw Contest, January 18; and the annual Reverse Raffle and Dance on Saturday, February 15, 2020. Tickets for the annual Knights of Columbus Spring Cash Bonanza Raffle will be sold March 1-April 30, 2020. This is the largest statewide fundraiser supporting vocation programs, seminarians, religious education and veterans. Last year the Council sold over 300 tickets.
- **Pastor's Report**:
 - **Parish Deacon**: Fr. Balash informed members that Deacon Bob Mintus will serve as deacon at all weekend masses on the first and third weekend of each month. He will also deliver the homily on the third weekend of the month.
 - **Fish Dinner Update**: The Fish Dinner Committee has been meeting since November to plan this year's Fish Dinners. The Worker/Volunteer meeting will be held on Thursday, February 13, 2020, and the first Fish Dinner will be on Friday, February 21 to April 3, 2020. The price of the dinners will remain the same as last year despite some increases in food costs, in particular the fish. The location of the ticket table will change this year along with some other minor changes and reorganization. The newest change this year will be the introduction of biodegradable paper products. The "green" initiative will be part of the advertising for the Fish Dinners.
 - **Church Carpeting Project**: Fr. Balash reported that carpeting for the Church and flooring for the vestibule continues to move forward with the project happening sometime in mid-summer 2020.
 - **Handicapped Restroom Remodel**: The remodeling of the handicapped restroom will begin in the near future. The walls will be tiled and the ceiling replaced. Ross Lenhart will take care of this project.
 - **Microphone Replacement**: The wireless microphones in the Church and Social Hall have been replaced and updated due to the impending change in frequency. The Women's Guild has agreed to fund this project.

- Catering Operation: Fr. Balash followed up on the status of the Parish Catering operation. The Finance Committee continues to explore possibilities to maintain use of the Social Hall as a banquet facility. The following options are being considered:
 - to allow outside caterers by either offering a choice of 2-3 approved caterers or to have an exclusive caterer for the hall;
 - renting the hall with the possibility of allowing clients to bring in their own food.

The Finance Committee realizes that either option creates a number of considerations. Among them are: insurance liability for use of the kitchen equipment; food contamination concerns; cost/pricing of the hall only; protection of parish interests etc. It was decided to gather information from other parishes that currently have a hall that serves as a banquet facility and how they operate their facility. This discussion is a result of the Finance Committee realizing that the stream of revenue once produced by catering can no longer be counted on. The committee will continue to discuss different options for the future and report back to the Council.

- Member Comments: None

The next meeting of Parish Council will be held on Tuesday, March 17, 2020. Note change in date from original schedule. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.