



St. William the Abbot

Roman Catholic Church



April 28, 2024
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Weekly Schedule

Daily Mass

Monday - Saturday: 8:30am

Weekend Masses

Saturday: 5pm

Sunday: 7:30am, 9am, 10:30am, 12n

Live-Streamed Masses

Monday - Friday: 8:30am

Saturday: 5pm

Sunday: 12n

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday - Saturday: 7:15am - 8:20am

Saturday: 3:45pm - 4:50pm

Adoration

Monday - Saturday: 7:15am - 8:20am

First Friday of the Month: 9am - 5pm

Private Prayer

Monday - Friday: 7:15am - 6pm

“I am the true vine,
and my Father is the
gardener. He cuts off
every branch in me
that bears no fruit,
while every branch
that does bear fruit he
prunes so that it will be
even more fruitful.

John 14:1-2

Mass Intentions

Sunday, April 28, 2024

Thomas Peters
Vincent Forgione
Giovanni Caprio
Nicole Blankley
Bencivenga

Wed., May 1, 2024

Joseph Mangione

Thurs., May 2, 2024

Ernst DeGraff

Friday, May 3, 2024

Marcel LeGoff &
Nicole Charlot Pochic
(liv)

Saturday, May 4, 2024

Purgatorial Society
Paul Tursi

Monday, April 29, 2024

Collective Intentions

James Farnochi
Deborah Camp
Tony Dowling
Carol Garavente
Richard McArdle

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

Anne Callahan

Pray for the Sick

Christopher J. Weber, Sr.

Sal Lupo

Richard Fedyk

John O'Hara

Dylan Walsh

Jerry Milbach

Anna Guida

Jeanne Tedeschi

Keith Gorton

Pray for the Deceased

Maryellen Klaus

Edwin J. Boden, Jr.

Joan Brandreth

Marion C. Bodall-Scicolone

Wine and Hosts

The Wine and Hosts used at Mass this week have
been donated in loving memory of
Deborah Camp
from Donald Camp

Altar Candles

The Altar Candles used at Mass this week have
been donated in honor of the
Parishioners of St. William the Abbot

The Church Was at Peace

The scriptures this weekend are beautiful, powerful, and convicting, as usual. In the first reading from the Acts the Apostles, we hear of a cooperation and unity in the different faith communities of the church led by the Apostles and the early Church Fathers. Obviously, we desire peace in our world, in our hearts, and in the communities where we participate and worship, but unfortunately, we can experience the disruption and division that comes from sin. Our language and actions can be so polarizing at times when people will describe a parish in terms like conservative or liberal, strict or progressive, traditional or modern. Debates arise about the era of liturgical music, some claiming if the music is not from the 2000s or the 1970s or from only composers of the 1700s, well then it is not 'real', or 'good' music. And the most challenging division comes when people do not actually speak and communicate with one another but fall into gossip and social media character assault. These are examples that amplify differences and cracks in the foundation of "who and whose" we are, as opposed to keeping us all united and focused on bringing people to Christ. Sin causes division, and can reveal itself in many ways. Of course, the 'father of lies' is trying to draw a wedge between us, and when possible, to cause the faithful to be separated from each other and from God.

One of the great ways to stay connected and to offer reconciliation between each other is to remove those things that can cause division. In the Gospel we hear about this agricultural concept of pruning. Having just returned from a part of California that is well known for vineyards and the growing of grapes for wine, I was being schooled on how pruning a grapevine is an essential part of helping it to grow and produce the best fruit. As we were driving through wine country, it was beautiful to see how the rows in the vineyard were meticulously clear and lined up. One of the vine growers mentioned to us that if left unpruned, a grape vine will eventually become overgrown and actually produce less fruit and poorer quality grapes. A well pruned vine does not allow any of the nutrients or nourishment to go to waste. Then, the soil, the vine, the branch, and the grapes can actually do what they were made for - to produce great wine.

The Lord uses the imagery of pruning this weekend to help us understand that our faith must "do" what is made for, to lead into the action of caritas - Christian Love. We do not exist in a vacuum by ourselves - we must remain connected to the "true vine," Jesus and to bring Him to the world. In our spiritual journey, Jesus is the only source of nourishment we need to live a life of grace, harmony, and service to others. But we must make time to be in His presence, to plug in and to listen to Him speak to our heart - without the extra distractions. Our lives are bombarded by necessary and unnecessary interruptions. When we try to make time for God and one of our loved ones is in need, or there's an appointment for school, work, or the doctor - these are necessary responsibilities and must be attended to. The challenge comes when we attempt to make time for God, and we bring our laptop, iPhone, or iPad to our prayer space, or even into the church. When the notifications start going off they pull our focus away from that powerful communication that God desires to offer us. How can we wisely "prune" or remove those extras in order to be a more receptive and active disciple? What needs to be removed in order for us to respond to the Lord's invitation to love and serve others?

Jesus reminds us that He will take away every branch that does not bear fruit. He is speaking these challenging words to you and I. If we claim to have faith and to be a "good Catholic" but it does not activate us into the good fruit of caring for and loving our neighbor, then we are like a lifeless twig that remains on a vine and produces nothing. Pruning can be painful; it requires us to make adjustments and changes in areas that have been comfortable in the past. Those changes often entail sacrifice, patience, stepping outside our often selfish tendencies, and to be attentive to others. In some cases, it is taking care of the needs of the less fortunate in the parish, or assisting with a ministry that is in need of your gifts and talents, but sometimes it is being Christ to those who are closest to us and are not always easy to love.

My friends, what must you allow the Lord to prune from you in order to bear more fruit? Perhaps it is the pruning of a sin like anger, or holding onto a past grudge, or the lack of forgiving someone. Maybe it is an unhealthy relationship or attachment that prevents you from abiding with the Lord. This may be the season of your life where you reset family time - having dinner together each weekday night, or possibly visiting or hosting family members on Sundays after Mass, instead of rushing to and from a sport field or gymnasium. How is the Lord speaking to you, inviting you to remove the excess baggage that keeps you from Him? Do not get discouraged if you feel you are being called to make a few adjustments and changes. When Jesus finds a branch that bears good fruit, he doesn't leave it alone. Instead, He prunes it with tender and careful attention so that "it bears more fruit." That is you and I - we are the branches in need of pruning, so we can be refreshed and strengthened to love and serve the Lord, and one another.

Peace,



Pillar of Hospitality

As Catholics, let us spread love and compassion wherever we go. Let us allow the Spirit to guide us to be hospitable to all we come across.



Our Mother's Day Novena of Masses will begin on Mother's Day, May 12th. Cards and envelopes for the Mother's Day Novena of Masses are

available at the doors of the Church and in the Rectory. If you would like to have your living mother remembered, kindly take a donation envelope and card. If you would like to have your deceased mother remembered, please use a donation envelope only. Please place all donation envelopes in the collection basket or return them to the Rectory.



Light a Prayer Candle

Lighting candles has long been a sacred ritual in all traditions, creating precious moments in our own and other people's lives where we pray for loved ones, friends, and ask for or give support.

Pray for Those in the Military

US Air Force -

Capt. Matthew B. Frasse
Tech. Sgt. Eric Meyers
Airman Carlos Rosado
Major Thomas F. Shields

USMC -

First Lt. Dana Duggan
Danny Dugan

US Coast Guard -

LT Commander James Knudsen
Daniel Timpanaro
Commander Katherine Ustler-Lodispoto

US Army -

Capt. Caitlin M. Lee
Capt. Philip Lettieri, MD
CW2 Brian Kirby
Major Eamon G. McArdle
Spc. Brian Reip
Sgt. Donald Rogers
Lt. Col. Christopher James Ustler

US Navy -

Lt. Joseph Fitzgerald
Jr. Lt. Ryan Bayer
Jr. Lt. Rebecca Bayer
Jr. Lt. Ian Bayer
STSC (SS) Thomas Kerley
Lt. Michael O'Hara
MMN2 Emily Partridge
Commander Michael Sean Slatley
Lt. Michael Napolitano
Michael Vietri

US Army -

Sgt. Craig Bianco
Capt. Michael DiPietro
Capt. Michael Fitzgerald
Capt. Christopher J. Frasse
Capt. Logan Lee
Lt. Col. John Kallo

Are you a registered parishioner?

Registering as parishioners allows us to have an accurate count of our families, which in turn helps us to plan liturgies, have the appropriate clergy coverage, and helps us to determine what enrichment programs and events may be beneficial.

Parish registration is also needed should you be asked to serve as a godparent or Confirmation sponsor.



Plus, it is a great way for you to plant your family's roots in our community!

BACK TO BASICS

Check our social pages for new videos every Tuesday and Thursday and send any ideas for future topics to priests@stwilliam.org





FILM NEGATIVE



FILM NEGATIVE



FILM NEGATIVE



FILM NEGATIVE

Support Catholic Education on Long Island!

Give to the Second Collection Next Weekend

100% of your donation supports Catholic school students!

Half goes directly to St. William the Abbot School while the other half is used to support school scholarships throughout Long Island's Catholic elementary schools.



For more information on these scholarships, please visit tomorrowshopefoundation.org



St. William the Abbot School

Congratulations to the newly inducted members of the St. William the Abbot Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society - we are counting on your leadership to make our school a better place!



The 1st Graders enjoyed learning more about women saints through the book "Princesses of Heaven".



Congratulations to alum Marcus Caniano, who recently became an Eagle Scout!

For his service project, Marcus created a beautiful Rosary Garden at SWS.



It's lacrosse season at SWS! Good luck to the Middle Schools Boys and Girls teams!

Parish Social Ministry

Pantry Needs

Apple Juice
Mac & Cheese
Cooking Oil
Spaghetti
Pancake Mix
Syrup

HEAP Cooling Assistance Open!

The Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) helps people pay the cost of heating and cooling their homes. You can now apply for cooling assistance to buy and install an air conditioner or a fan for your home. To qualify you must have a documented medical condition that is aggravated by heat, and you must meet certain income guidelines. To see the full list of eligibility guidelines and to apply, visit <https://www.ny.gov/services/apply-heating-and-cooling-assistance-heap>.



Vet Fest May 18th - Farmingdale

Veteran services and resources will be available at the Farmingdale Village Green on Saturday, May 18 from 10am to 2pm. Resources such as Veteran Benefit Agencies, Health Screenings, Mental Health Resources, Financial Advisory Services, and Housing, Employment and Legal Resources will be available. Free entry, no need to register. Food and drink will be available! Farmingdale Village Green is located at 361 Main Street in Farmingdale. Rain date May 19.

Nassau County Rental Assistance Available

There is a rental assistance program open for Nassau residents called The Nassau County Homeless Prevention Program. This program is designed to prevent families and individuals from becoming homeless. The program provides significant economic relief to qualifying households by providing rental arrears or temporary rental assistance. Eligible residents must show evidence of imminent homelessness and show that their inability to pay was the result of a sudden reduction of income or other unexpected circumstances. For more information on this program, its required qualifications and how to apply, please contact the Social Ministry office.

PSEG REAP Benefits, \$50 Bill Credit

The Residential Energy Affordability Partnership (REAP) is offering a \$50 bill credit if you complete a REAP Home Energy Survey. The REAP technician will visit your home to review the energy efficiency of appliances and other devices. Customers may qualify to have energy saving appliances and devices installed in their homes for free! Both renters and homeowners may participate in REAP. You are eligible if you have a current PSEG Long Island customer account, have not had a REAP survey in the last five years, and if you meet certain income guidelines. For more information call 1-800-263-6786 or email REAPLI@pseg.com.

Where Can I Donate Clothing?

Did you know that used clothing can be donated locally to be re-used by those in need? "The Boutique" in Amityville is run by the Long Island Coalition for the Homeless. This special distribution center allows people in need to come and pick out clothes and other essential items, all for free! Donations of new and used clothing are accepted Tuesday through Thursday, 10am to 3pm at their 600 Albany Avenue location, or by appointment. By helping The Boutique, you also help our Parish families in need because we can send referrals for our families to shop there! To contact The Boutique, call 631-464-4314.





*God Bless last week's
First Holy Communicants!*

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Please keep all of the children preparing for this sacrament in your prayers as our First Holy Communion celebrations continue over the next few weeks.



JOIN US FOR...

FIRST FRIDAY

**ADORATION
& ROSARY**



FOR FAMILIES

(this will be our last Family First Friday until the fall)

**Friday, May 3rd
6pm in the Church**

THE ORDINATION OF

Joseph Lettieri

SAVE THE DATES AS ST. WILLIAM'S PARISHIONER JOSEPH LETTIERI (SWS '11)
PREPARES TO BE ORDAINED A PRIEST FOR THE DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE



PRIESTLY ORDINATION

SATURDAY, JUNE 8TH | 11AM | ST. AGNES CATHEDRAL

FIRST MASS & PARISH RECEPTION

SUNDAY, JUNE 9TH | 2PM | ST. WILLIAM THE ABBOT

PLEASE JOIN US AT THE ST. WILLIAM THE ABBOT

*May Crowning
and Living Rosary*

TUE MAY 21ST | 6 PM
FRONT LAWN OF THE SCHOOL

PLEASE BRING YOUR ROSARY BEADS



Mary, Mother of God

Mary is in Heaven with God. We can ask her to pray for us!

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen



Year B: Fifth Sunday of Easter



Catholic Kids Bulletin

April 28, 2024
Easter
Color: White

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BEWOPEOPLEKWOAI

BYOUPALORDPWKIN

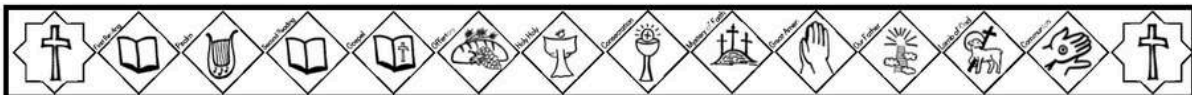
I will praise
you, Lord, in
the assembly
of your people.

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Look for symbols of Mary
in your church.
Sun Moon Stars Snake Lily Rose Apple Globe


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


Count the grapes.
How many of each
style can
you find?

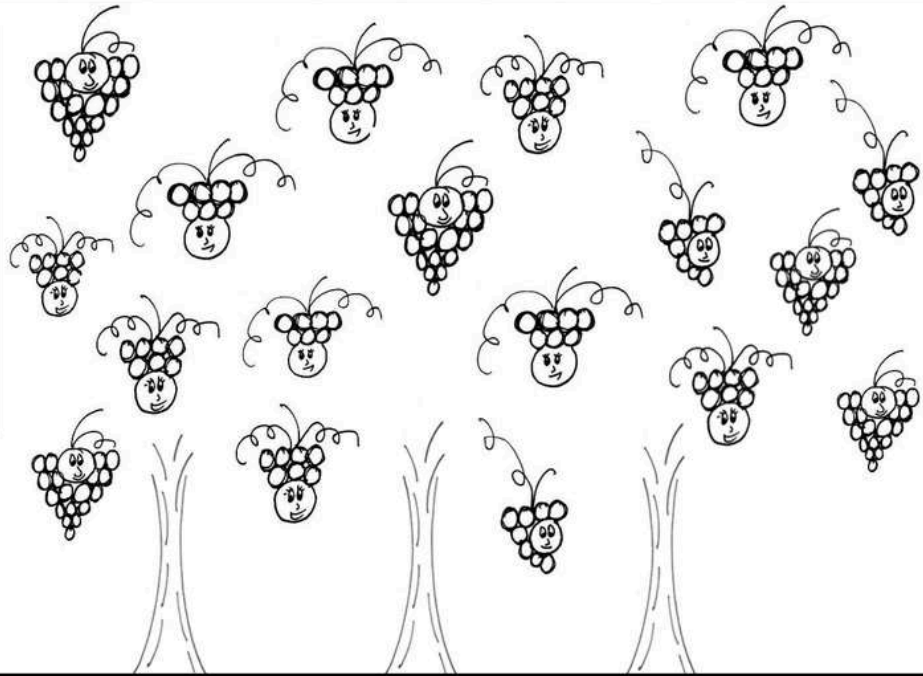








Draw vines to
connect all the
bunches of
grapes.



Gospel



Jesus said, "I am the vine, you are the branches." He wants all of us to stay connected to Him. How can we stay connected to Jesus?

Year B: Fifth Sunday of Easter

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Or visit
stwilliam.org/ways-to-give



Rev. Joseph H. Fitzgerald
Pastor

Rev. Michael Edathil
Associate Pastor

Rev. John Crozier
In Residence

priests@stwilliam.org

St. William the Abbot School



Elizabeth Bricker
Principal

Ryan Fedak
Assistant Principal

516-785-6784

stwilliamtheabbot.net

A Legacy of Excellence - Nursery through 8th Grade

Deacons

Dcn. Anthony Cedrone
Dcn. Michael Metzdorff

Dcn. John Lynch

information@stwilliam.org

Our Seminarians

Dcn. Joseph Lettieri
SWA Parishioner

Herley Mendez
SWA Parishioner

Please pray for our Seminarians and all those discerning the priesthood and religious life

Rectory Staff

Judy Goldman
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jgoldman@stwilliam.org

Sue McCormick
Office Manager
information@stwilliam.org

Kate Walsh
Development & Operations
kwalsh@stwilliam.org

Pastoral Council

Chris Blankley - Fred Duemig - Barbara Geraghty
Lara Klein - Kelly Koster - Peter Tietz - Thomas Ward

Finance Council

Rita Defendini* - Robert Gerbard - John Kaley*
Tom Kiley - Ed Lettieri

*Parish Trustees

Office of Faith Formation

Sr. Joan Klimski, OP
Director

faithformation@stwilliam.org | 516-783-2528
stwilliam.org/faith-formation

Resources

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)
rcia@stwilliam.org | stwilliam.org/rcia

Baptisms & Weddings at St. William the Abbot
stwilliam.org/sacraments

Register as a St. William the Abbot Parishioner
stwilliam.org/i-am-new

Catholic High Schools of Long Island
chsee.org

Diocese of Rockville Centre
drvc.org

Formed: The Catholic Faith. On Demand
formed.org

Tomorrow's Hope Foundation: Financial Aid for Catholic Schools
tomorrowshopefoundation.org

Parish Social Ministry

Allison Marro
Director

socialministry@stwilliam.org | 516-679-8532
stwilliam.org/social-ministry

Music Ministry

Jennifer Lynde
Director

information@stwilliam.org

Rectory Information

2000 Jackson Avenue
Seaford, NY 11783

516-785-1266

Office Hours
Monday - Thursday: 9am - 12:30pm, 1pm - 4pm
Friday: 9am - 12n
Saturday: 9am - 12:30pm, 1pm - 3pm

If there is an emergency where someone is critically ill or injured and needs a priest outside of office hours, please call 516-312-7361

The Diocese of Rockville Centre

Most Reverend John O. Barres
Fifth Bishop of Rockville Centre

Most Rev. Robert J. Coyle
Most Rev. Luis Miguel Romero Fernandez, M.Id
Most Rev. Andrzej Zglejszewski
Most Rev. John C. Dunne (Retired)
Auxiliary Bishops of Rockville Centre

Most Reverend William Murphy
Bishop Emeritus

drvc.org