

The Church of ST. WILLIAM THE ABBOT A Roman Catholic Church

We, the parish family of St. William the Abbot, a welcoming Catholic community, led by the Holy Spirit, are called to proclaim, and to witness to, the Good News of Salvation, so that we may grow together, among all generations, and advance the Kingdom of God, in our love and service of God and neighbor.

MASS SCHEDULE WEEKENDS

Saturday: 4:00PM (Vigil)
Sunday: 8:00, 10:15 & 11:45AM

WEEKDAYS

Monday & Tuesday: 9:00AM
Wednesday: 9:00AM & 7:00PM
Thursday, Friday & Saturday: 9:00AM

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

As announced in the bulletin.

CONFESSIONS

Saturday after the 9:00AM Mass, and 3:00 to 4:00PM. Half hour before each weekend Mass, and Wednesday at 6:00PM.

ROSARY

The Rosary is recited weekdays and Saturdays after the 9:00AM Mass with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

Parish email: stwilliam@optonline.net
Website: stwilliamtheabbot.com
Phone: 732-840-3535



Rev. Thomas Maher, Pastor
Rev. James Redstone, In Memoriam
Deacon Michael Abatemarco, Pastoral Associate
Deacon George A. Prevosti
Deacon Kevin Smith

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Friday, 9:30AM—1:30PM
Also Wednesdays 4:00PM—6:30PM
(Closed on Holy Days & Legal Holidays)

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

This sacrament is given for those facing serious illness or surgery, and for those of advanced years. If you or a family member plan to enter the hospital, please see Fr. Tom following Mass if you would like to receive this sacrament. In case of emergency, please call the parish office.



December 1, 2024

First Sunday of Advent

What is an active parishioner?

An active parishioner is a person who participates in the life of the Church. This means to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ and share in Christ's role as priest, prophet and King. We are called to lead others to faith by our good example, through loving service to others, and offering our prayers, works and activities to God.

- An active parishioner is a person who has received or is preparing to receive the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation.
- An active parishioner is a person who attends Mass regularly at St. William the Abbot and actively supports the sacramental programs for Penance, Eucharist and Confirmation. Parents who want a Catholic Faith Formation & Education for their children will see to it that their family attends Mass faithfully EVERY Sunday.
- An active parishioner gives of themselves by donating TIME, TALENT and TREASURE to the ministries of the parish and or to the volunteer organizations that support the parish. We are to share in the responsibilities that keep our Parish alive in a vibrant way.
- An active parishioner is a good financial steward of the church. As a parishioner, it is important to understand that giving financially to support the parish is a vital and key component to active parishioner status.

Why you need to be an active parishioner

Parishioners seeking to be godparents or sponsors for the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation, or those wishing to be joined in Holy Matrimony must first be verified as "active members" of the parish.

An active member:

- 1) Is properly registered with the parish
- 2) Faithfully attends Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation
- 3) Participates in parish activities/ministries whenever possible.
- 4) Consistently uses the parish envelope system or the electronic giving program to support the parish.

Every penny counts!



Thank you for your contribution - big and small!

Weekly Collection for November 17, 2024

Number of registered families . . . 1,266

Number of weekly envelopes returned—144

Envelope contributions . . . \$5,568.00

Loose contributions . . . \$508.00

Total: \$6,076.00

We are so grateful to all those who financially sacrifice each week to support our parish and its ministries! We would especially like to thank all of those who faithfully use their weekly parish contribution envelopes and those who give online through We Share.

The Society of St. Cecilia
at the
Oratory Church of St. Anthony of Padua
presents

George Frideric Handel's
Messiah
Part One

featuring the combined
choirs of St. Anthony of Padua &
the Diocesan Festival Choir
with the Orchestra of St. Cecilia

Friday December 6, 2024 7:30 p.m.

Admission:
A Free Will Offering

For Further Information contact the
Oratory Church of St. Anthony of Padua
27 Oratory Way, Red Bank, NJ 07701
(Use the Chestnut Street Entrance)
(732) 747-0813
web.stanthonysofredbank.net



WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL.

WE HAVE REACHED OUR GOAL! TO THOSE WHO HAVE MADE PLEDGES, PLEASE CONTINUE TO PAY THEM OFF.

Weekly MASS Intentions

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"It is a holy and wholesome thing to pray for the living and the dead." II Mac. 12:46

Saturday, November 30 St. Andrew, Apostle

4:00—M/M Andrew Kane
r/b M/M Gary Rachko

Sunday, December 1 First Sunday of Advent

8:00—People of the Parish
10:15—Anna Kostelnik Buys
r/b Franklin Family
11:45—Joe & Anna Kelly
r/b Terry Kelly

Monday, December 2

9:00—Maureen McDonagh
r/b Ferraro Family

Tuesday, December 3 St. Francis Xavier

9:00—Gina Bost special intention (living)
r/b Miller Family

Wednesday, December 4 St. John Damascene

9:00—Michael Anthony Kurzeja
r/b M/M Artie Morsillo
7:00—Multiple Intention Mass
Amodio Grossi r/b M/M Barry Matrale

Thursday, December 5

9:00—Patrick Cleary
r/b Kevin & Debbie Moroney

Friday, December 6 St. Nicholas, Bishop, First Friday

9:00—Catherine Chmielewski
r/b Dave Chmielewski

Saturday, December 7 St. Ambrose, Bishop, First Saturday

9:00—Charles Marullo
r/b Mah Jongg Ladies
4:00—JoAnn Magee
r/b Deacon Mike & Pat

Sunday, December 8 Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary

8:00—People of the Parish
10:15—Jennifer Joy Cullari
r/b Terracciano Family
11:45—Eugene Malik
r/b Terry Kelly



Join us at 1:00pm on Wednesdays to play Mah Jongg. If you don't know how to play and would like to learn, we do have experienced players to help you. All are welcome. Please call the parish office.

Pray to your Guardian Angel everyday:
Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here. Ever this day, be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen.



The power of prayer!

PRAY FOR HEALING

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Please bring health, healing, and hope to those who are sick in our community, especially: Jonathan Capriotti, Emily Capriotti, Matthew Cerritelli, John Sproat, Jr., Joe DelGuercio, Jesse Pintillo, Eileen Bertola, Michael Untisz, Joseph Untisz, Wayne Farmer, Barbara Maloney, Natasha Sanchez, Richard Policastro, Erin Mackintosh, Gene Sacco, Johnny Daley, Richard Romano & Dr. Fiore. We also ask you Lord, to watch over all those with incurable autoimmune diseases and for all those who are afflicted with MS, CF, Lou Gehrig's disease, for those who suffer from Alzheimer disease, dementia, addictions, and their families.

God of all consolation, give life and health to our sisters and brothers for whom we pray in your Holy Name. Amen.



Please keep in your prayers those serving in our military. Send in names of friends or family members you would like us to pray for.

Oryah Hametz Hokzler—Army
Vincent Moran—Marines; Hunter Freedline—Army;
John & Emma Carlucci—Air Force; Anthony Morsillo—Marines; Kathryn Arway—Coast Guard;
Mitchell McKenney—Coast Guard; Katie Austin Underhill—Army; Jeremy Ramos—Air Force; Eddie Roszkowski—Navy; Aaron MacDonald—Marines

Symbols of the Advent Wreath

Circular shape

Reminds us that God has no beginning and no end. He is one and eternal.

Pink candle

Lit on Gaudete Sunday. It symbolizes joy as we approach the birth of Jesus.

4 candles

The 4 Sundays of Advent. When we light each one we are reminded that the light of Jesus is coming into the world.

Green branches

Green symbolizes hope and life. It reminds us that Christ lives among us.

EWTN



The Sanctuary Lamp is lit this week in memory of Maureen McDonagh r/b Ferraro Family.



Reading I: Jeremiah 33: 14-16

The oracles of the prophet that are presented concern the future new king who will rule Israel and produce a "just shoot," namely Jesus.

Reading II: I Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

Paul offers a petition to Christ for His love to be bestowed on the community. He also urges the community to maintain good conduct.

The Gospel: Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36

The cosmic disasters at the end of time will echo the destruction of Jerusalem. Jesus uses these facts to urge a sense of readiness in His disciples.

HOPE

Prayers Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Week 1: "O Lord, stir up Thy might, we beg Thee, and come, that by Thy protection we may deserve to be rescued from the threatening dangers of our sins and saved by Thy deliverance. Through Christ our Lord, Amen."



THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS WILL BE HOSTING BREAKFAST WITH SANTA ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7TH IN THE PARISH HALL AT 8:30AM AND 10:00AM. SIGN UP WILL BE AVAILABLE AFTER EACH MASS. THE COST IS \$5 FOR CHILDREN 6 YRS AND OLDER AND \$10 FOR ADULTS. PAY AT DOOR.



OUR ANNUAL BON-FIRE WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH AT 6:00PM. THERE WILL BE YUMMY REFRESHMENTS WITH HOT CHOCOLATE! JOIN US FOR SOME CAROLING! WEATHER PERMITTING. PLEASE PRAY FOR RAIN!

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION:



IT DOES NOT PERTAIN to the Nativity (birth) of the Blessed Virgin Mary.



IT DOES NOT PERTAIN to Jesus' conception in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary.



IT PERTAINS to the conception of the Virgin Mary in the womb of Her mother St. Anne, wherein she [Mary] was preserved exempt from all stain of original sin by God's grace in view of the merits of Jesus Christ.



facebook.com/catholicsknowtheanswerofficialpage

Christmas Around the World Event December 14th

Join us for a festive celebration of global Christmas traditions at our "Christmas Around the World" event on December 14th! This free, family-friendly event will feature decorated booths representing different countries, where attendees can experience unique crafts, and holiday foods, and learn about Christmas traditions from around the globe.

If you would like to sponsor a country, please contact, Dawn Cappetto, at dawn.stwilliam@gmail.com. Additionally, we are seeking volunteers to lend tents for the evening and anyone interested in helping with the event setup.

We also need to collect gallon jugs. They can be milk or water. If it is milk, please rinse out first and dry. We look forward to celebrating the season with you!





Christmas Giving Trees . . . The Social Concerns Committee will be putting up two giving trees on Saturday, November 22nd.

One tree will assist our local families in need. In addition to their wish list, we will be collecting gift cards from Shop Rite, Amazon, Target, Walmart, restaurants, movies, American Express, Visa, and/or Wawa. We will get the gift cards to them early in December so the families will have time to shop for Christmas. Please return the UNWRAPPED gifts with tag and gift cards by: December 8th.

The second tree will be for the Seniors at Preferred Care, our local nursing home. Please take a tag and RETURN THE GIFT IN A GIFT BAG with the tag attached by: December 8th.

If your family is in need of assistance for Christmas, please call the parish office at 732-840-3535.

Thank you for your continued kindness and generosity. St. William the Abbot parish community is so giving and compassionate. It makes a tremendous difference in peoples lives. God bless!



- ◆ Choose weekly or monthly donation
- ◆ Update desired offering any time
- ◆ And, print your year-end statement in seconds—at any time!

Online giving is the best way to support St. William the Abbot—now more than ever! It provides steady support, it's environmentally friendly, and less costly than using envelopes. Look for the WeShare link on our website.

Convalidation

Bringing your Marriage
into THE Church

Are you a Catholic who was married by a justice of the peace or a minister of another denomination? As a married couple, you have already made a commitment to one another. Perhaps you'd like to consider taking your marriage to the next level by inviting Jesus to dwell within your relationship. If you feel ready to begin the process of preparing for marriage in the Church, or if you'd simply like to discuss your options, please call the parish office to set up an appointment with Fr. Tom. You'll be so glad you did!

Ways to remember or commemorate an event at St. William the Abbot

Commemorative Bricks: This is an ideal way to commemorate a graduation, wedding, special family celebration, or to acknowledge a loved one. To order a brick, which will be placed in the garden near Mary, contact the parish office. The cost is \$100 for 8x8 brick and \$75 for a 4x8 brick.

Bequests

St. William is a tax-exempt non-profit Organization and gratefully accepts donations from last will and testament and/or stock to assist our parish. For more information on how to have your wishes known, please talk to your personal banking representative. May God Bless you for your generosity!

Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp can be lit in honor of or in memory of a loved one for one week. It is announced in the bulletin and before all the Saturday/Sunday Masses. The donation is \$25.

Flowers for Jesus

Flowers for Jesus is a bouquet of flowers that will be bought in honor or memory of a loved one. They will be placed at the Altar for the weekend Masses. It will be announced in the bulletin and at each Mass. The donation is \$50.



"and Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed who was with child." Luke 2:4,5

Cursillo Corner

Want to grow deeper in your relationship with God? Want to rediscover the sense of Christian community? Participate in the joyful experience of *Cursillo*. *Cursillo* is Spanish for "short Course" and has been in our diocese for over 50 years. A *Cursillo* is an encounter with self, Christ and others that enhances the rest of your spiritual life. *Cursillo* focuses on piety, study, and action and includes faith sharing which helps us to live our lives in a Christian manner. For more information visit our website at www.trentoncursillo.org or contact Mary Weis at 732-939-0172.



WREATH SALE! WREATH SALE! WREATH SALE! ON THE WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 7TH-8TH, THE SCHOOL OF RELIGION WILL BE SELLING WREATHS AFTER ALL MASSES. PLEASE SUPPORT THEM IN THIS FUND RAISING ENDEAVOR.



What is Advent?

Beginning the Church's liturgical year, Advent (from, "ad-venire" in Latin or "to come to") is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas.

The Advent season is a time of **preparation** that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas. From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus' promise to come back. But the scripture readings during Advent tell us not to waste our time with predictions. Advent is not about speculation. Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world (Lk 21:34-36). Like Lent, the liturgical color for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.

As we prepare for Christmas, the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* notes some differences to the Mass that should be observed during the season. For instance, the priest will wear violet or purple during Advent, except for the Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) when rose is worn (GIRM, no. 316). Aside from what the priest wears, other aesthetic changes in the Church can include a more modestly decorated altar.

The final days of Advent, from December 17 to December 24, we focus on our preparation for the celebrations of the Nativity of our Lord at Christmas. In particular, the "O" Antiphons are sung during this period and have been by the Church since at least the eighth century. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming of Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but of present ones as well.

Advent devotions including the Advent wreath, remind us of the meaning of the season.

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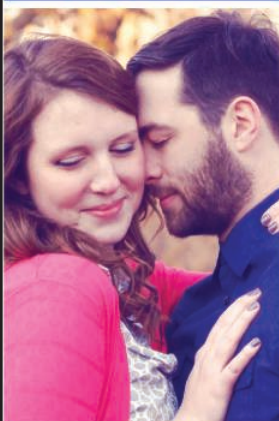
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