



St. William the Abbot

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



August 16, 2026
Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Then Jesus said to her, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." And her daughter was healed at that moment.

Matthew 15:28

Mass Intentions

Sunday, August 16h

7:30am: James Meier

9am: Dolores DeRita

10:30am: People of St. William's

12n: Jerry Milbach

Monday, August 17th

8:30am: Susan Makombo

Tuesday, August 18th

8:30am: Maryellen Hillmann

Wednesday, August 19th

8:30am: Richard Carbone, Stella Scott

Wednesday continued...

Tommy Alcock, Salvatore Bordonaro

Thursday, August 20th

8:30am: Frank Napolitano

Friday, August 21st

8:30am: Mark Keller, Patricia Stanco,

Louise R. Esposito, Marie Orlando

Saturday, August 22nd

8:30am: Purgatorial Society

5pm: People of St. William's, Peter Filecca,

John Brown, Elaine Sciallo

Pray for the Sick

Brendan Mannix - Terri Albanese - Roland Provence - Charles Giardino
Bonnie Healy - Sr. Bridget Olwell, OSU - Rosemary Averill - Frances Speidell

Pray for the Deceased

John L. Fox - Nicholas Michael Rodgers - Thomas Stolfi

Adoration Candles

have been donated in loving memory of
Michael Downey
from his Loving Family

Altar Candles

have been donated in loving memory of
Jerry Milbach
from Jane Milbach & Family

"Just a dog looking for table scraps"

Well, I am pretty sure that this bulletin letter may cause the greatest controversy and scandal of all my past letters... Growing up, the Fitzgeralds were not a big 'animal family'. We were not necessarily a dog or a cat household - we did have a dog for about 9 months in the early 1980's. The hope was that having a dog could help with greater responsibility for my siblings and I, but unfortunately, it became another chore for my dad. So, very fortunately we were able to find a nice farm at the end of Long Island for Fritz to go to. I do realize how animals can become part of the family - and here is the controversy - I was once told that "dogs" were part of God's greatest creations and are probably God's favorite animal. How do I know this you may ask? Well... if you spell "GOD" backwards - you have "DOG"!!!!

Ok, let's jump into this weekend's Gospel - it is one of those passages that can make us pause, and perhaps even feel a little uncomfortable with the reference of a dog. Not as a cute family pet, but how Jesus uses it referring to a person desperate for help. Saint Matthew, who is writing primarily for an early Jewish community coming to know Jesus as the fulfillment of God's promises, fills his Gospel with connections to the Old Testament and to the faith of Israel. Even here, Jesus is called the Son of David, a significant Jewish title with deep meaning. And yet, the person who approaches Him with such extraordinary faith is not Jewish at all; just an anxious mom whose daughter was tormented for years. She comes before Jesus believing, trusting, and knowing in her heart that He is the answer. She recognizes Him as Lord and is willing to do whatever she must to heal her daughter.

And then comes the part of the story that can be also a little scandalous - Jesus' response is so dismissive. He speaks of the "deserving" children of Israel and to share their bread would be like feeding the dogs. That type of language seems to invoke divisions and prejudices that existed between the ancient peoples. Yet this woman does not turn away in anger, embarrassment, or despair but with remarkable humility and even greater faith, she presses on: "Even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from their masters' table." She is willing to receive even what might seem like a small crumb of God's grace, because she knows that even the tiniest gift from the Lord is enough to change everything. And Jesus sees her faith - He hears her persistence and the young girl is healed.

Perhaps that is the invitation for all of us this week: never give up on God. There are moments when we pray and it seems as though heaven is silent. There are times when we come to the Lord carrying the burdens of our children, our families, our marriages, our fears, and our broken hearts and we wonder if anyone is listening. This courageous mother reminds us to keep coming back, to keep asking, to keep trusting, and to keep believing that even when we do not understand God's response, His mercy is still greater than we can imagine. She came looking for a crumb, but she discovered the fullness of Christ's compassion. May we have the same courage to approach the Lord with persistent faith, trusting that He is always listening and that no one who truly comes before Him in faith is ever beyond the reach of His grace.

I want to close this letter with an acknowledgement that for many of us August brings an adjustment to our households - not regarding beloved pets - but for family members going off to college. For some of the parishioners who have left these past weeks due to their involvement in activities, sports, or a move into an off-campus house there is a bit of anxiety from the unknown. It has been a gift to bless some of your loved ones after Mass, or sacred items they are bringing to their dorm rooms like Bibles, crucifixes, Rosaries, and holy water. These little reminders - table scraps - will certainly help them to remember that God is with them, but also words of encouragement - not nagging - from you will have a huge impact. Let us all pray for these young disciples who are, in some cases, heading to campuses that may not be receptive to Jesus and his teachings, or the values you have bestowed on them in your homes. May Jesus and His Mother Mary guide, guard, and protect them.

Peace,



Banns of Marriage

Banns I

Marissa Andrews; Holy Name of Mary, Valley Stream
& Paul Romano; St. Frances de Chantal, Wantagh

Banns II

Stephanie Tracey; St. Frances de Chantal, Wantagh
& Liam Ryder, St. Frances de Chantal, Wantagh

Second Collection

There will be a second collection next weekend, August 22/23, which will help support our Faith Formation Program. Thank you for your continued generosity.

Pillar of Service

In the midst of summer fun and vacation, there are still people in need. This week, find ways to be of service to others. Perhaps you could donate to the Parish Food Pantry.

Baptisms

Let us welcome the following children who were baptized this past weekend:

Ryley Goldberg

Thomas Goldberg

Charlotte Grieco

Pray for Those in the Military

Lt. Ian Bayer (USN) - Lt. Rebecca Bayer (USN) - Lt. Ryan Bayer (USN) - Sgt. Craig Bianco (USA) - PFC Jake Cilento (USA) - LCPL Ryan Daly (USMC) - Lt. Col. Michael DiPietro (USA) - LCpl Daniel Dugan (USMC) - Capt. Dana Duggan (USMC) - Lt. Joseph Fitzgerald (USN) - Capt. Michael Fitzgerald (USA) - Capt. Christopher J. Frasse (USA) - Capt. Matthew B. Frasse (USAF) - Lt. Col. John Kallo (USA) - STSC (SS) Thomas Kerley (USN) - CW2 Brian Kirby (USA) - Lt. Commander James Knudsen (USCG) - Capt. Caitlin Lee (USA) - Lt. Col Logan Lee (USA) - Major Philip Lettieri, MD (USA) - Lt. Cpl. Kevin Marshall (USMC) - Major Eamon G. McArdle (USA) - Tech. Sgt. Eric Meyers (USAF) - Pvt. Juliana Miller (USA) - Col. Sean Morrow, Ret (USA) - Lt. Michael Napolitano (USN) - Lt. Michael O'Hara (USN) - MMN2 Emily Partridge (USN) - Lt. John Pawelczyk (USA) - Spc. Brian Reip (USA) - Sgt. Donald Rogers (USA) - Airman Carlos Rosado (USAF) - Lt. Col. Thomas F. Shields (USAF) - Lt. Col. Michelle Simpson (USAF) - Commander Michael S. Slatley (USN) - LCPL Cole Tekverk, (USMC) - SR Ella Tietz (USCG) - Daniel Timpanaro (USCG) - Lt. Col. Christopher J. Ustler (USA) - Cdr. Katherine Ustler-Lodispoto (USCG) - Michael Vietri (USN) - 2nd Lt. John Whidden (USMC) - Lt. Joseph Yahner (USA) - Pvt. Philip Zanardi (USAR)

AUGUST CELEBRATIONS OF *The Immaculate Heart of Mary*

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15TH

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

WE RECOGNIZE AND HONOR MARY'S UNCORRUPTIBLE BODY AND SOUL
ENTERING INTO HEAVEN AT THE END OF HER EARTHLY LIFE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22ND

Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

WE PETITION OUR LADY IN PRAYER AS A LOVING MOTHER AND MERCIFUL
QUEEN WHO INTERCEDES TO HER SON ON BEHALF OF HUMANITY

WHILE NEITHER OF THESE CELEBRATIONS ARE CONSIDERED A HOLY
DAY OF OBLIGATION THIS YEAR, WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO FIND TIME
TO HONOR OUR LADY BY ATTENDING THE 8:30 AM MASS, OFFERING
UP THE ROSARY, OR A SIMPLE DECADE OF THE ROSARY



A Prayer for **COLLEGE STUDENTS**

*Heavenly Father, thank You
for this new day and the
opportunity to learn. Grant me
a clear mind, steady focus,
and the discipline to use my
time well. When I feel stressed
or overwhelmed, fill me with
Your peace. Surround me with
good friends and wise
mentors, and guide my steps
in all I do.*

Amen

*"Trust in the Lord with all
your heart and lean not on
your own understanding; in
all your ways submit to him,
and he will make your paths
straight"*
Proverbs 3:5-6

**FOR STUDENTS & SCHOOL
WORKERS OF ALL AGES!**

BLESSING ^{OF} THE BACKPACKS



**AUGUST
29TH & 30TH
AT ALL MASSES**

Christmas in August

BACK TO SCHOOL DRIVE

**DONATE NEW
BACKPACKS FILLED
WITH NEW SCHOOL
SUPPLIES OR TARGET
GIFT CARDS
FOR FAMILIES TO DO
THEIR OWN
BACK-TO-SCHOOL
SHOPPING!**



**PLEASE BRING DONATIONS TO THE
OFFICE OF SOCIAL MINISTRY (IN THE
CONVENT) BY AUGUST 21ST**

“FROM THE RISING OF THE SUN TO THE PLACE WHERE IT SETS, THE NAME OF THE LORD IS TO BE PRAISED.”



Summer Sunset Raffle

TO SUPPORT PARISH MINISTRIES AS WE CELEBRATE OUR 99TH ANNIVERSARY

SINGLE ENTRY
\$35

FIVE ENTRIES
\$135

PURCHASE
50/50
ENTRIES
HERE:



WINNER WILL BE
ANNOUNCED ON
LABOR DAY

SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

TUESDAY NIGHTS STARTING AT 7PM
IN THE RECTORY PARKING LOT

AUGUST
25

PAUL CUTHBERT
YACHT ROCK SUNSET

BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIRS, COOLERS, & FRIENDS!
(IN THE EVENT OF RAIN CONCERT WILL BE IN THE ABBEY)

stwilliam.org/summer2026

ST. WILLIAM THE ABBOT
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

GOLF
OUTING & DINNER

TUESDAY
OCTOBER 13TH

Town of Oyster Bay Golf Club
Woodbury, New York

*VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO REGISTER GOLFERS,
MAKE DINNER RESERVATIONS & VIEW
SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES*



STWILLIAM.ORG/GOLF2026

ST. WILLIAM THE ABBOT 2026-2027 FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION

For Children Entering 1st - 8th Grade



LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER THIS WEEK!

We invite you to take advantage of this last opportunity to register your children for the 2026-2027 program by visiting www.stwilliam.org/faith-formation between Tuesday, August 18th at 9am and Thursday, August 20th at 12n.

Please note that there is limited availability for most grade levels!

Payment will be accepted via credit/debit cards, Apple Pay, Google Pay, Cash App, and checking account

ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

- Our program is dedicated to helping families cultivate and grow in a life-long relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church. Through Christ-centered lessons and the weekly celebration of the Eucharist, we foster faith, discipleship, and active participation in our parish community
- Sacramental preparation are two-year programs: children must complete Levels 1 and 2 before receiving First Holy Communion and Levels 7 and 8 before receiving Confirmation

MASS ATTENDANCE

All children are required to attend 75% of Sunday/Holy Days of Obligation Masses from September through June and check-in using the QR codes in the church in order to complete their grade level and receive sacraments

SCHEDULE

- Level 1: Parent-Lead at Home
- Level 2: Parent-Lead at Home (September-December) & Weekly In-Person Classes (January-April)
- Levels 3-6: Meet Weekly In-Person at SWS
- Level 7: Meets Weekly In-Person on Tuesdays (evening) in The Abbey
- Level 8: Meets Weekly In-Person on Wednesdays (evening) in The Abbey

A PROGRAM DISCOUNT IS AVAILABLE FOR PARENT VOLUNTEERS!

Contact the Office of Faith Formation for Details

OFFICE OF CHILDHOOD FAITH FORMATION

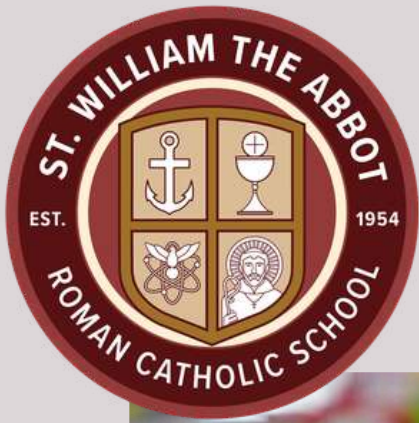
faithformation@stwilliam.org
516-783-2528
stwilliam.org/faith-formation



REGISTRATION CHECKLIST

- ☒ New/Transfer Families
All new families must provide a baptismal certificate for all children being registered (for children baptized at St. William's, please visit stwilliam.org/forms). Families who attended another program must also have a transfer letter from their former parish.
- ☒ Parish ID Number
Families must provide their parish ID number found on their envelopes or by emailing information@stwilliam.org in order to complete registration. If you are not already a parishioner, please visit stwilliam.org/parish-registration.
- ☒ Schedule
Day/time preferences can be entered at the time of registration; once a child is placed in a class we are unable to accommodate any changes.
- ☒ Read the FAQ on our website.
- ☒ Registration is available only through our website: www.stwilliam.org/faith-formation





Rooted in Catholic Tradition, SWS is committed to fostering a community of excellence that forms faithful, motivated, confident, and joyful disciples. Through rigorous academics, intentional faith formation, and an emphasis on social interaction and the importance of community, our students are guided to live out their Catholic faith in fulfillment of our mission to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Since 1954, families have found more than a school, they have found a tightly-knit community where every child is known and loved.



SWS AT A GLANCE

Catholic Identity

Everything we do is based on the rock of our Catholic Identity. Our students participate in daily prayer, weekly Mass by grade-level, monthly school-wide liturgies, days of prayer, and many special events throughout the year.

Enrichment Clubs

Thanks to our dedicated teachers, students may participate in a variety of after-school clubs including ASL, coding, chess, Rosary, drama, intramural sports, science, arts and crafts, and so much more!

Foreign Language

Students in Kindergarten through 8th Grade learn Spanish while our Middle School Students also receive fundamental Latin lessons

Middle School Sports

Students in Grades 6, 7, and 8 learn and grow in a dedicated Middle School environment with a committed and multifaceted team of teachers with Regents courses and an expanded curriculum, enrichment and athletic programs.

Extended Care Options

We provide a safe space for our children before school, beginning at 7am, and after school until 6pm centered around play and academic assistance.

Maker's Space & STREAM Innovation Center

We have a dedicated state-of-the-art creative and technological hub that encourages young minds to collaborate, communicate, and discover new ways to design, tinker, and solve problems.

Additional Services

With an on-site nurse and full-time psychologist, we also provide services to provide extra support for students to help them access the curriculum, make progress toward goals, and participate fully in school life.

Technology

While all students (K-8) are provided with a Chromebook and enjoy state-of-the-art technology in all classrooms, on Tuesdays, we unplug and set our abundant technology to the side to focus on interactive learning, interpersonal connections, and healthy moderation. This "Techless Tuesday" program has been so successful that it is being adopted Diocese-wide.

Continued Success

The Class of 2026 earned over \$530,000 in scholarships towards their high school education. 98% of our graduating 8th graders will be attending a Catholic high school within the Diocese of Rockville Centre.



This Weekend's Music Selections

We invite you to participate by using the song numbers below and the missals found in the pews.

Entrance Hymn: "Gather the People" - #305

Offertory Hymn: "Seek Ye First" - #450

Communion Hymn: "I Received the Living God" - #347

Communion Meditation: "Holy is His Name" - #695

Recessional Hymn: "Hail Holy Queen" - #210

Our Adult and Children's Choirs will resume in the fall!

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing." Psalm 100:1-2

Parish Social Ministry

BLOOD DRIVE

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19TH
12N - 6PM IN THE ABBEY**

PLEASE MAKE AN
APPOINTMENT BY
VISITING NYBC.ORG
OR CALLING
1-800-933-BLOOD



YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS
YOURSELF. THERE IS NO OTHER
COMMANDMENT GREATER THAN THESE.
MARK 12:31

*"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."
Matthew 5:4*

Grief is a **personal** journey, but it doesn't have to be a **lonely** one.
Let our faith community help carry you forward.

If you have lost a loved one, St. William the Abbot Roman Catholic Church offers a faith-based bereavement support group that provides a space to pray, share, heal, and find comfort with others who understand your grief.

Led by trained facilitators, the group meets weekly for seven weeks, concluding with a special Mass for current and past participants and their families and friends.

To help ensure participants are ready for this shared journey of healing, we ask that at least three months have passed since your loss before joining our group.

CONTACT PSM FOR
INFORMATION &
TO REGISTER



516-679-8532



socialministry@stwilliam.org

"Bring a Friend Day" for Nasau Senior Centers

Did you know that there are seventeen senior centers in Nassau County? These senior centers will be hosting 'Bring a Friend Day' this Tuesday August 18. Call your local center for lunch reservations and directions, and bring a friend! The closest one to us is St. Jude's Church in Wantagh (516-797-5357). Email socialministry@stwilliam.org for information about other senior center locations in Nassau County.

Positive Mental Health Presentation Thursday

The Bethpage Senior Center will host a mental health learning session this Thursday August 20 at 2pm. The session is titled 'Small Actions Create Big Impact, Managing Positive Mental Health' and will discuss risk factors that can impact mental health later in life. They will review protective habits that foster resilience and well-being, and meaningful interventions and strategies that help restore purpose, connection and hope. Call 516-571-9910 to register for this session.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The next meeting of the Prayer Shawl Ministry will be on Tuesday Aug 18 at 10am in the Abbey. This ministry knits and crochets lap robes, blankets, hats, scarves, and other items for the sick and needy of our community. Yarn is provided, and new members at any skill level are always welcome!



stwilliam.org

f @stwilliamabbot

Scan here to make a one-time donation
by Credit Card, Apple Pay, Google Pay, or CashApp

Or visit
stwilliam.org/ways-to-give



Rev. Joseph H. Fitzgerald
Pastor

Rev. Michael Edathil
Associate Pastor

Rev. Patrick O'Brien
Associate Pastor

priests@stwilliam.org

Deacons

Dcn. John Lynch Dcn. Michael Metzdorff
Dcn. Anthony Cedrone (Retired)
information@stwilliam.org

Rectory Staff

Judy Goldman
Business Manager
jgoldman@stwilliam.org

Sue McCormick
Office Manager
information@stwilliam.org

Kate Walsh
Development & Operations
kwalsh@stwilliam.org

Office of Childhood Faith Formation

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

Parish Social Ministry

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

Music Ministry

Jennifer Hegmann-Palminteri
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 & Saturday: 9am - 12:30pm

*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*



St. William the Abbot School

Elizabeth Bricker Kasey Grasso
Principal Assistant Principal

516-785-6784

stwilliamtheabbot.net

A Legacy of Excellence for Over 70 Years - Nursery through 8th Grade

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

drvcvocations.com

Pastoral Council

Chris Blankley - Fred Duemig
Lara Klein - Kelly Koster - Peter Tietz

Finance Council

Rita Defendini - Debra Eannel - Robert Gerhard - John Kaley*
Tom Kiley - Ed Lettieri* - Michael Turturro
*Parish Trustee

Resources

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA)
ocia@stwilliam.org | stwilliam.org/ocia

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

The Diocese of Rockville Centre

Fifth Bishop of Rockville Centre
Most Reverend John O. Barres

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

drvc.org