



St. William the Abbot

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

September 20, 2026
Twenty-Fifth 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



*"Thus, the last will be first,
and the first will be last"*

Matthew 16a

Mass Intentions

Sunday, September 20th

7:30am: Michael Dunphy

9am: Michael Ackerman; Mary Lynn Provenzano; The
Blankley Family (liv); The DiMola Family (liv)

10:30am: Salvatore Lupo

12n: Members of the Varvaro & Kaley Families

Monday, September 21st:

Janice Snyder

Tuesday, September 22nd:

Michael Holian; Thomas Stolfi; Eileen Ginty

Wednesday, September 23rd:

James & Mary McCormick

Thursday, September 24th:

Arlene Martin; Thomas Stolfi

Friday, September 25th:

The Walsleben Family

Saturday, September 26th:

8:30am: Members of the Purgatorial Society

5pm: Sue Kane

Pray for the Sick

Catherine DiPietro - Bonnie Healy - Brian Deas

Pray for the Deceased

Michael J. Murphy

Wine & Hosts

have been donated in memory of
Ralph S. Miller
from Maureen & John Bussani

Our Loving God's Radical Generosity and Hospitality

Our God is awesome – He is tender, loving, forgiving, and just. His Divine Love can surprise us though, and the readings for this Sunday reveal that. The scriptures are timeless because they reveal something deeply human: we are a people who are always searching and, even more beautifully, we are a people whom God is constantly searching for. Jesus tells us about a landowner who goes out looking for workers for his vineyard. He goes at 6:00 in the morning, again at 9, at noon, at 3, and finally at 5:00, just before the workday ends. Why does he keep going out? Because he wants everyone in his vineyard. The vineyard is an image of the Kingdom of God, and the landowner is God Himself, coming out to find us, inviting us, calling us into relationship with Him. In the ancient world at the time of the grape harvest, there was a very short window to gather the grapes, prepare them, and bring them to the winepress so many workers were needed. Jesus uses this familiar image to reveal something extraordinary: God never stops searching for us - He comes looking for us at every hour of our lives.

And yet, there is something in this Gospel that can make us uncomfortable. Those who worked all day receive the same daily wage as those who arrived at the very last hour. We can almost hear ourselves saying, "Wait a minute - that's not fair!" Some of us have been coming to Mass week after week, year after year - we have prayed, served, sacrificed, raised our families in the faith, supported the Church and tried to live as faithful disciples. And then someone comes along at the very end - one of those "Last-Minute Larrys" - and God gives him the same reward? What?!? But perhaps Jesus is inviting us to look at God's generosity in a different way. Isaiah tells us, "Seek the Lord while he may be found, call him while he is near." The invitation is not simply about when we began working in the vineyard; it is about whether we recognize the extraordinary grace of being invited there at all.

Then comes one of the most challenging lines in the Gospel: "My friend, I am not cheating you. Did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ... What if I wish to give this last one the same as you? ... Are you envious because I am generous?" Have you ever felt that way with God? Have you ever looked at someone else and wondered why God seems to have given them something they did not deserve or why someone who has lived far from God seems to receive His mercy just when they need it most? Perhaps we forget that God's mercy is not a limited resource; when God is generous to another person, He has not become less generous to us. The person who comes to the vineyard at 5pm has not taken anything away from the person who arrived at 6am – they were both promised the daily wage and it was given. God does not cheat us. Instead, He loves with a generosity that often exceeds our understanding of fairness.

My sisters and brothers, perhaps the deeper message of these readings is that we should stop keeping score with God. Some of us have been in the vineyard for decades; others may be standing on the outside today, wondering if there is still a place for them. The Good News is that God is still going out to find them, and He is still calling us. Maybe today we need to hear that invitation ourselves: "Come into my vineyard." Come home. Come back to Mass. Return to prayer. Seek the Lord while He may be found. And if someone who has been away for years finally comes home, let us not resent the Father's joy; let us rejoice that another person has been found. The vineyard is big enough for all of us, and the landowner never stops searching. May we have the grace to recognize that being invited into His vineyard is itself the greatest gift - and may we rejoice whenever another person discovers the same gift.

This past week we began our Faith Formation classes – it was awesome to see so many families – some brand new to the area and parish, and some families who began their faith journey with me when I arrived in 2019. You will notice that the Mass, the parking lot, the communion lines, and the pews have been getting a bit more crowded each week. Praise God! We joyfully welcome the new families and parishioners – may they experience the same radical hospitality and welcome that vineyard owner offers in the Gospel.

Peace,



Banns of Marriage

Banns I

Danielle Chimienti (SWA) & Eric Chrostowski (St. Andrew's, NC)
Kristen Flynn (SWA) & Matthew Cooley (Holy Family)

Banns II

Alyse McAlpine (SWA) & Brian Parker (SWA)
Isabella Valentino (SWA) & Christopher James Coakley (SWA)
Jane von Glahn (SWA) & Tyler Walsh (SWA)

Alexis Alvino (St. Bernard's) & Nicholas Fischetti (SWA)
Mary Calabro (SWA) & Jack Houston (Church of the Assumption, NJ)

Banns III

Amanda Padula; SWA & Richard Regina; SWA
Jessica Mangieri; St. Kilians & Michael Riis; SWA



Pray for Those in the Military

Lt. Ian Bayer (USN) - Lt. Rebecca Bayer (USN) - Lt. Ryan Bayer (USN) - Sgt. Craig Bianco (USA) - A1C Austin Carreras (USAF) - 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)

WAYS to GIVE

stwilliam.org/ways-to-give



IN-PERSON

Make a donation to our weekly collection at Mass. If you would like to receive offertory envelopes, please email us at information@stwilliam.org



AUTOMATED GIVING

Set-up a monthly gift through your checking account or credit card.



PLANNED GIVING

Arrange a gift of cash, stocks, real estate, life insurance, or other assets that will take effect during your lifetime or after your death



MEMORIALIZE OR HONOR LOVED ONES

Work with our staff to create a donation, scholarship, or dedicated items to enhance our community



ONLINE DONATIONS

Make a one-time donation or set-up recurring donations online using your bank account, ApplePay, GooglePay, or CashApp





ST. WILLIAM THE ABBOT
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH & SCHOOL

GOLF

OUTING & DINNER

CELEBRATING OUR 99TH ANNIVERSARY AS A PARISH

**TUESDAY
OCTOBER 13TH**

Town of Oyster Bay Golf Club
Woodbury, New York

*DONATIONS OF GIFT CARDS TO LOCAL BUSINESSES,
SERVICES, AND NEW ITEMS FOR OUR RAFFLES ARE
APPRECIATED - PLEASE EMAIL
INFORMATION@STWILLIAM.ORG*

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



STWILLIAM.ORG/GOLF2026





THE WORD OF GOD: POINTING US IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO NAVIGATING THE BIBLE WITH FR. JOE



**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH
&
MONDAY, OCTOBER 5TH
9:15AM | 7PM
IN THE ABBEY**

*PLEASE BRING YOUR
BIBLE AND A
NOTEBOOK & PEN*

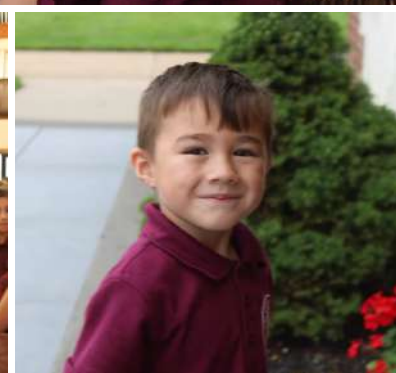
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Last Friday, our students gathered as one family of faith for our first school liturgy of the new year, beginning this year in the best way possible—together in prayer. The new SWS Student Council was sworn in and then we processed back to school together where Fr. Joe, Fr. Michael, and Fr. O'Brien blessed our school building and students.

We also paused to remember the nearly 3,000 lives lost, the extraordinary courage of our first responders, and the countless acts of sacrifice, service, and love that emerged from one of our nation's darkest days 25 years ago.

As we embrace this year's theme, "Building on the Blessing," we are reminded that even in moments of profound sorrow, God calls us to build: to build faith, hope, unity, compassion, and love of neighbor





Fall FEST

Music ♦ Fall Treats ♦ Fun



FRIDAY
25th
SEPTEMBER

7PM IN THE RECTORY PARKING LOT

*Bring your
lawn chairs and coolers!*

stwilliam.org



FAITH FORMATION MASS ATTENDANCE

The Eucharist is the center of who we are as Catholic Christians and the discipline of weekly Mass attendance is what makes us practicing Catholics. Going to Mass every week not only reaffirms the lessons your children are being taught in their hour-long weekly classes, but, more importantly - or *most* importantly - it helps them develop a lifelong relationship with God and community of the Church.

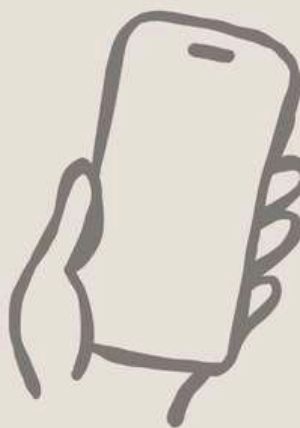
Students in all levels must attend at least 75% of weekend Masses. Attendance by QR code will begin this weekend - September 19th/20th - and go through the end of the school year.

Mass attendance will impact your child's success in the program, ability to continue in our classes, advance to their next class level, and their readiness to receive the sacraments.



How to Sign-In:

Several QR Codes will be displayed throughout the church after each Mass ends (after the final blessing).



Scan them with your phone's camera and select "St. William the Abbot" from the parish drop-down.

Scroll through to find your family's name.

Select the Mass you attended.

Visiting Other Parishes:

You can visit themasscatholic.com and select "Check in Using Bulletin"



If you're travelling, masstimes.org is a great resource to find Masses all over the world!

Track Your Progress

Updates will be emailed to you, but you can also create a family account by visiting themasscatholic.com and request a password by clicking "forgot password".

Be sure to use the same email address you used for Faith Formation registration!



Once you log in, you will see in real-time how often you have attended Mass for the year!

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: "All Are Welcome" -#543

Offertory Hymn: "Seek the Lord" -#659

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

Communion Meditation: "O Word of Christ"

Recessional Hymn: "Companions on the Journey" - #459

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

This week we are collecting toiletry items not covered by SNAP (food stamps), such as: deodorant - disposable razors - shaving cream - shampoo/conditioner - bar soap - body wash

Senior Health Expo

The Annual "Over 50" expo will take place on Sunday, September 27th from 10am to 4:30pm at the Huntington Hilton. With over 80 specialists including health experts, financial planners, legal and trust experts, and home care agencies, those over 50 and their families can take advantage of free health screenings, educational workshops, live music, and social opportunities. To purchase tickets and view a full schedule, visit over50fair.com or call 516-621-1446 for more information.

Free Legal Services

Fighting for Long Island's most vulnerable and advocating for individuals and families who need it the most, Legal Services of Long Island is the region's largest non-profit provider of free civil legal assistance. For more information, visit legalservicesli.org or call 516-292-8100.



Bereavement Support Group Alumni Reminder

There is an alumni event for past participants of the SWA Bereavement Support Group later this month. This event offers an opportunity to check-in to visit and support peers, have informal group discussions, and interact with facilitators. Invitations were mailed at the beginning of September and we ask that you respond to the Office of Parish Social Ministry by calling 516-679-8532 or emailing socialministry@stwilliam.org

In-Home Care through the Office of the Aging

Did you know that the Nassau County Office of the Aging offers case managers for seniors?

Their case management program provides support for older adults to remain in their homes for as long as possible by assisting with in-home services for seniors through the Expanded In-Home Services for the Elderly Program. Level 1 Service includes housekeeping and assistance with chores, while Level 2 Service includes personal care assistance with tasks like bathing, dressing, toileting, grooming, and feeding.

Contact NY Connects at 516-227-8900 / nassaucounty.gov/1438/Aging for more information.

The Office of Parish Social Ministry is located in the Convent (2020 Jackson Avenue) and is open Monday through Friday from 9:30am to 4pm by appointment. Please call 516-679-8532 or email socialministry@stwilliam.org to learn more about our services.



stwilliam.org



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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 Judy Goldman
Director of Ministry *Business Manager*
mespina@stwilliam.org jgoldman@stwilliam.org

Kate Walsh
Development & Operations
kwalsh@stwilliam.org
information@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

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

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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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