



St. William the Abbot

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



August 23, 2026
Twenty-First 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

*Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.
Matthew 16:17-18*

Mass Intentions

Sunday, August 23rd

7:30am: Joan Frances Jigarjian

9am: Arthur R. Welsch, Gertrude Palmer,
Christopher Barnson, Stejepan Koren

10:30am: Carol Puleo

12n: Elaine Sciallo

Monday, August 24th

8:30am: Kathleen O'Connor, Evie McKenna Jones,
Brendan Mannix (liv), Nicholas DeCarlo

Tuesday, August 25th

8:30am: Joan Paguaga

Wednesday, August 26th

8:30am: Samantha Mielke

Thursday, August 27th

8:30am: John Kelleher, Loretta Bookman,
Catherine Corsitto, Michael Trollo

Friday, August 28th

8:30am: Benjamin Holohan

Saturday, August 29th

8:30am: Purgatorial Society

5pm: Jeanine & Nicole Tedeschi

Pray for the Sick

Brendan Mannix - Terri Albanese - Roland Provence - Charles Giardino - Bonnie Healy
Rosemary Averill - Frances Speidell - Cammy Seppe - Maureen Corbett - Joseph V. Servello

Pray for the Deceased

Sr. Bridget Olwell, OSU - Rita Marie LaChiana - Jane A. Fitzpatrick - Alice Misiti

Wine & Hosts

have been donated in loving memory of
Silvana Travanti
from her daughter Crystal Stanzoni & Family

Altar Flowers

have been donated in honor of
the Parishioners of St. William the Abbot

No really, who do we say that Jesus is?

As we move through these final weeks of August and prepare for a new season of school, ministry, sacraments, faith formation, and outreach to the most vulnerable, I would like to invite us to reflect on some of the most important questions in all of Scripture. This weekend we begin with one of my favorite Gospel passages, Matthew 16. Jesus asks His disciples, first, "Who do other people say that the Son of Man is?" Then He makes the question personal: "But who do you say that I am?" Peter responds, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

As a boy, I remember my parents "accidentally" placed a Bible on the lampstand beside my bed. During Advent and Lent, I would often open it and read the Gospels. I love all of Scripture, but there has always been something about Matthew that has moved my heart. Matthew continually brings us face-to-face with Jesus and asks us to make a decision. We cannot simply admire Him from a distance or reduce Him to a wise teacher, a spiritual guru, an interesting philosopher, or the next inspiring quote that appears on our social media feed. Sooner or later, we must answer the question for ourselves: *Who do you say that I am?*

How we answer that question determines the direction of our entire faith journey. If Jesus is simply a good man or one voice among many, then we can listen when it is convenient and choose only the teachings that appeal to us. But if Jesus is truly the Christ, the Son of the living God, then everything must begin to change. Our calendars, our schedules, the way we spend our time and finances, the way we care for our families, and the choices we make must all reflect that truth. Faith can no longer be something we simply do for an hour on Sunday; it becomes the center from which the rest of our lives take direction.

Perhaps those words become both encouragement and challenge for us as we enter this new season. Our children will soon return to school, our ministries will begin again, faith formation will spiritually feed our families, and parish life will come alive once more. But before we fill our calendars, perhaps we should ask: Where does Jesus fit into all of this? Or better yet, does 'everything else' fit around Him? This may be the perfect time to take one more intentional step toward the Lord - to return to prayer, come faithfully to Sunday Mass, open the Scriptures, serve in a ministry, or simply give Him just a little more room in our lives.

This is an important time for us to ask these questions - our nation celebrates 250 years, we are preparing to remember the 25th anniversary of September 11th, and as we look ahead to the 100th anniversary of our parish, we are invited not simply to look backward but to consider the future. What kind of people are we becoming, and what kind of faith will we hand on to the next generation? Over the next few weeks, I hope we can reflect together on some of the great questions Scripture places before us in the Mass cycle. But we begin with the most important one of all: Who do you say Jesus is? My prayer is that each of us, like Peter, may answer not only with our words but with our lives: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God!!!"

St. Peter's answer elevates both his faith and his responsibilities for Jesus and the Church. He is called "the rock", he becomes a main advisor and confidant of Our Lord, he is the first pope, and he is also often tested as an apostle. The same for sure will happen for us, the more we place Jesus at the center of our lives our faith and trust in him will grow as well - and be challenged. Take to prayer that question and then respond with an open heart to where and how Jesus is leading you.

Each September, just like the NFL and college football seasons, we kick off our ministries here at St. William the Abbot. The reality is each year there is a need for new missionary disciples to serve in the parish. Our lives and responsibilities are constantly changing - retirement, family obligations, a renewed interest and time to grow in faith. Please consider volunteering for Faith Formation, Pre-Cana, greeter or usher, altar serving, lector, and so many other possibilities.

Where may God be calling you in 2026/2027?



Banns of Marriage

Banns I

Jacqueline Mezzasalma; Holy Family, Hicksville
& Bryan Mulholland; St. Ignatius, Hicksville

Gisselle Anguita; St. William the Abbot
& Justin Shannon; St. William the Abbot

Banns II

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

Banns III

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

Baptism

Let us welcome the following child who was baptized
this past weekend:

Joseph Ferrando

Anointing of the Sick

Anyone going to the hospital or who has a serious illness can receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, which will be celebrated communally immediately following the 12h Mass on Sunday, August 30, 2026.



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)



Order of Christian Initiation for Adults will resume classes on Sunday, August 30th following the 9am Mass.

Please visit www.stwilliam.org/ocia or email ocia@stwilliam.org for more information.

Sr. Bridget Olwell, OSU

Nov 8, 1940 - Aug 19, 2026

We join with the Ursuline Sisters of Tildonk as they mourn the passing of Sr. Bridget Olwell, OSU this week.

Sr. Bridget, known for her warm smile and gentle way, recently moved back home to our parish and had served as the principal of St. William the Abbot School from 1975 to 1983, was born into eternal life after suffering a stroke while visiting her family in Ireland. In her last days, she was tended to by her family and by Sr. Joanne and Sr. Meghan.

Her Mass of Christian Burial occurred in her native County Meath and details for a local Memorial Mass will be announced shortly.



Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Are you being called?

CONSIDER JOINING ONE OF OUR PARISH MINISTRIES THIS FALL!

USHER
MINISTRY

CYO

CHOIR/MUSIC
MINISTRY

OCIA

PARISH
SOCIAL
MINISTRY

GREETERS/
WELCOME
MINISTRY

GARDEN
MINISTRY

WEDDING
MINISTRY/
PRE CANA

MINISTRY OF
CONSOLATION

BAPTISM
MINISTRY

SOCIAL
EVENTS

YOUTH/YOUNG
ADULT
MINISTRY

FAITH FORMATION

We have an immediate need for catechists, facilitators, hall monitors, and traffic monitors for our Faith Formation Program



VISIT
STWILLIAM.ORG/MINISTRIES
TO LEARN MORE OR JOIN ONE
OF OUR MINISTRIES

FOR STUDENTS & SCHOOL
WORKERS OF ALL AGES!

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS



AUGUST
29TH
AND
30TH

AT ALL
MASSES

Thank you from Fr. Michael Ngoka, CM

On behalf of the Vincentian Community, Province of Nigeria, I wish to express our heartfelt gratitude for your generous financial contribution during our Vincentian Mission Appeal on the weekend of August 3, 2026.

Your generosity, together with your prayers and encouragement means a great deal to us. Your support will go a long way in strengthening the Vincentian ministry to the poor and vulnerable in Nigeria, enabling us to continue our mission of bringing Christ's love, hope, and compassionate service to those most in need.

May God reward you abundantly for your generosity and continue to bless St. William the Abbot Parish and all its parishioners. Please know that you remain in our prayers, as we humbly ask you to continue praying for the Vincentian Community and our mission to the poor in Nigeria.

With profound gratitude and prayers,
Fr. Michael Ngoka, CM
For the Vincentian Community

"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	FIVE ENTRIES
\$35	\$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

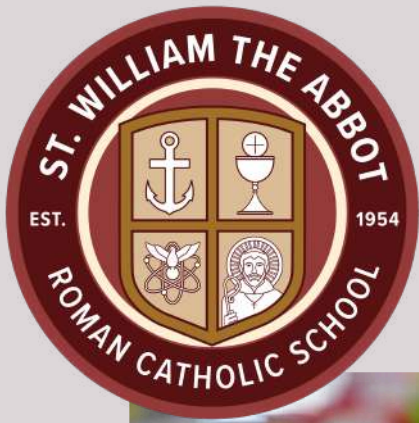
TUESDAY
OCTOBER 13TH

Town of Oyster Bay Golf Club
Woodbury, New York

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



STWILLIAM.ORG/GOLF2026



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 Your People" - #310

Offertory Hymn: "The Summons"

Communion Hymn: "The Supper of the Lord" - #338

Communion Meditation: "Here I Am to Worship"

Recessional Hymn: "Let There Be Peace on Earth" - #480

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

Social Ministry Needs

This week we are collecting Target gift cards for families to use for children's back-to-school clothing and other Fall necessities. Help us ensure all students begin the year with dignity and confidence!

Fall 2026 Bereavement Support Group

The loss of a loved one or friend can be an overwhelming and isolating experience, and our Bereavement Ministry provides the opportunity for those that are grieving to ease their suffering. Sessions will begin in October and are held at 11am on Wednesdays for six weeks. If you or someone you know is grieving, please call Parish Social Ministry at 516-679-8532 for more information. Space is limited, register early!

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Earlier this month Parish Social Ministry was blessed with a visit from local Seaford Charity 'Take Me Out to the Ballgame.' This organization is focused on improving the quality of life for children in need by hosting interactive family activities and by providing tools children need to thrive at home, school and play. Take Me Out to the Ballgame dropped off a huge donation of healthy proteins such as fish filets, turkey, beef, chicken legs, wings, thighs... and even whole chickens! For families that are struggling, this donation makes a tremendous impact. Thank you Take Me Out to the Ballgame for your ongoing support and generosity!



Free Health Screenings this Friday by Catholic Health

Catholic Health Hospital Outreach will offer free health screenings on Friday, August 28th from 9:30am to 1:30pm at the Hempstead Senior Center. This event includes blood pressure screening, medication review, fall risk assessment, body mass index, health education, referrals, and resources for those without insurance. To register, call 516-565-1568 or call St. Francis for more information at 516-629-2013.

Senior Care Through the Office for the Aging



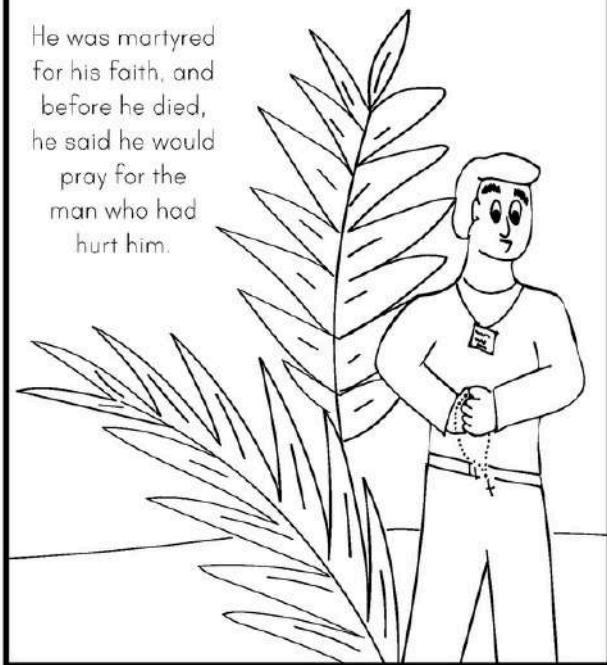
Did you know that the Nassau County Office for the Aging offers case managers for seniors? Their case management program provides the support for older adults to remain in their homes for as long as possible. They assist in providing in-home services for seniors through the Expanded In-home Services for the Elderly Program (EISEP). There are two types of in-home services offered, Level 1 which is housekeeping and chore services, and Level II which adds on personal care assistance such as bathing, dressing, toileting, grooming and feeding.

For more information about services and eligibility, call NY Connects at 516-227-8900, or visit their website: www.nassaucountyny.gov/1438/Aging

Blessed Isidore Bakanja

Isidore became Catholic when he was 18 and loved to learn about the faith. He prayed the Rosary often and wore a scapular, which is a brown piece of fabric that shows his devotion and love for Mary. At his job, Isidore would tell others about the Gospel and help them become Christians.

He was martyred for his faith, and before he died, he said he would pray for the man who had hurt him.



Year A: Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

Catholic Kids Bulletin

August 23, 2026
Ordinary Time
Color: Green

GLORDPQGYOURODLOVELISIOI

ZPJYUODHANDSSK

Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

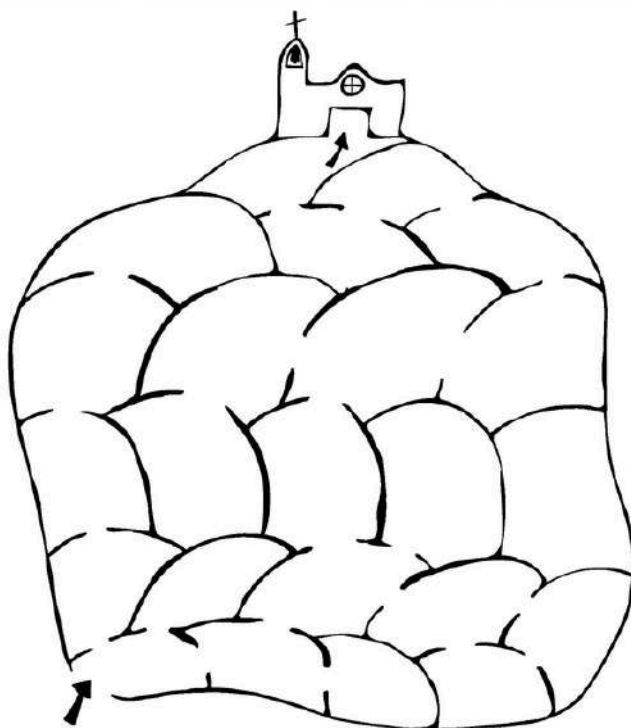
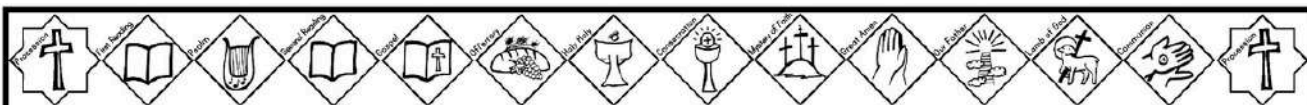
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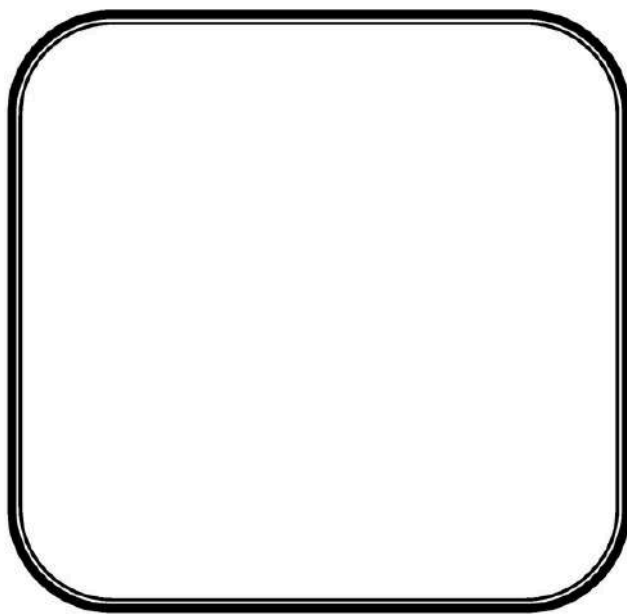


There are many liturgical ministers who help during Mass. How are people serving at Mass?

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All the people at your church make up God's church.
Draw your church family.



Jesus said, "And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church."

Year A: Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

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stwilliam.org



@stwilliamabbot

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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

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mespina@stwilliam.org

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Judy Goldman
Business Manager
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Kate Walsh
Development & Operations
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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
Principal

Kasey Grasso
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)

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