

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

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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.

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## 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](mailto:stwilliam@optonline.net)  
Website: [stwilliamtheabbot.com](http://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 15, 2024*

*Third 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.



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 Collection for December 1, 2024

Number of registered families . . . 1,266

Number of weekly envelopes returned—134

Envelope contributions . . . \$5,082.00

Loose contributions . . . \$457.00

Christmas Flowers. . . \$1,211.00

WeShare. . . \$1,560.00

**Total: \$8,310.00**

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.



# Advent Wreath

**1st CANDLE – (purple) THE PROPHECY CANDLE or CANDLE OF HOPE** – We can have hope because God is faithful and will keep the promises made to us. Our hope comes from God. (Romans 15:12-13)

**2nd CANDLE – (purple) THE BETHLEHEM CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF PREPARATION** – God kept his promise of a Savior who would be born in Bethlehem. Preparation means to "get ready". Help us to be ready to welcome YOU, O GOD! (Luke 3:4-6)

**3rd CANDLE – (pink) THE SHEPHERD CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF JOY** – The angels sang a message of JOY! (Luke 2:7-15)

**4th CANDLE – (purple) THE ANGEL CANDLE or THE CANDLE OF LOVE** – The angels announced the good news of a Savior. God sent his only Son to earth to save us, because he loves us! (John 3:16-17)

**5th CANDLE – (white) "CHRIST CANDLE"** – The white candle reminds us that Jesus is the spotless lamb of God, sent to wash away our sins! His birth was for his death, his death was for our birth! (John 1:29)

# 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, December 14 St. John of the Cross

4:00—Louise Chiusano  
r/b Debbie Miller Family

## Sunday, December 15 Third Sunday of Advent / Gaudete Sunday

8:00—People of the Parish  
10:15—Katelyn Morales  
r/b St. William the Abbot  
11:45—Joseph Riccardi  
r/b Riccardi Family

## Monday, December 16

9:00—Patrick Cleary  
r/b Dougherty Family

## Tuesday, December 17

9:00—Lisa Franke— special intention (living)  
r/b Bill Raiser

## Wednesday, December 18

9:00—Richard Simeone  
r/b Sal Ciardiello  
7:00—Virginia Ball  
r/b Cathy Ball

## Thursday, December 19

9:00—Anna & John Gryglak  
r/b Daughter & Family

## Friday, December 20

9:00—Anthony Pasquarillo  
r/b M/M Ron Neal

## Saturday, December 21

9:00—Patrick Cleary  
r/b Mircovich Family  
4:00—Nicholas Mariniello  
r/b M/M Rich Capitan

## Sunday, December 22

8:00—People of the Parish  
10:15—Anica & Sime Svorinic  
r/b Cathy & Boze Bozicevic  
11:45—Joseph Anthony Pace  
r/b Wife, Rosetta Pace



The Sanctuary Lamp is lit in memory of Anna & John Gryglak r/b Daughter & Family.



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. 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: Jonathon Capriotti, Emily Capriotti, Matthew Cerritelli, John Sproat, Jr., Joe Del-Guercio, Jesse Pintillo, Eileen Bertola, Michael Untisz, Joseph Untisz, Wayne Farmer, Barbara Maloney, Natasha Sanchez, Richard Policastro, Erin Mackintosh, Gene Sacco, Johnny Daley, Richard Romano, Kerry O'Connor & 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.



**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 Mor-sillo—Marines; Kathryn Arway—Coast Guard;  
Mitchell McKenney—Coast Guard; Katie Austin Underhill—Army; Jeremy Ramos—Air Force; Eddie Roszkowski—Navy; Aaron MacDonald—Marines

## OUR LADY'S HOLIDAY RECIPE

A heaping cup of happiness

2 cups of love and caring

1 cup of understanding

1 cup of joyful sharing

A level cup of wisdom

1 cup of artful living

1 cup of thoughtful insight

1 cup of selfless giving

mix ingredients together, to in a little flair, serve to everyone you know topped with a tiny prayer.

- from Our lady of the Miraculous Medal





### Reading I: Zephaniah 3: 14-18a

Here we have a summons for people to begin rejoicing, through the intervention of Yahweh, genuine victory is coming to end their present defeat.

### Reading II: Philippians 4: 4-7

God's peace "surpasses all understanding," and so it is always cause for us to rejoice.

### The Gospel: Luke 3: 10-18

John the Baptist preaches that the way to salvation is through service of others. He also insists that he is not the Messiah, but only his spokesperson.

## JOY

### Prayers for Lighting of the Advent Wreath

**Week 3: "O, Lord, we beg Thee, incline Thy ear to our prayers and enlighten the darkness of our minds by the grace of Thy visitation. Through Christ our Lord, Amen."**



### OUR CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE '2024

#### TUESDAY, CHRISTMAS EVE AS FOLLOWS:

NO MORNING MASS  
MASSES ARE AT: 4:00, 6:00 AND 8:00

#### WEDNESDAY, CHRISTMAS DAY

MASSES ARE AT: 10:15 AND 11:45



Please send us a picture Christmas card of your family, so we can display them on the bulletin board. Thank you!



Join St. William the Abbot for our Third Annual...

# NEW YEAR'S LADIES VISION BOARD NIGHT!

Decorate a vision board and allow God to help set goals for the new year! Materials will be provided, please bring a snack or drink to share.

**Friday, January 3rd @ 6:30pm**

Saint William the Abbot Parish Hall  
2740 Lakewood Allenwood Road,  
Howell NJ 07731

**2025** Please RSVP to Tricia by January 1st at **2025**  
732-910-9402

### Bambinelli Sunday

The 3rd Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) has for many years been the day when the children of Rome bring the figurines of Baby Jesus from their family cribs to St. Peter's Square to be blessed by the Pope during the Angelus.

The day is affectionately known as "Bambinelli Sunday." Instituted by Pope Saint John Paul II, the tradition has continued and grown in popularity across the universal Church. Children are invited to wrap the blessed figurines in Christmas wrapping paper when they return home, and to place them under the tree, to be opened as the first gift of Christmas; thus encouraging young children to make the connection between the gifts they receive on Christmas Day and the greatest gift that any of us can receive, Jesus; and the connection between the Nativity set at home and the local Church where they worship each weekend.

You may also bring your baby Jesus from your nativity to be blessed even if you do not want to do the wrapping part.

Fr. Tom will bless all the baby Jesus' after all Masses, this weekend.

### 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.



- ◆ 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!



**St. John the Baptist:** "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming." Luke 3:16



**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](http://www.trentoncursillo.org) or contact Mary Weis at 732-939-0172.

**ADVENT FAMILY PRAYER**

God of love,  
Your Son, Jesus, is Your greatest gift to us.  
He is a sign of Your love.  
Help us walk in that love during the weeks of Advent,  
as we wait and prepare for His coming.  
We pray in the name of Jesus, our Savior.  
Amen.



Third Sunday of Advent  
Gaudete Sunday

"Rejoice: the Lord is nigh." As Christmas draws near, the Church emphasizes the joy which should be in our hearts over all that the birth of our Savior means for us. The great joy of Christians is to see the day drawing nigh when the Lord will come again in His glory to lead them into His kingdom. The oft-repeated Veni ("Come") of Advent is an echo not only of the prophets but also of the conclusion of the Apocalypse of St. John: "Come, Lord Jesus," the last words of the New Testament.

Today is known as Gaudete Sunday. The term Gaudete refers to the first word of the Entrance Antiphon, "Rejoice". Rose vestments are worn to emphasize our joy that Christmas is near, and we also light the rose candle on our Advent wreath.

**Thank you to everyone who donated to our Christmas Flowers. These are the people for whom we have been asked to pray:** Mary Venezia, Susan Gandevas, Concetta D'Amico, Ann Russo, Bakke & Meehan Families, Angela D'Amico, John & Eleanor Corti, Hatti & Ben Nebus, Tommy Nebus, Jack Corti, Anica Svorinic, Florence Cerritelli, Ruzica Bozicevic, "Christine", Emanuel Puglisi, Harold Turner, Theresa Turner, Rev. Charles & Norma Moore, Patricia & Gene Kelly, Jill Galante, Judy & Chuck Moore, Theresa Capitan, Sue Iacangelo, Elizabeth Capitan, Ana Guillermo, Jeso Guillermo, Rosa Sofia Guillermo, Alva Kelly, Randall Kelly, Verona Anderson, Beatrice Anderson, Duncan & Zipporah Wallen, Steve Marino, Rose Marino, Joseph Spoto, Anna Spoto, Saverio Camporeale, Maria Camporeale, Peter Cerreta, Sr., Denise Bartone, Christine D'Onofrio, Alfred DeDominicis, Helen DeDominicis, Paul & Elvira Izzo, Caroline Cagnini, Gennaro Izzo & Nicholas Izzo, Mario & Lena Dragotta, Nick Angiulo, Francene Angiulo, Mary & Tony Golio, Ray & Vincent Golio, Anthony & Mary Grifa, Sr., Jim & Irene Miller, Mircovich Family, Seymour Family, Mr. & Mrs. Clifford Gomes, Mr. & Mrs. Walter Johnston, The Jakub Family, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Selvaggi, Elaine Nilsen, Jennie Beltempo, Iggy Beltempo, Vito Vanasco, Kay Vanasco, Sandra Campos, Carmen Campos, Rose Sainz, Steve Vazquez, Mr. Ernest Smoyak, Mr. & Mrs. Louis Angelucci II, Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Smoyak, Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Mayer, Catherine Rucci, Cranwell/Nunziata Families, Robert Pignatore, Edward Malecki, Verroica Malecki, Helyn Malecki, Ann Sanguetti, Mary Beth Haining, Janice Ciardiello, Jennie Ciardiello, James Ciardiello, Lucy Sisko, Mr. & Mrs. Domenico Mircovich, Mr. Domenico Mircovich, Jr., Mrs. Nicolina Morin, Agnes Guiff, Brian "Bubba" O'Reilly, Danny Bacsik, John Syzmal, Syzmal Family, Augustyniak Family, John R. Ball, Jr., Virginia A. Ball, Josephine Rizzo, Rolf Beyer, Nancy Ciano, Mary Thompson, Marie DeSantis, John DeSantis, John & Mildred Gilbert, Robert & Laura Camp, Michael & Dennis Gilbert, Sarah Gilbert, Jack Culbertson, Roberta & James Dahlkemper, Erica Dahlkemper Baughman, Dawn Marie Jones, Arlene Jones, Margretta Jones, Mary Eckert, Patsy & Marie Franzese, Catherine & John Acconzo, Edward Truax, Anne Marcuk, Katherine Redmond, Harry Redmond, Mary Dougherty, Warren Dougherty

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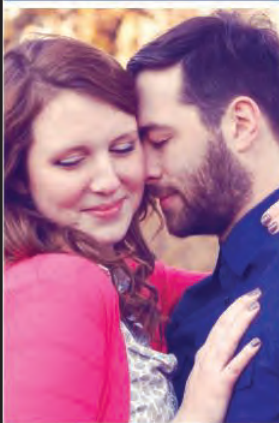
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