

August
2026



Debbie Breckenridge-DRE
Bridget DiCello-Youth Director

Rev. John Hourican — Pastor
Rev. Mr. Scott Ewen—Deacon

Lisa Schmidt-OCIA
Mary Heburn-Women's Club
Jim Elliott-Grand Knight

SAINT WILLIAM CATHOLIC CHURCH

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



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.



from the desk of Deacon Scott



People have asked "What is Deacon Scott singing at the beginning of Mass"?

Kyrie Eleison is a Greek phrase. The traditional Latin edition has preserved it in Greek since ancient times, while vernacular editions translate it as "Lord, have mercy."

It is an invocation of petition to the Lord.

In earlier times, the deacon announced various intentions at the beginning of Mass, and the faithful answered, "Kyrie eleison." To avoid repeating the same response monotonously, "Christe eleison" was added between invocations. The priest then gathered these petitions and offered them to the Father in the collect prayer, which followed the Kyrie before the introduction of the Gloria.



St. William Council 6321

August 2026 News



Blessed Father Michael McGivney

Over the past month, our Council has been blessed with many opportunities to serve. We stood guard at the Traveling Vietnam Memorial in Millington, assisted a Knight's widow with yard work, and mowed lawns for two disabled veterans.

We supported a blood drive at the Family Life Center, collecting a record 23 units, prepared 100 meals for those experiencing homelessness at St. Patrick's Parish, and served families in need at the Methodist Church Food Pantry.

We continue to support our seminarian, Caleb Johnson, during his formation, and were honored to present a check to Father John for his birthday on July 14th. We also welcomed four new Brother Knights—Charles Fenwick, Bobby Teems, Patrick Grassie Jr., and Tommy Morrison, strengthening our Council for the future.

While we are doing well living out Charity, Unity, and Fraternity, we recognize the need to grow in our spiritual formation. To support this, Rob Tomlinson has been appointed Evangelization & Faith Formation Director and will launch a new monthly gathering called **KLS360**. Our goal is simple: **Know God, Love God, Serve God**. The first KLS360 meeting will be held Monday, August 17th at 6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center classroom. All men are welcome—no need to be a Knight.

Knight of the Month
Butch Moeller



Butch Moeller, our Past appreciation for doing an outstanding job leading sus!



Family of the Month
Chris & Victoria Bulthuis
Logan & Gavin



Grand Knight, being presented a plaque of our Council for the last two years. Vivat Je-



The Early Church Fathers

If you have ever participated in Catholic Studies or even Bible Studies, often references are made to the Church Fathers or Doctors of the Church. Have you wondered who these people are and how do they have these titles or are part of these distinguished groups? This month let's look at the first of these two groups of people within the Church and understand how blessed we are to have had them be on fire with their faith and understanding of Christ.

The Church Fathers are made up of two groups. The first are the Apostolic Fathers. These are the first and second-century writers who associated personally with the apostles. Their writing genuinely reflect the teachings of the apostles (apostolic teachings). The Apostolic Fathers are:

Saint Clement: He was the 4th Pope and the author of the Letter from the Church of Rome to the Church of Corinth.

Saint Ignatius: The Bishop of Antioch and the 3rd Pope. He was a disciple of Saint John and wrote letters to the Ephesians, Magnesians, Trallians, Romans, Philadelphians and the Smyraeans. He also wrote to Polycarp, the Bishop of Smyrna.

Saint Polycarp: The Bishop of Smyrna. He also was a disciple of Saint John. He is the author of a letter to Philipppians.

The Author of the Didache: A church manual and liturgical document which contains teachings of the Apostles, particularly the prayer priests say to this day while preparing the gifts during the Liturgy of the Eucharist – *“Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation. Through your Goodness we have this...”*

The next group are the Sub-apostolic. They did not know the apostles, but new of their teachings from the Apostolic Fathers:

Saint Justin Martyr: A layman, he is known for his apologist writings. The First Apology defends the morality of the Christian life and provided various ethical and philosophical arguments to convince the Roman emperor (Antonius) to end the persecution of the Church.

Saint Irenaeus: A Greek bishop who is noted for his role in guiding and expanding Christian communities in what is now the south of France. He is known for developing Christian theology by combating heresy (specifically Gnosticism) and defining orthodoxy.

Saint Cyprian: A Bishop of Carthage, he wrote many letters condemning the Novatian heresy.

Next month we will look at “The Four Great Fathers of the Church”.

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA)



Are you or someone you know interested learning about the Catholic Faith or becoming Catholic?

Were you baptized Catholic, but have not completed the Sacraments of Initiation (Confirmation & First Eucharist)?

If you answered “**YES**” to either of these questions, please consider registering for the O.C.I.A. Process.

Sessions begin Tuesday September 8, 2025 @ 7pm in the school building

**For further information or to register, please contact the
Parish office at 901-872-4099 or
lisa.rhodes@stwilliam.cdom.org**

Women's Club News

August 2026

Our annual yard sale was a tremendous success. Thank you to everyone who donated items, helped set up before the sale, worked during the event, or stopped by to purchase a special treasure. Your generosity, time, and support made the day possible. We are grateful for such a wonderful turnout and are now rested, refreshed, and already looking forward to next year.

On a slower pace, we will be selling pulled pork plates in the Family Life Center (FLC) after Mass at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 5, and at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, September 6. For more information on what the full menu, see the enclosed flyer.

This month, we are shining a spotlight on Sharon Hunter. Sharon moved to Tennessee a little over a year ago from Portland, Oregon, where she and her husband had lived for 38 years. After his passing, Sharon decided she needed a change, and her sister, Mary Heburn, offered her that opportunity. Since moving here, Sharon has been enjoying her love of crafting and working in the flower beds. Her little fur baby, Angel, goes with her everywhere. She has also become active in the church again and says she feels much better for it. Sharon is especially thankful for the women who welcomed her and helped make her transition much easier. Sharon is an active member of the Women's Club and can be found at most functions. Many of you have likely enjoyed a few of her delicious desserts. If you have received a birthday, anniversary, or comfort card from the Women's Club, you can thank Sharon, who does this ministry with Judy Harper. Sharon attends the 8:30 a.m. Mass on Sundays and can often be found in the FLC afterward. When you see her, please stop by and say hello.

Our next meeting is Wednesday, August 12, at 7:00 p.m. in the FLC. We'd love to have you join us.



Religious Education

I hope everyone is enjoying the last of their summer break! Although we are sad to see summer coming to an end...we are ***SO EXCITED FOR PRE TO START BACK!!***

This school year we are having online registration. There is a QR code that you can simply scan and it will take you through the steps. Our registration is through Flocknote. Flocknote is a communication system that the entire Diocese uses to communicate. It is safe and secure. You are also able to pay for the classes through the platform at no extra cost. If you would rather pay by check or cash that is fine, just register and skip the pay section. You can register/pay at the parish office any time during regular business hours or come to the in-person registration day on August 16th in the Family Life Center between our two morning Masses. The cost is \$50 per student with \$100 max per family. If tuition is an issue there are scholarships available.... ***PLEASE*** just register your kids so they can learn the faith! If you have any questions about registration or our Parish Religious Education Program, call Debbie Breckenridge at 901-359-7063 anytime. Please don't delay as we do need to plan the classrooms and obtain books for all students.



If you are interested in helping with our religious education program, please reach out to Debbie at 901-359-7063. We have the BEST teachers but can always use volunteers to fill in and help with special events. This is an extremely important ministry, so if you are looking for a way to serve, this just might be what you are looking for! You don't feel you are qualified....

God does
not call the
qualified.
He qualifies
the called.

YOUTH GROUP NEW-YEAR OUTING

August 2nd at 9:00am

All teens welcome to join us for our first event of the school year.

A fun day starting with Mass at the Cathedral followed by lunch and an escape room!

Email our director Bridget, bridget@bridgetdicello.com for details.



YOUTH GROUP GAME DAY KICK OFF

August 9th at 12:00

All parents and teens encouraged to join us for an info session and game day!

We will begin the meeting with lunch and games for the teens. Parents are encouraged to return at 1:30 for an info session and Q&A.

If you are a high schooler please join us!

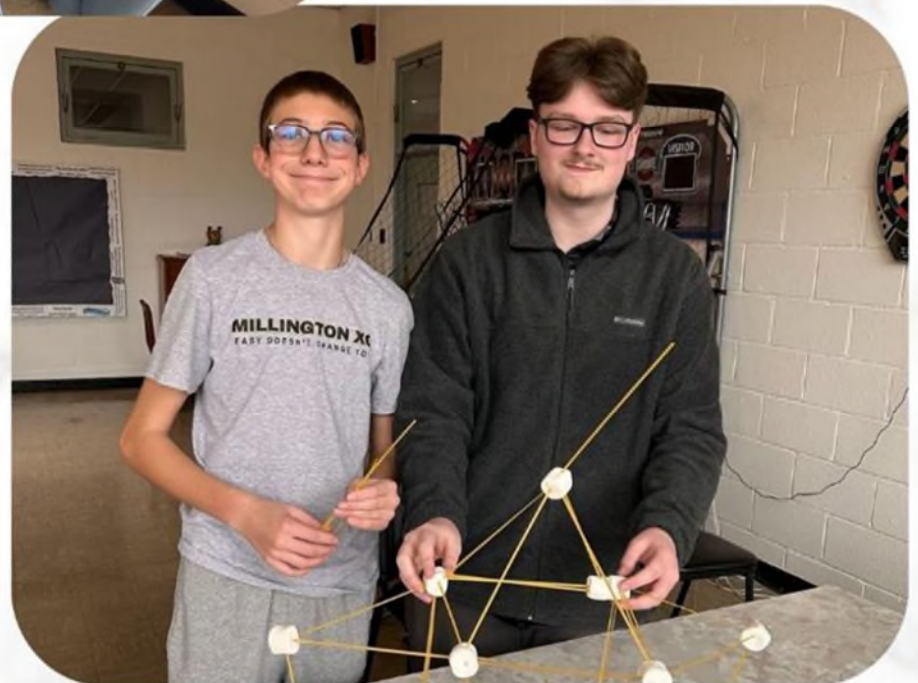


FIRST YOUTH GROUP BREAKFAST

August 16th starting at 8:00am

Our first breakfast for the parish this semester!

We begin cooking at 8:00am, and serve breakfast after both the 8:30 and 11:00 Masses. This is a wonderful service opportunity for the teens and a great way for the parish to support the youth.





Steubenville 2026

A beautiful weekend filled with adoration, praise and worship, Mass, and amazing speakers.

"You are not the sum of your weaknesses and failures, you are the sum of the Father's love for you."



"God prepares us for moments of courage but does not expect us to face them alone."



"Are you an iPhone or are you a tree?"



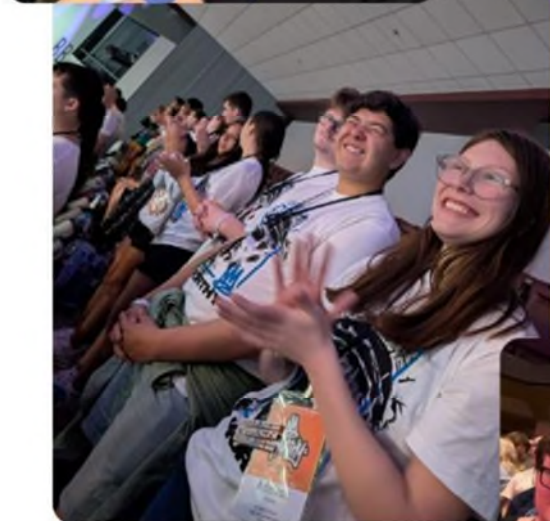
"People will never remember the words of their enemies, but will remember the silence of their friends."



"Every beat of your heart is God's love for you."



"I'm not loved because I am worthy, I am loved because You are good."



"No one can take away your worth, because they are not the ones who gave it to you."



St. William PRE

BACK
TO
SCHOOL

Registration is open- scan the
QR code to register online



Classes start Sept. 13th so register NOW

**In-person registration 8/16/26 in the FLC between the
Masses. Call Debbie with questions 901-359-7063**

THE CHOSEN **BIBLE** STUDY

*Every Monday
Sept. 14 - Nov. 9*

**SEASON
2**

*Family Life Center
Classroom*

*Discussion - 6:30pm
Watch Party - 7:30pm*

**To sign up and receive your \$10 book,
contact Shellie Teems at 901-230-0074.**





SMOKED BBQ PORK ROASTS FOR SALE



\$60 Pork Roast

Please text Mark Miller at 901-870-3925 to reserve your BBQ pork roast by Sunday, 8/30.

*Pulled Pork Dinner provided by the
St. William Women's Club*

**SATURDAY, 9/5/26, AFTER 4:30 MASS AND SUNDAY
9/6/26 AFTER 11:00 MASS IN FAMILY LIFE CENTER**

Pulled Pork, Bun, Beans, Slaw, and Dessert \$15



IT'S TIME FOR BUNCO

**Wednesday Night-6:00pm
September 2nd
Family Life Center**



**BRING A FINGER FOOD
TO SHARE AND FEEL
FREE TO BRING A PRIZE
TO DONATE**



**NEVER PLAYED! NO BIG DEAL...WE WILL TEACH YOU! NO
SKILL NEEDED! CALL DEBBIE BRECKENRIDGE WITH
QUESTIONS 901-359-7063**



