

October  
2023



Debbie Breckenridge—DRE  
Todd Ripley—Youth Director

**Rev. John Hourican — Pastor**

Lisa Schmidt—RCIA  
Angela Moore—Women's Club  
Mike Schmall—Grand Knight

## SAINT WILLIAM CATHOLIC CHURCH

4932 EASLEY STREET ~ MILLINGTON, TENNESSEE 38053  
PHONE: (901) 872-4099 ~ [WWW.STWILLIAMCC.ORG](http://WWW.STWILLIAMCC.ORG)



2022 Halloween Event Best Decorated Table Winner



### **Mission Statement**

We the people of St. William Parish, accept as our mission: to love God with all our heart and mind, and our neighbor as ourselves. We seek to know our faith, to live our faith, and to authentically teach our faith by word and example. We carry out this mission by lovingly promoting the traditions and teachings of the Roman Catholic Church and through prayer, evangelization, and service to others; while always remembering that the primary mission of the Church is the salvation of souls.



# St. William Council 6321

## October 2023 News



On Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, we served our monthly homeless meal at St. Patrick. The main entrée was shepherd's pie, and it was yummy. Thanks to all who contributed to this event. The main dish this month will be poppy seed chicken prepared by one of our parish families. It will happen on October 8<sup>th</sup>. We feed about 50+ people and it's great fellowship among ourselves and our friends at St. Patrick.

Great news on the blood drive on September 16<sup>th</sup>. We had a great turnout and met our quota. Go to [Vitalent.org](http://Vitalent.org) for more information on donating blood. They have medication deferral lists and other info to determine your eligibility if you are unsure as some rules have changed. Our next drive will be in December. Keep an eye on the bulletin. Maybe you can donate and be a hero!



October, aside from being the scariest month, is also respect life month. As Catholics we believe that life begins at conception and ends in natural death. You can go to the [respectlife.org](http://respectlife.org) website and sign up for a Novena if you wish or download other materials about life as it relates to our Catholic faith. The Knights will also have prayer cards available if you would like them.



On October 14<sup>th</sup> the Knights will sponsor the annual chili cookoff & cornhole competition. This is a fundraiser for our Coats for Kids program. Bring your favorite chili if you feel lucky or compete in the cornhole tourney. The competition is tough. You can also just come by and sample the chili for a small fee and watch the competition. It's a great time for all. See the bulletin for details.

[This Photo](#) by

If you are a Catholic man who would like to join our council and help us to help others, scan the QR code above or go to [kofc.org/join](http://kofc.org/join), or just ask a Knight for more info. Thanks!



## The Nicene Creed, Part 1

When we participate in the Mass, we always state our belief as Christians by reciting the Nicene Creed. Over the next few months, we will be looking at our Creed in depth as to explore the detail of what we do believe through faith and the teachings of the Church. This month, we will focus on the origin of the Nicene Creed with the Council of Nicaea.

The First Ecumenical Council of the [Catholic Church](#), was held in 325 in Nicaea on the occasion of the heresy of Arius ([Arianism](#)), who was preaching that Jesus was only Human and not divine. As early as 320 or 321 [St. Alexander, Bishop](#) of Alexandria, convoked a council at Alexandria at which more than one hundred [bishops](#) from [Egypt](#) and Libya [anathematized](#) Arius. The latter continued to officiate in his church and to recruit followers. Being finally driven out, he went to Palestine and from there to Nicomedia. During this time St. Alexander published his "[Epistola encyclica](#)", to which Arius replied; but henceforth it was evident that the quarrel had gone beyond the possibility of [human](#) control. Finally, Constantine concerned himself with the re-establishment of religious peace as well as of civil order. He addressed letters to St. Alexander and to Arius deprecating these heated controversies regarding questions of no practical importance, and advising them to agree without delay. [Hosius of Cordova](#), his counsellor in religious matters, bore the imperial letter to Alexandria, but failed in his conciliatory mission. Seeing this, the emperor, judged no remedy more apt to restore peace in the [Church](#) than the convocation of an [ecumenical council](#).

The emperor himself begged the [bishops](#) of every country to come promptly to Nicaea. Several [bishops](#) from outside the Roman Empire (from [Persia](#)) came to the Council. It is not historically known whether the emperor in convoking the Council acted solely in his own name or in concert with the [pope](#); however, it is probable that Constantine and Sylvester came to an agreement. The choice of Nicaea was favorable to the assembling of a large number of [bishops](#). It was easily accessible to the [bishops](#) of nearly all the provinces, but especially to those of [Asia](#), [Syria](#), Palestine, [Egypt](#), [Greece](#), and Thrace. The assembly numbered among its most famous members St. Alexander of Alexandria, [Eustathius of Antioch](#), [Macarius of Jerusalem](#), [Eusebius of Nicomedia](#), [Eusebius of Caesarea](#), and [Nicholas of Myra](#). Some had suffered during the last [persecution](#); others were poorly enough acquainted with [Christian theology](#). Among the members was a young [deacon](#), [Athanasius](#) of Alexandria, for whom this Council was to be the prelude to a life of conflict and of [glory](#).

The Council was opened by Constantine with the greatest solemnity. The emperor waited until all the [bishops](#) had taken their seats before making his entry. The emperor made an address expressing his will that religious peace should be re-established. He had opened the session as honorary president, and he had assisted at the subsequent sessions, but the direction of the [theological](#) discussions was abandoned, as was fitting, to the [ecclesiastical](#) leaders of the council.

The emperor began by making the [bishops](#) understand that they had a greater and better business in hand than personal quarrels and interminable recriminations. Nevertheless, he had to submit to the infliction of hearing the last words of debates which had been going on previous to his arrival. Rufinus tells us that daily sessions were held and that Arius was often summoned before the assembly; his opinions were seriously discussed and the opposing arguments attentively considered. The majority, especially those who were [confessors](#) of the [Faith](#), energetically declared themselves against the impious doctrines of Arius. St. Athanasius assures us that the activities of the Council were nowise hampered by Constantine's presence. The Council did create the first formulation of the Creed. The Creed did conclude that Jesus was fully human and fully divine and was of the same substance of God the Father.

The adhesion was general and enthusiastic. All the bishops save five declared themselves ready to subscribe to this formula, convinced that it contained the ancient faith of the Apostolic Church.

***Next month, we will focus on the First Council of Constantinople which was called in part to confirm the Faith of the Nicaean Council and to continue to dispute Arianism.***

# Women's Club News

## October 2023



We are currently collecting items for the Harvest Dinner/Silent Auction which will be held November 4<sup>th</sup> in the Family Life Center. Items may be new or gently used and may be given to any active Women's Club member or turned in to the parish office. Auction bidding begins at 4:00 p.m. and will close at 6:45 p.m. A sit-down turkey dinner with all the trimmings will be served at 5:30 p.m. Ticket prices are \$15 for adults and \$8 for children 12 & under, and may be purchased in advance or at the door. Questions may be directed to Mary Heburn at 215-266-5244 or Shirley Maes at 901-647-6111. We look forward to seeing you there!

Start your Christmas shopping early by coming to the Six Gifts Exchange! Bring six unwrapped identical items valued between \$10-\$15 each and you will take home six different gifts. This fun time for everyone will be held in the Family Life Center on October 22nd at 1:00 p.m. with finger food.



It is hard to believe, but we are already nearing the end of the year. It is time to start considering nominations for Woman of the Year. We have so many women doing so much in our parish, all of whom are worthy candidates for this award. For more information, contact Theresa Cook at 901-483-3032.

Join us for Bunco on Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Bring something to eat to share with everyone. We start playing at 6:30 p.m. and end by 7:30 p.m. It is a simple game that is just FUN!!! If you haven't played, we will teach you.

Our next meeting will be held October 11<sup>th</sup>. Refreshments at 6:30 and meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center. We invite all women of St. William parish to join us and we look forward to seeing you there.



# Religious Education

PRE is off to a great start! It is not too late to join us if you have a child in K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade!

The 7<sup>th</sup> grade did a great job at our first youth Mass of the new school year. We are looking forward to the Confirmation Class serving on October 22<sup>nd</sup> at the 11:00 Mass.

The Confirmation Class will be doing a serving project on October 21<sup>st</sup> with St. Mary's Soup Kitchen and the Dorothy Day House. We are happy to bring any full-sized personal hygiene items that are donated to the Dorothy Day House when we go. If interested, drop donations off to the parish office or at PRE.

There will be no PRE on October 8<sup>th</sup> or 15<sup>th</sup> due to Fall Break.

Please remember, if you are preparing to receive a sacrament you are required to sign in at Mass weekly in the stairwell to the choir loft



St. William

# Halloween Event



**Saturday, October, 28<sup>th</sup>**

*Trick or Treat*

*7:00 - 8:30 pm*

*Trick or Treat from Table to Table in the  
Family Life Center*

**Activities for kids of all ages**

*Hosted by High School Youth Group*

**Come dressed up in your favorite  
costume & ready to have lots of fun!**

**Best Decorated Table Judging will take place  
at 8 pm, so come as early as 5:30 to decorate  
your area to show our kiddos a great time!**

Call Debbie Breckenridge with any questions 901-359-7063

