

March 15, 2021

My Dear Fellow Parishioners,

At our last Parish Finance Council Zoom-meeting, I recommended to the council that we remind our parishioners of the importance of weekly giving, and how our small parish is dependent on the generosity of our parishioners.

Since its very beginning, Saint William the Abbot parish has struggled financially. If not for the business acumen of our Finance Council, along with some wonderful volunteers who have donated time, talent, and treasure, and the generosity of our parishioners, our doors may have closed years ago.

Unlike some of the other parishes, St. William does not have a huge investment portfolio to help offset major capital expenses and normal everyday expenses. Instead, we continue to rely on our weekly collections and our rental income from the pre-school.

Unfortunately, our dependence on weekly collection income is of concern since these collections are directly influenced by weekly attendance. Attendance, and therefore income, is often inconsistent: influenced by weather, civic holidays, vacations, School of Religion attendance, and other conflicts that arise. Both attendance and income has been seriously affected by the COVID-19 virus and the restrictions imposed by our state government and our diocesan guidelines.

Now, in truth, many of our parishioners have been very generous, even during this pandemic. People have been donating to our parish, even while not being able to attend in person. This has been a tremendous help, keeping our parish financially solvent.

All of that being said, I would like to encourage ALL parishioners to **STRONGLY** consider using “WeShare” for your contributions to our parish. Most of us are comfortable paying bills online and making purchases online. “WeShare” gives us the ability to determine our weekly/monthly contribution, and then have it automatically deducted from our bank account or credit card account. Your contribution to the church will occur regardless of the whether or not you are able to attend Mass at St. William.

Please go to: <https://stwilliamtheabbot.churchgiving.com>. There you can schedule your regular collection donations, as well as special collections such as the capital improvements. It is very safe and easy to navigate. Your consistent contributions will guarantee that our parish is able to continue to serve the spiritual well-being of all our parishioners.

Thank you, and may God Bless you....

Deacon Mike