

May  
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  
Butch Moeller-Grand Knight

## SAINT WILLIAM CATHOLIC CHURCH

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### **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



## Pray For Vocations

God continues to call men and women from our parish to serve as priests, deacons, and religious sisters and brothers. Vocations do not begin in seminaries or convents, they begin in families, in classrooms, in pews, and in the quiet places where young people hear the whisper of God's love.

If you know someone who shows a generous heart, a love for the Church, or a desire to serve, encourage them. A simple word of affirmation can open a door to grace. And if you feel a stirring in your own heart, trust that God never calls without also giving the courage to respond.

Let us pray this month for open hearts, generous spirits, and the courage to say "yes" to God's call.

*Whoever remains in Me and I in him will bear much fruit." (John 15:5)*

### **Reflect:**

Remaining close to Jesus allows our lives to bear good fruit. When we follow God's call, we become instruments of His grace in the world.

### **Discuss:**

How do you stay connected to Christ throughout the week? How can your parish help others remain rooted in faith?

### **Pray:**

Pray for hearts that remain steadfast in Christ and for fruitful vocations that bless the Church and the world.

Amen.



# St. William Council 6321

## May 2026 News



Blessed Father Michael McGivney



Our **Knight of the Month is Ralph Gromley**. Ralph recently prepared two fantastic meals, one for the homeless and less fortunate in the area around Saint Patrick Catholic Church, and the second to augment our parish Women's Club Silent Auction. He was also with Joe Kons during our Lenten fish fries learning the art of preparing the blackened and baked fish. In March, Ralph organized a Blood Drive in our parish, bringing in over 20 units of the Gift of Life. He has scheduled the next blood drive for July 11, 2026.



Our **Family of the Month is Joe and Regina Kons**. Together they organized our Lenten Fish Fries and made them the most successful season we have had. Over the six weeks of Lent, they procured all the fish, coleslaw, fries, and everything else needed to prepare and serve over 1,000 meals. These fish fries provide the opportunity for all of us, as a Council, as a Parish, and as a community, to come together for great meals and great times. Thank you Joe and Regina, and to everyone else who came out to support these events.

**Memorial Day**



# BBQ



BROUGHT TO YOU BY



**HOLY SMOKERS**

St. William's  
BBQ Smoking Team

SATURDAY, MAY 23<sup>RD</sup>, AFTER THE 4:30 MASS.  
\$60 PORK ROAST

PLEASE TEXT MARK MILLER AT 901-870-3925 TO  
RESERVE YOUR BBQ PORK ROAST BY MONDAY,  
MAY 18<sup>TH</sup>.

THE WOMEN'S CLUB WILL BE SERVING SANDWICH  
PLATES WITH BEANS & SLAW IN FLC FOR \$15.



## The Four Cardinal Virtues (part 3)

This month, we will discuss the Cardinal Virtue of **Fortitude**. The Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us in paragraph 1808:

*Fortitude* is the moral virtue that ensures firmness in difficulties and constancy in the pursuit of the good. It strengthens the resolve to resist temptations and to overcome obstacles in the moral life. The virtue of fortitude enables one to conquer fear, even fear of death, and to face trials and persecutions. It disposes one even to renounce and sacrifice his life in defense of a just cause. "The Lord is my strength and my song."<sup>70</sup> "In the world you have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."<sup>71</sup>.

70: *Psalm 118:14*    71: *John 16:33*

Fortitude is a virtue that we need to embrace and live in our daily lives. This virtue, like all virtues, is acquired by doing virtuous acts repeatedly. This disposes us to act in morally good ways and help us with sharing and living out the Gospel message Jesus taught us to live and aids us in our spiritual growth.

Fortitude helps us to remain in Christ and to live a morally good life in spite of the temptations, social expectations and pressures within our daily lives that we encounter. Through the Sacraments and the graces we receive from them we are strengthened with fortitude to help us to resist these things that can put barriers between us and God. Fortitude will help us to avoid sin.

As we prepare for the coming of the child Jesus, let fortitude be your guide and strength to help us remember this Advent Season is a season of preparing for eternal life with Christ. May this virtue of Fortitude guide us to remember the needs of the poor, lonely, homeless and despairing.

***Congratulations to our  
newest members  
who received the  
Sacraments of Initiation  
at the 2026 Easter Vigil***



Morgan Cope



Seth Beloate



Danielle Marking



Bradley, Evan & Ashley Marks



Marley George

# Women's Club News

## May 2026

Happy Mother's Day to all mothers and mother figures. Thanks for all you do!


Thanks to everyone who attended or donated to "And the Winner Is" auction and spaghetti dinner which was a joint event sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, the Youth Group and the Women's Club. All proceeds collected will support the Youth Group as they travel to the Steubenville Youth Conference this summer. We cannot do what we do without your support.



We are selling BBQ sandwich dinners after the 4:30 Mass on May 23, in the Family Life Center. The meals will include BBQ pork prepared by the Knights of Columbus, baked beans and coleslaw for \$15.

We are now accepting donations for our annual yard sale which will happen in July. For more information about how and where to donate, see the enclosed flyer.

Our next meeting is May 13, at 7:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center. Looking forward to seeing you there.



# Religious Education

April was a very busy month!

We are so proud of our sacramental prep class that has worked so hard this year learning and growing in their faith. They received their First Holy Communion on April 26, and it was a beautiful Mass.



The Bishop will be confirming our young adults on May 10, at the 11:00 Mass. Please keep all our Confirmandi in your prayers as they continue to prepare for Confirmation.

# First Communion April 2026





YOUTH GROUP EGG HUNT





**PARISH FAMILY**  
**THE WOMEN'S CLUB**  
**SUMMER YARD SALE IS**  
**COMING IN JULY**

**WE NEED YOUR STUFF!**

**WE WILL BE ACCEPTING DONATIONS  
STARTING MAY 1<sup>ST</sup>, SO START GATHERING  
ITEMS YOU DON'T NEED ANYMORE**

**DROP ITEMS BY THE OFFICE DURING THE  
WEEK, OR BRING THEM TO MASS WITH YOU  
AND LEAVE THEM UNDER THE CARPORT NEXT  
TO THE DUMPSTERS NEAR THE SCHOOL  
ENTRANCE**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL KATHY MASTERS 901-  
634-7475 OR JANE HIGGINS 615-580-6297**



**IT'S TIME  
FOR**




**BUNCO**


**Wednesday Night-6:00pm**

**May 20<sup>th</sup>**


**Family Life Center**

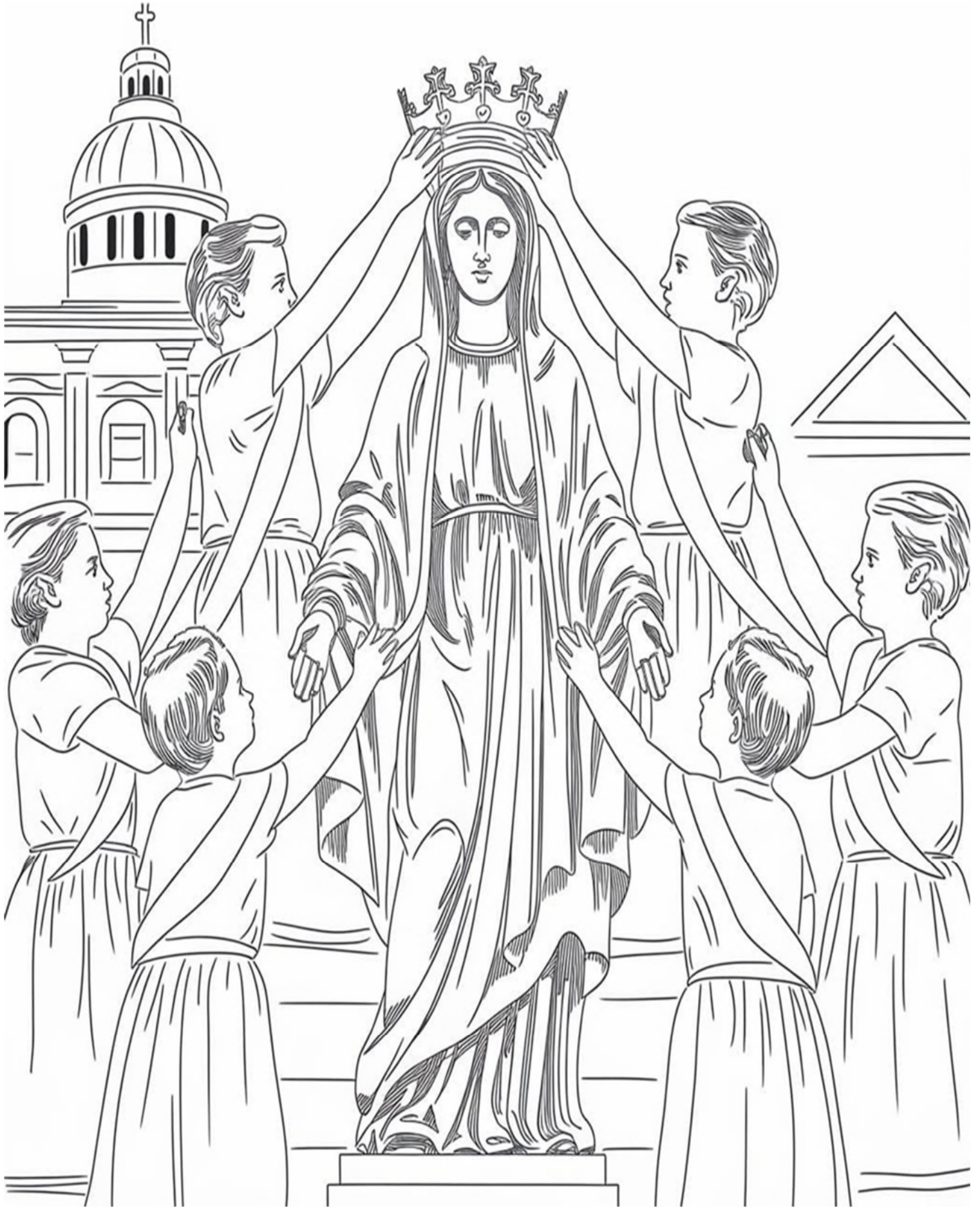


**BRING A FINGER FOOD  
TO SHARE AND FEEL  
FREE TO BRING A PRIZE  
TO DONATE**

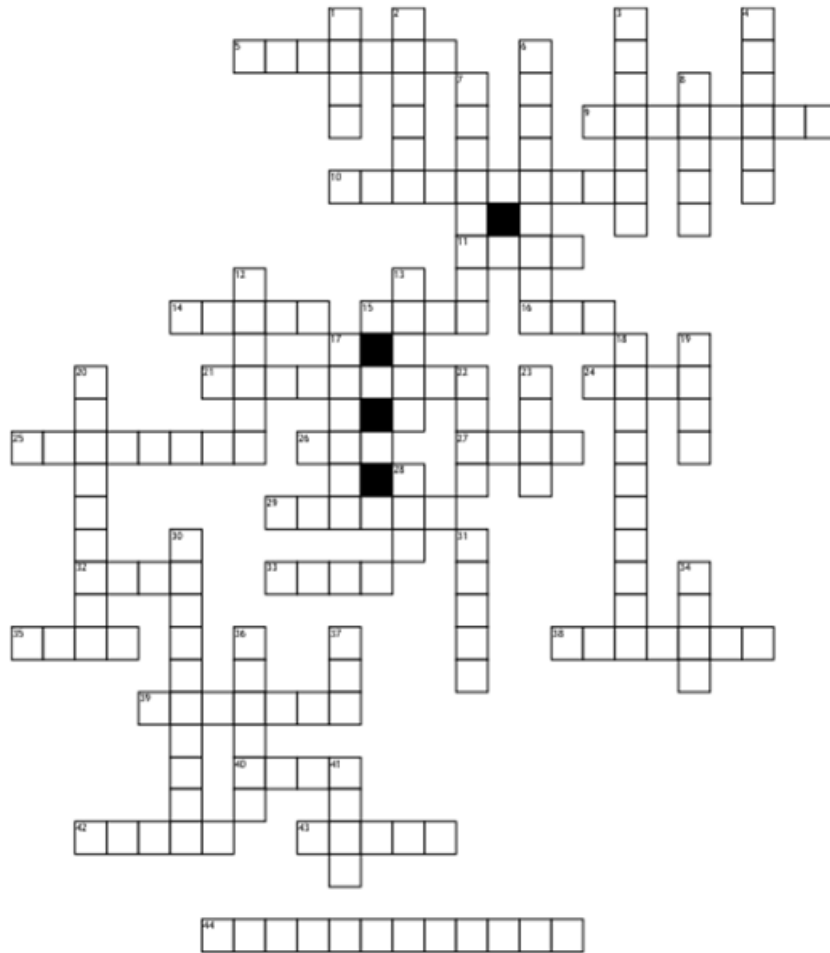


**NEVER PLAYED! NO BIG DEAL...WE WILL TEACH YOU! NO  
SKILL NEEDED! CALL DEBBIE BRECKENRIDGE WITH  
QUESTIONS 901-359-7063**





# Mary Mother Of Jesus



## Across

5. Flee,  
 9. Jewish, this was her original  
 10. Nazareth, probably,  
 11. Carpenter, she married  
 14. Levi, cousin came from this  
 15. Five, had this many  
 16. John, given a new  
 21. Offering, two of these required for  
 24. Jerusalem, lost her son  
 25. Judas, one child has same name as other child's  
 26. Forty, days required to cleanse after birth of  
 27. Wine, she asked Jesus to provide  
 29. Herod, Archelaus ruled Judea instead of his  
 32. Cana, attended marriage feast  
 33. Temple, found her son  
 35. Jesus, 1st son's  
 38. Galilee, withdrew into this territory with her child and  
 39. Frantically, in a distraught way owing to fear,  
 40. Astrologers, visitors from the

42. Frankincense, one of the  
 43. Isalah, prophesized the  
 44. Quirinius, governor of Syria during 1st

## Down

1. Gabriel, angels  
 2. Joseph, legal  
 3. Sacrifice a pair of turtledoves or two young  
 4. Haste, urgency of movement or  
 6. Judah, city located in the  
 7. Decree, ordered by Caesar  
 8. Angel, informed shepherds about  
 12. Salome, possible  
 13. Purifying, required by the Law of  
 17. Simeon, man was righteous and  
 18. Mary, possibly means  
 19. Bethlehem, son born  
 20. Herod, sent astrologers to  
 22. Night, fled to Egypt during this  
 23. Anna, mother of  
 28. holy spirit, impregnated

30. David, his  
 31. Elizabeth, barren  
 34. Passover, went year to  
 36. Upper room, returned here after leaving Mount of  
 37. Eighth, circumcision required on this  
 41. Overjoyed, she could not keep her spirit from being

## Word Bank

atonement	son	time	betrayer	father	pigeons	rebellious	this
devout	father	Mary	here	Sprout-Town	here	name	gifts
mountains	action	year	husband	registration	son	runaway	day
her	Moses	name	religion	this	sons	here	tribe
sister	Augustus	birth	woman	more	Bethlehem	here	East
anxiety	birth	Olives	descendant				