



## *St. William Parish Community*

*"To live the Good News so joyfully...*

*...that we can't help but proclaim it!"*

*—Parish Mission Statement*

# Get Involved!

**Education**

**Organizations**

**Social Gatherings**

**Liturgical Ministries**

**Service Opportunities**

**Revised: June, 2017**

**Visit us on the web! Go to [www.stwilliam.com](http://www.stwilliam.com).**



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## Protecting God's Children

**All volunteers** who work with children—or in a private setting with an adult—are required to be PGC-certified. Free certification workshops are available throughout the Archdiocese.

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## FORMED (On-Line)

### Overview:

FORMED is “Catholic NetFlix”, and more! And we’re making it FREE to all parishioners!

The website provides a wide variety of materials from books and audiobooks (by such authors as Scott Hahn, Mark Twain, Mother Theresa), to movies about the lives of the saints and children’s movies. There are programs detailing what the sacraments mean, and in-depth bible studies. To get a taste of what’s available, check out [FORMED.org](http://FORMED.org) (accessible with an internet connection on any device) and watch the introductory video.

### How to access:

- Visit [FORMED.org](http://FORMED.org) with a web browser.
- Click on “Register” (lower right of page).
- Enter the Access Code: **KNWDRK** (all caps)
- Enter your email and create a password.
  - You need this to login later
  - You will immediately receive an email that will allow you to confirm your account
- Go to PROGRAMS and watch Episode 1, to begin experiencing FORMED.
- Explore!

We hope this service will help our parish grow in discipleship, and in the knowledge of our faith.

## Adult Bible Studies

### **Overview:**

Not all “Bible Studies” are created equal, with solid interpretation and Catholic theological perspective. We encourage parishioners to attend our *Catholic* Bible Studies, in order to gain a greater understanding and appreciation of Scripture. In the spring of 2017, there were 5 different courses available. The sessions typically consist of prayer, a video or audio lecture by a Scripture scholar, and the use of other study aids.

The Biblical Institute of Michigan, a college-level course for credit or audit, is hosted at St. William, but is closed to new applicants at this time.

### **Meeting Schedule:**

The Study Groups currently meet on Tuesday mornings, Wednesday evenings, and Thursday mornings and evenings. The individual studies vary in length.

### **Volunteers and Needs:**

Facilitators are needed. We provide training.

### **Contact:**

Please call the Office of Faith Formation at 248-624-1371.

# Adult Faith Formation

## **Overview:**

The Adult Faith Formation Program provides opportunities to enhance the ongoing faith formation needs of the adults within our parish community. The topics of the seminars, classes, events—or other means of learning or presenting information—are determined by the needs of the community as discerned by the Pastoral Staff. We encourage adults in their own ongoing formation, and we invite your input.

## **Meeting Schedule:**

Topics are scheduled at various times throughout the year.

## **Contact:**

Please call the Office of Faith Formation at 248-624-1371 for additional information.

## Child and Teen Programs

### **Overview:**

Our fully-accredited Elementary School has state-certified teachers for Junior-K through 8.

Our traditional style After-school Religious Education Program serves pre-school through High School students, with sessions on Sunday mornings, and on Monday evenings.

Our Youth Ministry services young people of high-school age.

### **Volunteers:**

The Youth Ministry program couldn't function without adult volunteers! The after-school program relies on volunteers catechists (we provide training), and the school program uses adult volunteers for help on special occasions.

### **Contact:**

For information about the school or to volunteer, call the School office: 248-669-4440.

Call the Office of Faith Formation for afterschool and teen programs: 248-624-1371.

# St. William Dads' Club

## **Overview:**

The purpose of the St. William Dads' Club is to provide and promote expansion in spiritual, academic, athletic and recreational activities within the Catholic Community of St. William Parish.

We accomplish our mission by sponsoring both CYO and Lakes Area sports teams, including Baseball, Basketball, Football, Volleyball and Cheerleading. We also support St. William School activities and provide financial support to St. William Parish for special projects.

Our membership consists of St. William parishioners who are willing to donate their time and talents to achieving our goals. We raise funds by sponsoring an annual Golf Outing, selling Christmas trees, and by hosting the Lenten Fish Fry.

## **Meeting Schedule:**

The Dads' Club meets on the 4th Wednesday of each month in Lower Zepf Hall at 7:30 PM.

## **Volunteers and Needs:**

Our active group is eager to welcome new members, especially for assistance in sports activities and the fish fry.

## **Contact:**

Visit the Dads' Club Website, which is available as a link from the Parish Website, [www.stwilliam.com](http://www.stwilliam.com). You can also call the Parish Office for contact information: 248-624-1421.

## **Knights of Columbus Council 4064**

### **Overview:**

The Knights of Columbus Council 4064 is part of the largest lay Catholic family fraternal service organization in the world (more than 1.8 million members). At St. William Parish we currently have about 140 members. As Knights, we strive to end the Culture of Death while recreating the Culture of Life. We promote Right-to-Life activities, conduct an annual Tootsie Roll Drive for the mentally impaired, and support the work of both the St. Vincent de Paul Society and the Hospitality House. We are a socially active group, as well as providing service and support to organizations throughout the Parish.

### **Meeting Schedule:**

1st and 3rd Mondays of each month.

### **Membership:**

Men who wish to become members must be Catholics in good standing and at least 18 years old.

### **Contact:**

Contact Todd Diffenderfer at 248-881-3132, or Grand Knight Mike Godfrey at 248-624-2714, or talk to one of the Knights during the breakfast that we offer to the Parish after the 9:00 Mass on the first Sunday of each month.

# Parish School Association

**Overview:**

The Parish School Association (PSA) is committed to providing enrichment programs and materials necessary to give our St. William School children a well-rounded education. This is accomplished through the fundraising activities and service projects sponsored by PSA.

**Meeting Schedule:**

During the school year, there are monthly meetings, scheduled at the convenience of the members.

**Membership:**

Membership is open to any school family as well as any registered member of the Parish. A donation of \$10.00 is requested for membership.

**Contact:**

Call the School Office for contact information.

# Respect Life

## **Overview:**

The mission of the Respect Life Ministry is to help Catholics understand, value, and become engaged with supporting the dignity of the human person, and therefore the gift of every persons' life.

October is Respect Life Month, and our group participates in the national Life Chain. We also host a number of activities throughout the year, such as the Christmas Card Sale, Baby Shower for Another Way Pregnancy Center, Mother's Day flower sale, and a Father's Day candy sale.

## **Meeting Schedule:**

Dates and times of the occasional meetings are determined by the members.

## **Volunteers and Needs:**

Our group is always in need of volunteers to participate and help with the activities. Please contact us should you wish to participate.

## **Contact:**

Please contact the Christian Service Office at 248-624-8870 to join the group or for more information.

## Rosary Altar Society

### **Overview:**

In March of 1938, twenty-two ladies met at the home of Mrs. Joanna Ware, resulting in the formation and first election of officers for the "Ladies' Altar Society." In more recent times, both men and women are invited to be members, and our name is changed to reflect that. The purpose of the Society is to clean the sanctuary, care for the altar linens, provide flowers, and fund the purchase of vestments, vessels, and certain other church furnishings. The Society provides social activities for its members and for the larger Parish. We also do some fundraising, such as bake sales, a Turkey Bingo, an annual Card Party, and the sale of Mother's and Father's Day cards.

### **Meeting Schedule:**

The Rosary Altar Society meets monthly, September through June, on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 6:30 P.M. in lower Zepf Hall. The December meeting is the Christmas Party, and officers are elected at the June meeting.

### **Volunteers and Needs:**

Help is needed for all the fundraisers, as well as the regular cleaning of the sanctuary area and laundering of the linens, which are both done each Thursday of the week.

### **Contact:**

Contact the Rectory at: 248-624-1421.

# Scouting

## **Overview:**

The Boy Scouting programs offer a wealth of opportunities for young men to grow physically, mentally, and emotionally in a sound Christian setting. **Cub Scouts** are boys 6 to 11 years old. The program focuses on “families and fun”. Exciting activities include field trips, crafts, derbies, games and camping. **Boy Scouts** are boys who are 11 to 18 years old. The aim of this program is to allow the boys to develop a strong character, self-reliance, leadership and good citizenship.

## **Meeting Schedule:**

Although Cub Scout Pack 104 is currently inactive, interested families can join Pack 238 at Walled Lake Elementary School (The Pack is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.)

Boy Scouts meet every Tuesday, and they schedule an outing or event once a month.

## **Volunteers and Needs:**

The Scouting programs always need adults who are interested in helping to lead our youth. Training is provided through Boy Scouts of America.

## **Contact:**

For information regarding the Cub Scout or Boy Scout programs, please contact Jim Simpson at 248-624-3086.

## St. Vincent DePaul Society

### **Overview:**

The St. William Conference assists needy persons who live within our parish boundaries, providing emergency help with evictions, utility shut-offs, shelter, food and clothing.

### **Meeting Schedule:**

Members meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of every month.

### **Volunteers and Needs:**

We are always seeking additional volunteers to assist with the home visits.

### **Contact:**

For more information, please contact the Christian Service Office, at 248-624-8870.

## Ushering and Ushers' Club

### **Overview:**

The ushers are entrusted with the ministry of greeting, seating, and taking up the collection during Weekend and Holy Day Liturgies. They are also first responders for issues of physical safety during these times. This ministry is largely filled by members of the USHERS' CLUB, which is a social/service organization. Their activities include sponsoring college scholarships, conducting the Children's Easter Egg Hunt, and holding social events for the members.

### **Meeting Schedule:**

The Ushers' Club meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7 PM in the Rectory Gathering Room.

### **Volunteers and Needs:**

The Ushers' Club is open to Catholic Men of the Parish who are 21 and older. The ministry of ushering is also participated in by youth and others on an *ad hoc* basis.

### **Contact:**

Please see any usher, or call Joe Vella at 989-202-5892.

# Bingo

## **Overview:**

Zepf Hall has been the home of St. William's Friday Night Bingo for over 44 years. Bingo is a social gathering open to all adults. The net proceeds are given to the Parish. The games we play include paper specials, hard cards and Progressive Jack Pot, our most popular game and one that provides an opportunity for a big win. We also offer Michigan Charity Game tickets. ***There is no smoking in the Hall.***

## **Meeting Schedule:**

Doors open at 4:00 PM each Friday with Bingo starting at 6:30 and finishing at 10:15 PM.

## **Volunteers and Needs:**

Many volunteers are needed to serve as floor workers, callers, and cashiers, to help set up, and to present the pre-packaged food and refreshments. The Bingo workers also do many social and fun activities together, outside of Bingo.

## **Contact:**

Please contact the Rectory at 248-624-1421 for more information or to volunteer.

## Breakfast in the Park

### **Overview:**

“Breakfast in the Park” is a bi-annual gathering at the Gilbert Willis Park in Wixom. Parishioners and guests ages 50-and-over enjoy breakfast together in a beautiful park setting. It is a great way to meet new people and become better acquainted with the Pastoral Staff.

### **Meeting Schedule:**

The event is held twice a year: in June and September, normally between 8:30-10:30 AM.

### **Volunteers and Needs:**

Attendance at Breakfast in the Park is growing each year. Everyone is welcome. Volunteers are needed to help build fires, cook food, serve meals and add to the spirit of community.

### **Contact:**

Please contact the Christian Service Office at 248-624-8870 to participate or volunteer.

## Circle of Friends

### **Overview:**

This is a non-denominational support group for widowed men and women of all ages. Our purpose is to give each other spiritual and emotional support.

### **Meeting Schedule:**

3rd Wednesdays during the months of April–October, at 6:00 PM in Zepf Hall, and the 3rd Sundays during the months of November–March, at 1:15 PM in Zepf Hall.

### **Volunteers and Needs:**

Yearly membership dues are \$10.00. Members are responsible for electing officers and setting up their agenda each month.

### **Contact:**

Please contact the Christian Service Office at 248-624-8870 for additional information.

## Coffee and Donuts

### **Overview:**

In light of our new parish goal for 2017-18, **“To become an amazing parish that fosters discipleship and equips disciples to share the Good News”**, in order to better serve the purpose of hospitality and fellowship, we are re-thinking this program of occasionally providing coffee and donuts after the 9:00 Mass. Watch the bulletin for updates.

## Sacristans

### **Overview:**

Sacristans are practicing Catholics in good standing who take care of the sacred vessels and other liturgical articles, set up for Masses (including Funeral Masses), and put items away afterwards. Training is provided.

### **Schedule:**

Persons are scheduled by availability.

**Contact:** Parish Office at 248-624-1421

## Altar Servers

**Overview:**

Altar Servers are parish members who assist the Celebrant at Mass, and also assist at other Liturgical and para-liturgical services.

**Meeting Schedule:**

Training sessions are scheduled as needed. Servers help at most Masses and Services.

**Volunteers and Needs:**

This ministry has been open to young people in the 3rd through 12th grade, and beyond.

**Contact:**

Deacon Bob Dreyer at 248-624-1421.

## Ministers of Holy Communion

**Overview:**

Parishioners can be appointed to help with the distribution of Holy Communion during Mass.

**Meeting Schedule:**

A training session is required. Other meetings are scheduled as needed.

**Volunteers and Needs:**

You must be a practicing Catholic in good standing, and be baptized and confirmed.

**Contact:**

Deacon Bob Dreyer: 248-624-1421 ext. 345

## Communion to the Homebound

### **Overview:**

Parish members volunteer to bring Communion to the homebound parishioners as well as to persons at hospitals, and residents at Assisted Living Centers and Nursing Homes within our parish boundaries.

### **Meeting Schedule:**

Training is provided, and there are annual meetings to keep the ministers updated.

### **Volunteers and Needs:**

We try to have four ministers for each medical facility so that the volunteers can rotate their schedules. Each are asked to be available once a month. The same training and qualifications are required for this ministry as for "Ministers of Holy Communion". (See page 17.) Communion to individuals in their homes is arranged by the Christian Service Director.

### **Contact:**

Please contact the Christian Service Office at 248-624-8870 to offer your services for either individual home visits or at a nursing home.

## Music Ministries

### **Adult Vocal Choir**

Typically sings the 9 AM Masses (September through June) as well as evening Holyday Masses, Christmas Midnight Mass and the Easter Vigil. Rehearsals are Thursdays 7:00-8:30 PM.

### **St. William Bells of Praise**

The Handbell Choir plays on Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter, and other special occasions, and performs concerts at nursing homes. Rehearsal: Thursdays 5:30-7:00.

### **Cantors**

Vocalists help lead the assembly at Liturgies. An audition is required.

### **Funeral Choir**

Rehearsals in the church begin 30 minutes before the funeral.

### **Youth Choir**

Currently, any youth, parish-wide, who are in grade 3 or higher, are invited to participate. They typically sing at the 11:30 Mass on the second and fourth Sundays of the Month. They also sing Christmas Eve, and for the celebrations of First Communion and Confirmation. Rehearsals are on Wednesday afternoons from 4:30 to 5:30.

### **Contact:**

Mary Kay Dreyer at 248-624-1421, ext 310.

## Readers at Mass

### **Overview:**

Readers are parishioners who proclaim the Scripture readings at Mass. Normally, readers are scheduled for a specific weekend Mass for an entire month.

### **Meeting Schedule:**

There is a mandatory practice session for those readers scheduled for the upcoming month. The sessions take about an hour, usually on Thursday evenings at 7:30.

### **Volunteers and Needs:**

Readers are needed for weekends and Holy Days of Obligation. They must be Catholics in good standing, baptized and confirmed. They must possess reading and speaking abilities that are above-average, and be willing to learn and practice.

### **Contact :**

Please contact the Rectory at 248-624-1421 to arrange for an audition during a practice session.

## Young Adult Group

### **Overview:**

Young adults ages 18-35 are invited to connect with peers who have similar Christian values and beliefs. We welcome college-age persons, young professionals, singles, engaged, newly married couples and new parents. Lakes Young Adult Ministry (Lakes YAM) has members from St. William, St. Patrick (White Lake), and St. Mary (Milford) Parishes, plus our own “St. William Young Adult Group” (SWYAG) of young professionals. The Groups provide a variety of opportunities to grow in faith through Scripture reflection, social events, retreats, service, and evangelization.

### **Meeting Schedule:**

Meetings times and events are scheduled as needed.

### **Volunteers and Needs:**

We invite members to consider leadership roles within their peer group. There is also help needed to organize quarterly events for large group gatherings of Lakes YAM

### **Contact:**

For information about the Young Adult Ministry, or to have your name added to the email list for event reminders, contact Karen Trojniak at 248-624-1371 ext. 308 or at [ktrojniak@stwilliam.com](mailto:ktrojniak@stwilliam.com).

# Church Decoration

**Overview:**

For the liturgical seasons of Christmas and Easter, the church and altar area must be prepared and decorated (banners, trees, plants, lights, etc.). Everything needs to be taken down at the end of the season.

**Meeting Schedule:**

The times and dates for preparing the Church are posted in the Church bulletin the weekend before the event.

**Volunteers and Needs:**

Volunteers are needed to help transform the Church and Activity Center. When many volunteers participate, it only takes a few hours.

**Contact:**

Please contact Nancy Thomas, the Director of Initiation, at 248-624-1371 ext. 306.

## Blood Drive

**Overview:**

St. William Parish conducts three Blood Drives annually.

**Volunteers and Needs:**

We certainly need blood donors! (if you have never given before, consider giving “the gift of life”.) We are always looking for volunteers to help schedule blood donors, and to greet the donors at the event.

**Contact:**

Contact Christian Service at 248-624-8870.

## Blood Pressure Screening

**Overview:**

Volunteer nurses provide free blood pressure screening after Masses when announced.

**Meeting Schedule:**

No scheduled meetings.

**Volunteers and Needs:**

Nurses are encouraged to offer their time and talent.

**Contact:**

Contact Christian Service at 248-624-8870.

## Funeral Luncheon Ministry

### **Overview:**

The Funeral Luncheon Ministry is conducted by parishioners to minister to a family in crisis after the Funeral Mass of their loved one. The various teams handle all aspects of the luncheon including food preparation, serving and clean-up.

### **Meeting Schedule:**

All persons in this ministry are asked to meet as needed, although there are typically at least two meetings a year.

### **Volunteers and Needs:**

We are always delighted to welcome new volunteers into this ministry that is so deeply appreciated by the persons who are served. Volunteers are needed to prepare salads, cook main dishes in our certified kitchen, serve food, and provide rolls, lettuce, and fruit when asked. They also set tables, host the meal, and wash dishes and tablecloths.

### **Contact:**

For information or to volunteer, please contact the Christian Service Office at 248-624-8870.

## Prayer Quilts and More

### **Overview:**

The primary purpose of the Prayer Quilt Ministry (*"Prayers and Squares"*) is not to make and distribute quilts, but to pray, give comfort and express our solidarity with those who are seriously ill. This group of dedicated quilters comes together to form a community, to grow in faith and to extend the love of the parish to the receiver of the quilt. The quilting is performed using a heavy thread to take stitches through the quilt layers, then strings are attached to the different squares and, as a knot is tied, a silent prayer is said for someone in special need.

### **Meeting Schedule:**

The Prayer Quilt Ministry meets on the 4th Wednesday of each month from 4:00 until 6:00 PM in the Cardinal Maida Meeting Room of the Education Center.

### **Volunteers and Needs:**

Our group is always looking for others to share in the quilting and prayers. Experience in quilting is not needed; training will be provided at each of the meetings.

### **Contact:**

For information or to volunteer, please contact the Christian Service Office at 248-624-8870.

## Shelter Week

### **Overview:**

Shelter Week is an event wherein St. William Parish opens its doors and hearts to the homeless during Holy Week. St. William Parish has been partnering with South Oakland Shelter (SOS) since 1989, providing safe shelter, meals, transportation, laundry, haircuts and more, to needy men, women, and children. Our parish collects toiletries, socks, towels, and bedding in preparation for our homeless guests. Our children decorate placemats, paper lunchbags and make other artwork to help create a warm and welcoming environment.

### **Meeting Schedule:**

A few planning meetings are held each year.

### **Volunteers and Needs:**

Hundreds of volunteers are needed to make Shelter Week successful. The time and talents of the volunteers are needed for a variety of activities. For example, we provide, cook, and serve dinner and breakfast to our guests. We need others to help with laundry daily, and at the end to clean the bedding and towels. Volunteers are needed to monitor the overnight accommodations, and drivers are needed twice daily, to transport guests.

### **Contact:**

Please contact Shelli Jump at the Christian Service Office at 248-624-8870 to participate.

## Legion of Mary

**Overview:**

A lay apostolic organization, open to all practicing Catholics who wish to grow closer to Jesus and Mary. It provides a balanced program of prayer and service in sharing the Gospel of Jesus.

**Meeting Schedule:**

Weekly on Thursday mornings after the 8:15 Mass (approximately 9:00 AM).

**Contact:**

Parish Office at 248-624-1421.

## Mailing Volunteers

**Overview:**

Volunteers assist the Parish secretarial staff with preparing items for mailing (filling envelopes).

**Schedule:**

Persons are called as needed.

**Contact:**

Parish Office: 248-624-1421

## PGC Certification

### **Overview:**

“Protecting God’s Children” (PGC) is a national program of the Catholic Church to promote awareness of child abuse as well as situations that could lead to such abuse. Adults who will be working around or directly with youth—or working alone with a vulnerable adult—are required to complete a free three-hour workshop. A Certificate of Completion is kept on file by the diocese and the Parish.

### **To schedule yourself for a workshop:**

Online, go to [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org). On the menu at left, select ‘Registration’. Select ‘View List of Sessions’. Select ‘Detroit, MI (Archdiocese)’. Scroll down to see the full list of upcoming sessions. When you find one that is convenient for you, scroll up to the top of the page and select ‘Start Registration’.

### **Contact:**

For further information or for questions, contact the Parish Office at 248-624-1421.