



St. William the Abbot

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



*Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it."
Matthew 16:24-25*

August 30, 2026 Twenty-Second 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

Mass Intentions

Sunday, August 30th

7:30am: Mark Scofield

9am: Laney McGowan

10:30am: Carmella Monteforte

12n: People of St. William's

Monday, August 31st

8:30am: Jennifer Kara Bernstein, William Wright (liv),
Joann Callahan, Eileen Meyer

Tuesday, September 1st

8:30am: Cristobal Diaz

Wednesday, September 2nd

8:30am: Chrstine Paulson, Michael Camp,
Kathleen Capozzi, Ted Tierney

Thursday, September 3rd

8:30am: Susan Makombo

Friday, September 4th

8:30am: Thomas J. Manning, Joan C. Paguaga,
Michael Hawthorne, Vivian Lawoo

Saturday, September 5th

8:30am: Purgatorial Society

5pm: Ed Tomczyk

Pray for the Sick

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

Pray for the Deceased

James Fitzgerald - Fortunato Scoleri

Altar Flowers

have been donated in loving memory of
Ellen Muller-Hood
from Eileen Engleman

Adoration Candles

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

Yes to Jesus, Yes to the Cross

Twenty-five years ago today, on August 30, 2001, I walked through the doors of the seminary at Douglaston and began my studies for the priesthood. It was an emotional day for so many reasons - I was leaving behind my previous life, my family, my career, and many things that were familiar to me. I was also meeting a whole new group of people who shared a similar desire to serve Jesus and His Church. And, perhaps fittingly, it was my 30th birthday! I remember a very different kind of birthday dinner that evening. I think the dining room staff quickly put together a "homemade" card, and my new family of priests, seminarians, and workers signed it. I remember thinking that Jesus Himself began His public ministry at the age of thirty, so I guess I was in pretty good company! Looking back now, I realize that I had answered one question very clearly: **Who is Jesus?** My answer to that question was what brought me to the seminary.

This weekend, as we continue deeper into Matthew's Gospel, Jesus gives us the next and perhaps much more difficult question. Last week we were asked, *Who do you say that I am?* This week Jesus tells us what our answer requires: "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." It is one thing to say that we believe in Jesus, it is another thing to actually follow Him. Twenty-five years ago, I was willing to say yes to Jesus, but I have learned over these years that saying yes to Him also means saying yes to the cross. That was a difficult lesson then, and it remains a difficult lesson today.

So perhaps the question for each of us this weekend is not simply, *Do I believe in Jesus?* but Am I willing to pick up my cross and carry it with Him? Are we willing to walk with Jesus toward Calvary, trusting Him even when the road is difficult? We all know something about crosses, they come in the form of family struggles, difficulties at work, financial pressures and an uncertain economy. Also, the challenge of balancing work, family, and all the activities that fill our lives. There are illnesses, the realities of aging, concerns for parents and loved ones, disappointments, losses, and days when we simply feel tired. Jesus never promised that following Him would mean a life without crosses - He promised something even greater: that we would never have to carry them alone.

Every week when we gather here at Saint William's, we have a powerful reminder of that truth right above the altar. We see our beautiful Cross - it is not simply a decoration in our church; it is the core symbol of our faith. Through the Cross comes our redemption, our salvation, and the promise of new life. The Cross reminds us that suffering does not have the final word, death does not have the final word, only Jesus does. As I have reflected this past week on these twenty-five years, I have thought about the many people who began this journey with me who are now with God, especially my dad. I have thought about the different parish and diocesan assignments, the priests who have helped and guided me, and the countless people whom the Lord has placed in my life. And I have thought about so many of you who, in your own struggles and your own faithfulness, have inspired me and helped me to lift my cross when it has felt heavy. Thank you for that.

There have certainly been difficult days over these twenty-five years. But there has never been a regret about saying yes to Jesus, yes to the Cross, and yes to this life of service and love of God and His people. Twenty-five years ago, on my thirtieth birthday, I began this journey with a simple yes. Today, twenty-five years later, I can say that yes again. **Yes to Jesus. Yes to His Church. Yes to the Cross. And Yes to you, MY family of faith.** I pray that each of us, whatever cross we are carrying today, might have the courage to say the same. When we walk toward Calvary with Jesus, we discover that the Cross is never the end of the story. Beyond the Cross is resurrection, new life, and the everlasting embrace of the God who has walked with us every step of the way.



LIVE MERCY

Banns of Marriage

Banns II

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

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

Banns III

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

Baptism

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

George Cloghessy
Kennedy Cloghessy
Ryan Cloghessy
Josephine DiBenedetto
Logan Gryz
Cole Moloney
Giuliana Testani

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)



Second Collection

Next weekend, September 5th/6th, the Diocese will be taking up the National
Collection for the Catholic University of America.

By giving to this collection, you are supporting future Catholic leaders, both
religious and lay, who are being formed by an exceptional, faith-inspired
education. Please give generously.



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.

Remembering Sr. Bridget

A Memorial Mass has been scheduled in remembrance of Sr. Bridget Olwell, OSU.

All are invited to attend on Saturday, September 19th at 10:45am here at St. William
the Abbot. This Mass will also be live-streamed on our website.

More information can be found by visiting www.tildonkursuline.org



"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



ST. WILLIAM THE ABBOT
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

GOLF

OUTING & DINNER

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13TH | TOWN OF OYSTER BAY GOLF COURSE

SPONSOR & PLAY

Title Sponsor (Exclusive) _____ \$10,000

Includes: 2 foursomes plus 8 dinner guests - logo on event site, bulletin, and social media - event signage

Event Co-Sponsor _____ \$5,500

Includes: 1 foursome plus 4 dinner guests - logo on event site, bulletin, and social media - event signage

Dinner Sponsor _____ \$4,500

Includes: 1 foursome plus 4 dinner guests - dining room signage

Golf Cart Sponsor _____ \$3,500

Includes: 1 foursome - logo on golf carts

Lunch Sponsor _____ \$3,000

Includes: 1 foursome - lunch signage

SPONSORSHIPS

Gift Bag Sponsor* _____ \$2,500

Refreshment Sponsor* _____ \$1,500

Friend of St. William Sponsor* _____ \$1,250

Raffle Sponsor* _____ \$1,200

Awards Sponsor* _____ \$850

**includes shared signage at event check-in*

Pin Flag _____ \$350

Tee Sign _____ \$250

Sponsor a Priest or Seminarian for Golf _____ \$265

Sponsor a Priest or Seminarian for Dinner _____ \$125

GOLF

Individual Golfer _____ \$275

Includes: golf, continental brunch, lunch, refreshments, and cocktail reception/dinner for 1

Foursome _____ \$985

Includes: golf, continental brunch, lunch, refreshments, and cocktail reception/dinner for 4

COCKTAIL RECEPTION/DINNER

Individual Dinner Reservation _____ \$125

Please return to the Rectory with a check made payable to St. William the Abbot
or complete online by visiting stwilliam.org/golf2026

Name: _____

Email: _____ Telephone: _____

Play - Individual Golfer: ____ Foursome: ____

Sponsor & Play - Title Sponsor: ____ Event Co-Sponsor: ____ Dinner Sponsor: ____ Golf Cart Sponsor: ____ Lunch Sponsor: ____

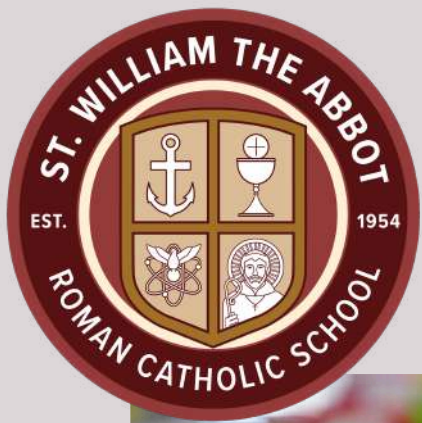
Sponsorships - Gift Bag Sponsor: ____ Refreshment Sponsor: ____ Friend of St. William Sponsor: ____ Raffle Sponsor: ____

Awards Sponsor: ____ Pin Flag: ____ Tee Sign: ____ Golf for Priest/Seminarian: ____ Dinner for Priest/Seminarian: ____

Cocktail Dinner & Reception - Individual Dinner: ____

Please list additional names for foursome: 1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____

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.



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

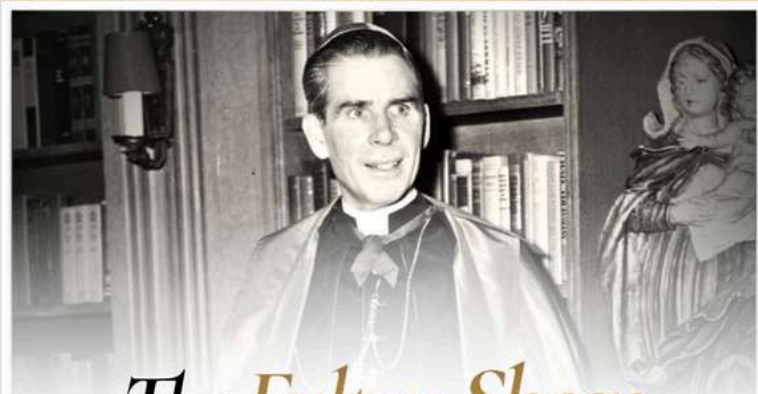
FAITH FORMATION

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

Our Catholic Community on Long Island



The Fulton Sheen Initiative

A Moment for the Catholic Church of America

**Beatification
Event**

THURSDAY, SEPT. 24, 2026

**Church of
Saint Raphael**

600 Newbridge Road, East Meadow, NY

Doors Open: 7:00 PM
Prayer Begins: 7:30 PM

**Pray Daily with
Ven. Fulton J. Sheen**

Sign up to receive and pray with daily reflections of Sheen's words. Make an individual prayer commitment of 15 minutes a day.

Scan the QR code or visit:
drv.org/fultonsheen



OFFICE OF EVANGELIZATION & CATECHESIS • DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

Sisters of St. Joseph
Ministry of St. Joseph's

September 18: \$20 suggested
September 19: Talk + lunch is \$25
Friday & Saturday Combo: \$40
Registration: bit.ly/JesuitStars

**A JESUIT'S GUIDE TO THE
STARS**
Exploring Wonder, Beauty, & Science

Br. Guy Consolmagno, SJ

Evensong
September 18, 2026 at 7:30 PM
Reflection: Br. Guy Consolmagno
Possible stargazing with the Amateur Observer's Society | aosny.org

A Jesuit's Guide to the Stars
Br. Guy Consolmagno, SJ
September 19, 2026 from 10 AM to 12 noon
Sisters of St. Dominic of Amityville
555 Albany Avenue, Amityville, NY

*It's never too soon to prepare
for the Catholic High School Entrance Exam.*

**CALL DAC TEST PREP
for an application**

631-663-3303

**FOR NEW
SAT COURSES
SEE OUR WEBSITE!**

**SPACE IS LIMITED!
CALL TODAY!**

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: "Only This I Want" - #498

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

Pantry Needs

Apple Juice - Ketchup - Mayonnaise - Pasta - Egg Noodles - Cranberry Sauce - Cake Mix - Napkins

*"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 US FOR
INFORMATION &
TO REGISTER



516-679-8532



socialministry@
stwilliam.org

Thank You Back-to School Donors!

You have made such a big difference to those we serve! Your generous donations provided children with classroom supplies and gift cards to help with other school essentials!

Weekly Memory Care Events

The Nassau County Office for the Aging will hold "Drum Circle" memory care events weekly during September beginning on Tuesday 9/1 at Wantagh Park. These 1-hour events begin at 2:30pm and are intended for adults with dementia and their caregivers and allows participants to experience the power and connection of drumming in a group setting which can build community, reduce stress, and improve social engagement. All instruments are provided, and no musical experience is necessary. Reservations are required for each session by calling 516-586-1507

Prayer Shawl Ministry

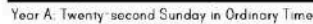
The next meeting of the Prayer Shawl Ministry will be on Tuesday, September 1st at 10am in the Abbey. We invite you to join to knit or crochet lap robes, blankets, hats, scarves, and other items for the sick and needy of our community. Yarn is provided, and new members at any skill level are always welcome!



See Someone, Save Someone

Long Island Coalition for the Homeless (LICH) has a Street Outreach Program for individuals experiencing homelessness. Their goal is to provide an accessible system that quickly connects individuals with appropriate housing and other services as needed. If you see someone that is homeless and in need of assistance, call LICH's Street Outreach Team at 631-464-4314 xt 118. If you see someone, save someone!

Saint Monica was married to a Roman pagan who didn't believe in Jesus. Her son, Saint Augustine, also didn't believe in God. Saint Monica prayed and served others throughout her life, and eventually, her role modeling helped Saint Augustine become a Christian. Saint Augustine became a great teacher and wrote a book that people still read today to learn about faith.



Saint Monica is the patron saint of parents. Saint Augustine is the patron saint of theology, which is the study of religion.



August 30, 2026
Ordinary Time
Color: Green



BLIJEOGODKWIJAPIX

ZC THIRSTING FOR LYK

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Year A: Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

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stwilliam.org



@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

Meredith Espina
Director of Ministry
mespina@stwilliam.org

Sue McCormick
Office Manager
information@stwilliam.org

Judy Goldman
Business Manager
jgoldman@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
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)

drvc.org