

ST. WILLIAM CATHOLIC CHURCH

PARISH MINISTRIES & ORGANIZATIONS

**We are all called to share
our time, talents, and
treasures.**



*"Give and gifts will be given to you;
a good measure, packed together,
shaken down, and overflowing, will*

*be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured
out to you." Luke 6:38*

Parish Mission Statement

*"We, the people of St. William Parish, are dedicated to living out
our Baptismal commitment through worship and sacramental
life in accordance with the teachings and tradition of the Ro-
man Catholic Church.*

*We commit ourselves to evangelize all people by: communal pray-
er and liturgical celebrations, teaching, Preaching, and living
the Gospel of Jesus Christ; stewardship of resources to provide char-
ity and service; promotion of the family; respect for all life; and
life-long education."*

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Contact Information

Parish Office		872-4099
Director of Religious Education	Debbie Breckenridge	359-7063
Youth Minister	Janna Dominguez	652-2898
RCIA Coordinator	Lisa Schmidt	833-1979
Parish Pastoral Council Chair	Gary Harper	835-4707
Finance Council Chair	Rob Tomlinson	335-3658
Women's Club	Katherine Hyde	482-3335
Knights of Columbus	Ricky Ancar	832-0974

Spiritual Life Committee

The mission of the Spiritual Life Committee is to provide opportunities for spiritual growth, individually and as a community, to strengthen our faith in God and to help us live out

our faith as Jesus taught.

Religious Ministries

Liturgical Ministry

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion—The Eucharistic Minister assists the priest in sharing the Body and Blood of Christ during Mass with the congregation.

Altar Server—An Altar Server is someone, 3rd grade or older, who wishes to assist the priest in the celebration of Mass and other liturgical celebrations. You must have received your First Eucharist.

Lector—The Lector proclaims the readings of the Word of God during Mass.

Mass Coordinator— These ministers set up for the Mass and ensure all of the assigned ministers are present. After Mass, coordinators purify the vessels and make sure everything is put back in order.

Usher—The role of the Usher is an important ministry to the community of the faithful. Ushers greet parishioners, welcome new comers and visitors, maintain order at Mass, and collect the offering of the Congregation.

Altar Society

This group volunteers each week to pick up the soiled altar linens, launder them, and return them to the sacristy. They also clean the sanctuary and other areas of the church each Friday or Saturday morning.

Altar Flowers

People of the parish have the opportunity to donate flowers for the altar each week. Volunteers sign up in the altar server room to offer this beautiful service.

Liturgical Decorations

Volunteers arrange and care for the floral decorations during the Christmas and Easter Seasons. This is in place of the altar flowers during these special celebrations.

Choir/Music Ministry

Choir—This group provides singing for Masses and funerals. The only requirement is that you have a desire to sing. Remember, "He who sings, prays twice!"

Cantor—The cantor leads the congregation in singing at the Masses.

Instrumentalist—Assists the choir with music from a piano, organ, or other instrument.

Youth Cantor—The cantor leads the congregation in singing at the Youth Mass.

Prayer Ministries

Prayer Apostles

Prayer apostles come and spend time with Jesus in the church for one hour each week praying for the parish family.

Divine Mercy Hour

Every Friday parishioners join together in the church to pray the Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet before the Blessed Sacrament.

First Friday Adoration

Blessed Sacrament is exposed in the sanctuary every first Friday of the month after 8:30 Mass until 6:00 pm. Parishioners have the opportunity to come spend an hour or more with Jesus.

First Wednesday Novena & Benediction

Beginning at 6:00 pm, a Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help is prayed before the exposed Blessed Sacrament.

Rosary before Mass

Join us 30 minutes before Mass to pray the Rosary.

Living Rosary

Twice each year, parishioners get together to be praying “parts” of the rosary. This takes place during the months of May and October. In addition, all are encouraged to pray the rosary more often during these months of Mary. October, as the month of the Rosary, is observed with the praying of a Parish Perpetual Rosary throughout the day.

Traveling Mary

Parishioners have the opportunity to sign out and take home this beautiful statue of Mother Mary after Sunday Mass. Those who have the statue, pray the Rosary daily and return the statue to church the following Sunday.

Vocation Chalice

Each Sunday, a volunteer family receives the chalice after Communion at Mass from the priest. This family takes the chalice home for a week, using it as a focal point for family prayer for vocations to the priesthood, consecrated life, and holy matrimony. They return it each Sunday. To participate, families sign up ahead of time.

Spiritual Renewal Ministries

Lenten Retreat

Each year during Lent, a retreat is planned for the entire parish family. It is held at a convenient time for parishioners.

Advent Mission

Each Advent, the parish family gathers for evening classes, reflections, and prayers for spiritual renewal.

One Mass other than Sunday

Parishioners are challenged to commit themselves to attending at least one Mass during the weekdays. As a part of Christ’s evangelization ministry, these prayers are offered in particular for fallen-away Catholics.

Parish Religious Education

The mission of the St. William Religious Education program is to build a foundation of faith, in partnership with parents, from which our children and families will grow in their knowledge of God and the Roman Catholic Church.

Parish Religious Education K-8

Weekly Classes

Children in grades K-8 attend religion classes every Sunday between the Masses to draw closer to Christ and grow in their faith. Classes prepare students for sacraments, learn prayers, and develop a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Vacation Bible School

Every summer, volunteers coordinate a week of fun, faith, and friendship for children between kindergarten and 6th grade. Junior high and high school youth help lead the week. The week centers on a new theme and saint each year.

Sacramental Preparation

Baptismal Preparation

Parents looking to baptize children are required to attend one class of preparation with the parish to learn about the significance and process of the sacrament.

First Communion Preparation

Children receive preparation for their First Reconciliation and First Communion through the PRE classes or RCIC. Parents are required to attend two meetings for their own preparation, one for Reconciliation and one for Eucharist.

Confirmation Preparation

Students hoping to be confirmed must go through the Decision Point program during weekly

PRE classes and participate in a retreat, while also growing in service projects, communal prayer, and the sacraments. Parents will attend two classes to inform them of the requirements and expectations before Confirmation.

Wedding Preparation

Preparation for the Sacrament of Matrimony lasts for at least 6 months. During this time, the couples experience a period of preparation with their priest and mentoring couples.

Adult Education Programs

Adult Religious Education

These programs are offered according to the interest of the congregation. Examples of these have included the Hearts Afire Parish Program, which includes “33 Days to Morning Glory,” “Consoling the Heart of Jesus”, and “Wisdom and Works of Mercy.” Bible Study will begin soon.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

RCIA is a process developed by the Catholic Church for prospective converts to Catholicism who are above the age of infant baptism. Candidates are gradually introduced to aspects of Catholic beliefs and practices through weekly meetings and discussion. Anyone who is curious about Catholicism or interested in growing in their faith is welcome to come.

Youth Group

Weekly Meetings

The youth of the parish gather for fellowship and Bible study every Sunday from 3:00pm—5:00pm. It’s a great opportunity to continue to grow in faith and community.

Retreats

High schoolers are welcome to attend several Diocesan retreats and to deepen their spirituality and friendships with occasional parish retreats.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Children (RCIC)

RCIC serves the same function as RCIA, but is geared toward a younger population of children and teens.

Children participate when the family joins the Church or in order to get up-to-date with their sacraments.

Social Outreach Ministry

The Social Outreach Ministry seeks to transform human hearts and social structures by heightening awareness through prayer, education, action, and by practicing social justice in accordance with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and Catholic Social Teachings.

Social Groups

Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus is a national organization with a local chapter that serves the parish and community in many ways, including:

- Millington Crisis Center Fundraising
- Providing Dinner to Deaconate Trainees
- Helping with Special Olympics Events
- Assisting the Youth Group for Various Projects
- Raising Money for Veterans in Need
- Helping Fr. Mike around the Parish

Women's Club

Adult women are welcome to join the Women's Club who meet monthly in support and service of the parish. They serve the church and the community in the following ways:

- Lunch at Methodist North Hospital in the ICU waiting area once each month.
- Serving Breakfasts & Volunteering at Women's Shelters
- Providing Entertainment at the Nursing Home

- Fundraising for the Church and Community
- Providing and Hosting Funeral Luncheons
- Coordinating Social and Fellowship Events

Charitable Donations and Service Opportunities

Share Sunday

On the second Sunday of the month, donations of paper goods and non-perishable food items are donated to the shelter run by the Missionaries of Charity.

Millington Crisis Center

Donations of clothing and furniture to those less fortunate.

Koinonia Meal

Every year at Thanksgiving, volunteers donate, cook and deliver meals to those less fortunate in the Millington area. The whole parish comes together to feed 400-500 meals!

Nursery

During the 11:00am Sunday Mass, volunteers provide free babysitting for parents of young children to help provide a more prayerful atmosphere during Mass.

Ministry to the Sick and Homebound

Meal Delivery— Volunteers from the parish provide meals to other during times of sickness, recovery, or hardship.

Prayer and Communion— Volunteer Eucharistic Ministers bring the Communion to the sick and homebound and offer prayers with them.

Pennies from Heaven

Change is collected to be sent to our adopted parish in Africa. The collection box is in the Narthex.

Rice Bowl

Parishioners bring home a “Rice Bowl” which they fill with money that is saved through their Lenten fasting and sacrifices. These donations go to serve the poor internationally through Catholic Relief Services.

Pro-Life

40 Days for Life – Two times a year, parishioners gather outside of Planned Parenthood to pray for an end to abortion, healing for those wounded by abortion, and conversion of hearts.

Confidential Care for Women – Donated items placed in the wooden cradle in the Family Life Center are delivered once a month to this program. Confidential Care is a program that offers support for mother and child until the child reaches two-years-old.

Community Building Activities

Sunday Breakfast and Fellowship

Various groups of the parish provide breakfast each Sunday after Mass to promote an opportunity for fellowship within the parish family, providing a place to meet new people.

Parish Potluck

Every other month, on the second Saturday, parishioners gather for a themed potluck after the Saturday Vigil Mass.

Card Socials

Parishioners meet on Wednesdays at the Family Life Center to share in games, fun, and fellowship with a potluck meal.

Family Night

Throughout the year, movie nights and free dinners are offered to bring together the parish family.

Trivia Night

This annual fundraiser and fun event brings people together for a night of friendly competition.

William Tell

Sharing the news of the parish, this monthly publication shares relevant articles about the faith and goings on of the parish.

Social Assistance

English as a Second Language

Weekly classes are available for those in our community who would like to learn or improve their proficiency with the English language.

Social Workers

Experts are available to help those dealing with issues regarding insurance, Social Security, Medicare, and other complicated government issues.

Driving Ministry

Volunteer drivers assist those who, for whatever reason, do not have access to transportation for parish events or personal needs.

“You Are Not Alone”

A volunteer group of handy people help the Catholic Community of St. William. All those with skills to provide are welcome to join in assisting our community by helping with plumbing, electricity, and handiwork.

Stewardship Prayer

Loving God, I come to you in thanksgiving, knowing that all I am and all that I have is a gift from you. In faith and love, help me to do your will. I am listening, Lord God. Speak your words into the depth of my soul, that I may hear you clearly.

I offer to you this day all the facets of my life, whether it be at home, at work, or at school—to be patient, to be merciful, to be generous, to be holy. Give me the wisdom and insight to understand your will for me and the fervor to fulfill my good intentions.

I offer my gifts of time, talent and possessions to you as a true act of faith, to reflect my love for you and my neighbor. Help me to reach out to others as you my god have reached out to me.

I offer all that I can to serve you in this parish. May our faithful stewardship bear witness to the love of Jesus Christ in our parish community. Help us always to use your gifts wisely and teach us to share them generously.

Amen.