



# St. William the Abbot

Roman Catholic Church

**December 11, 2022**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**

## Weekly Schedule

### Daily Mass

Monday - Saturday: 8:30am

### Weekend Masses

Saturday: 5pm

Sunday: 7:30am, 9am, 10:30am, 12n

### Live-Streamed Masses

Monday - Friday: 8:30am

Saturday: 5pm

Sunday: 12n

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday - Saturday: 7:15am - 8:15am

Saturday: 3:45pm - 4:30pm

### Adoration

Monday - Saturday: 7:30am - 8:15am

First Friday of the Month: 9am - 5pm

### Private Prayer

Monday - Friday: 7:15am - 6pm

This is the one about whom it is written:

"I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you."

Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Matthew 11:10-11

## Mass Intentions

### Sunday, Dec. 11, 2022

Yolanda Astarita

Anthony Acena

Mark Leitner

People of St. William's

### Monday, Dec. 12, 2022

#### Collective Intentions

Allison Basile

Maria DiCarlo

Mary Barich

Grace DeRosa

### Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2022

John & Sophia Ross

### Wed., Dec. 14, 2022

Rev. Eugene Conlan

### Thursday, Dec. 15, 2022

Michael, Donald S. &

Emma Ustler

### Friday, Dec. 16, 2022

Raymond Zorn

### Saturday, Dec. 17, 2022

Purgatorial Society

#### Collective Intentions

People of St. William's

Msgr. William Varvaro

Robert F. Eagan

Joseph V. Heck

## Pray for the Deceased

Michael F. Sicignano

## Pray for the Sick

Richard Fedyk

Frances Interrante

Eric Thomas Guzzo

Kristin Valera-Goetze

Michael McGillicuddy

John Michael Primavera

John Reynolds

Ann Marie Canale

Adrienne Harker

Robin Julian

Lesa Laurence

Lea Meade

Keith Gorton



## Advent Week Three - Gaudete Sunday - Rejoice

The Gospel this Sunday once again features Saint John the Baptist, the cousin of Jesus, the forerunner of the Messiah, and one of the most interesting figures in the Bible. From the beginning of his life, he was being formed and trained to be a priest and prophet, under the guidance of his own father Zechariah, who was in the priestly line of Abijah. The Abijah priests would be kind of like a special order, like the Franciscans, or the Jesuits, or the Dominicans – and just like in today's time, priests are blessed with different gifts and talents. Some are excellent confessors, others strong administrators, others celebrate Mass with such reverence and respect, and others are able to proclaim the Gospel and preach beautifully. The priests in the line of Abijah were given the charism to boldly speak the truth, but also to help in identifying the unblemished lambs that would be used at the altar of sacrifice in the temple of Jerusalem. They would often stand near the stables and pens close to the Jerusalem Temple that would hold these animals, and as they were brought forward, they had the keen eye to look upon them and determine if they were suitable to be sacrificed or rejected and sent back to the fields.

John was an effective preacher, but we also know that he was the one who identified Jesus as “the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world!” Due to his honest and direct proclamation of the Truth, he was eventually imprisoned. While in prison he began to wonder if Jesus was really ‘the one,’ and not much different than for the rest of us as we try to remain faithful and hopeful in this, at times, crazy world. Although our culture and society, and even sometimes our closest family members seem to push away the Truth and teachings of the Catholic faith - we do our best to hold out and point in anticipation to the coming of Jesus.

In the Gospel today, we hear that the faithfulness of John has let him into prison, and as strong as he is, he is also worn down by the challenges of his life and situation. Although he initially saw the great ministry and work of Jesus, and certainly heard about it from others, it seems that his faith was wavering a bit. I have to say, when I read this, it gives me a bit of comfort to know that when I might struggle in my faith journey, I am in good company with great saints like John the Baptist and many of you out there in our parish.

The scriptures reveal that John sent his own disciples to ask Jesus if he was the one, the Messiah, that the people of God have been waiting for. What is interesting is that Jesus references the first reading today from the Book of Isaiah, where the prophet 600 years before the coming of Christ revealed that the Messiah would restore what humanity had lost through sin in division. The world had experienced a dryness of faith, the spirit of confusion, fear, injustice, and wickedness, as well as sin, and debauchery. And so, Jesus directs the disciples to go back and tell John what they see Jesus doing. He has begun the process of restoration - he brings sight to the blind, hearing to the deaf, life to the dead. Jesus teaches us and shows us how to love those who are difficult to love, and to extend a hand to others that have been rejected and have never received love from anyone. Enemies are not only speaking to one another, but they are embracing and working towards communion, forgiveness, and healing.

Well unfortunately, it is now 2000 years later, and there is still brokenness in our world. Jesus has come, and this season allows us as Christians of faith to prepare for the second coming of Christ. As we enter into these last few weeks of Advent, we are once again given the great privilege to make some adjustments in our own lives. To choose to live as a beacon of light and be the change in the areas where we have a little bit of influence. It begins in our families, at the workplace, in the school, on the practice fields, and of course right here in the parish. My sisters and brothers, it is up to us to be justice, mercy, and forgiveness to others. We can bring blooms of a rich harvest of kindness and love where there has been a dry desert of self-centeredness, rudeness, and disrespect.

The Third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday – a time to rejoice because we can see the end is near. The third candle is pink/rose showing us that Jesus, the Lord of Light is coming – but also that we have a responsibility to be bearers of that light. The fruit of Christ's Light in us is JOY – do others see joy when they see you? Or are you one of those miserable folks out there - a Grinch, a Scrooge, a Scut Farkus, a Mr. Potter, an Abominable Snowman, or an Angry Elf? We say it each week at the beginning of Mass, “Rejoice, Rejoice Emmanuel – has come to thee O Israel!” There is still a little time left, be the light your family, this parish, and our world needs!

May God's Peace and joy dwell in you.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Fr. Joel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "F" and a stylized "J".

# Purgatorial Society

Frank Pittelli, Robert Spina, William R. McGlone, Brendan McGarry, William Benson, Michael DeMasi, Ann Kidger, Joseph J. Cannizzaro, Sr., Christiana Durosemi Charles, Luigi Lora, Peter Agati, Mary Buckley, Peter Burke, Raymond Spinelli, Thomas Gattringer, Valentino Mattieucci, Anna Kishazy, Alfredo Taddeo, Jim Taverner.

Dorothy Weis, Vincent Sheridan, Anthony Licata, Florence Fitz, Danny Crosby, Timothy Boyle, Kasimierz Kardasz, Roberto Giancaterino, John Paul Cox, Sharyn Krudis, Richard W. Hurley.

Joseph Cannizzaro, Sr., Doris Gabris, Frank Gagliano, John Kirby, Sr., Gerald Levano, Valentine J. Nacci, Rose Russo, Anna F. Ryan, Edward W. Spiedell, Annette L. Wagner, Bro. George McCloskey, Rosemary Hughes, Clifford Grohs, Thomas Dionis, Eileen Thornton

Anthony Palmerini, Rita Gallipani, Angela Santa Mastrandrea, Joyce Rollo, Francisco Vargas, Nancy Beato, Dom Ciriello, Dolores Wood, Gary Matthew Brendel.

Ursula Clancy, Cynthia Picorelli, Benny Vassallo, Jeanne Anastasiou, Peter Kelliher, Bobbie Denti, Marie M. Mertz.

Gloria Angerhauser, Francesco Briante, Joseph Byrne, Antoinette Capobianco, Angela Diangelo, Jessie Fiore, Rita R. Gallipani, Joan Moran, Frank Pellicani, Joseph Giambalvo, Eileen Lupo, Dorothy Costa, Thomas Lacertosa, Louise Gallo, Corey Phelan, Barbara Scott Farrand, Jose Gotay, Virginia A. Lehmann, Rachel Bisesto, Mary Ellen Ruddy, Ann Bauer, Anthony J. Cappello, Helen Gleave.

Eva Morales, Betty Scharff, Frank J. Adams, Patricia Simms, Mary-Ann Towers, Michael Koch, Audrey Kouzens, John Lucie, Mary Ann Munni, Michael Kiernan.

## *Pray for Those in the Military*

### **USMC -**

First Lt. Dana Duggan  
L.Cpl. John Mosier

### **US Army -**

Capt. Caitlin M. Lee  
CW2 Brian Kirby  
Major Eamon G. McArdle  
Spc. Brian Reip  
Sgt. Donald Rogers  
Major Christopher James Ustler  
Major Kurtis Unger

### **US Air Force -**

Capt. Matthew B. Frasse  
Tech. Sgt. Eric Meyers  
AIC William Hughes  
Major Thomas F. Shields

### **US Navy -**

Lt. Joseph Fitzgerald  
Ryan Bayer, Ensign  
Rebecca Bayer, Ensign  
STS1 Thomas Kerley  
Lt. jg Michael O'Hara  
MMN2 Emily Partridge  
Commander Michael Sean Slatley  
Lt. jg Michael Napolitano  
Michael Vietri

### **US Coast Guard -**

Lt. James Knudsen  
Daniel Timpanaro  
LT. Commander Katherine Ustler  
Frank Pristera

### **US Army -**

Sgt. Craig Bianco  
SPC Anthony Caputo  
Capt. Michael DiPietro  
Capt. Michael Fitzgerald  
Capt. Christopher J. Frasse  
Capt. Logan Lee  
Lt. Col. John Kallo  
Capt. Caitlin M. Lee

### **The Third Week of Advent: Joy**

Heavenly Father, thank you for the joy that entered the world when Jesus was born. Lord, sometimes it's difficult to live joyfully, especially in difficult or busy seasons. Please purify our hearts this week and remind us that you're in control. Help us to consider it joy when we experience trials of any kind because we know you're creating something beautiful and eternal. As we fix our eyes and hearts on you, fill our souls with renewed strength, courage, and hope. Amen.

This week, you will light two purple candles and the pink candle on your Advent Wreath

## ***Wedding Banns***

### **Banns II**

Natalie Gramegna, St. William the Abbot  
& John Carl Henderson, Holy Family,

## ***Pillar of Prayer***

When you read and hear of Jesus' works, have courage to turn to Him in prayer and ask Him to help you with what you are struggling with.



# Christmas Memorializations

Item	Needed	Cost	Quantity	Total
Christmas Tree - 12'-15' (Rectory Lawn)			<i>sold</i>	
Christmas Trees - 9'-11' (Sanctuary)			<i>sold</i>	
Straw and Greenery for Nativity Creche			<i>sold</i>	
Christmas Trees - 8'-9' (Vestibule)			<i>sold</i>	
Christmas Wreaths - 48" (Vestibule & Choir Loft)			<i>sold</i>	
Garland Roping (Choir Loft)	1	\$ 175		
Christmas Trees - 5'-6' (Creche)			<i>sold</i>	
Christmas Wreaths - 32" (Church Interior)			<i>sold</i>	
Christmas Wreaths - 12" (Exterior Doors)	5	\$ 55		
Red Pointsettias - 6"	46	\$ 30		
White Pointsettias - 6"	22	\$ 30		
White Orchid Cyclamen - 6"	11	\$ 30		
White Calandiva - 4.5"	71	\$ 25		
<i>Total</i>				

All memorializations are on a first-come, first-served basis.

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PLEASE RETURN FORM TO RECTORY WITH CHECK PAYABLE TO ST. WILLIAM THE ABBOT

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name for Memorial Listing: \_\_\_\_\_





# Advent

AT ST. WILLIAM THE ABBOT

DECEMBER

10/11

## Bambinelli Sunday

CHILDREN ARE ENCOURAGED TO BRING THE BABY JESUS FROM THEIR FAMILY'S NATIVITY SCENE FOR A BLESSING AT ALL MASSES

DECEMBER

13

## Candlelight Holy Hour

7PM (CHURCH)

DECEMBER

19

## Multi-Parish Evening of Confession

7PM (CHURCH)

Please email [priests@stwilliam.org](mailto:priests@stwilliam.org) if your family is interested in lighting our Advent Wreath prior to Mass

[STWILLIAM.ORG/ADVENT2022](http://STWILLIAM.ORG/ADVENT2022)

### Christmas Tree Lighting & Creche Blessing



### Faith Formation



Our Faith Formation 2nd Graders are now Advent Experts! Last week, Miss Patty and Miss Nancy's classes had a special lesson to learn about the season and made their own wreaths.





# St. William the Abbot 95TH ANNIVERSARY HAND-CRAFTED QUILT RAFFLE

**Raffle Entries:  
\$20 each or  
6 for \$100**

**The quilt will be on display  
in the Church Vestibule  
until the winner is  
announced.**

**Winner will be  
announced on  
December 21st!**

**Please return raffle tickets and check for  
total made payable to St. William the Abbot  
to the Rectory by 12n on Monday 12/19.**



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to Rectory with Check by 12/19 - Entries: \$20 each or 6 for \$100

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to Rectory with Check by 12/19 - Entries: \$20 each or 6 for \$100

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to Rectory with Check by 12/19 - Entries: \$20 each or 6 for \$100



## St. William the Abbot School

The second graders in Ms. Milteer's class are getting ready for Christmas. They completed their Advent wreath and wrote what Advent means to them. Some children wrote about getting ready to celebrate Jesus' birth while others wrote about going to Church and seeing the candles lit every Sunday. Our Christmas countdown has begun!



While learning how Science, Engineering, and Technology work together to improve our world, Mrs. Frank's fifth grade classes made prosthetic hands. Students had fun using them to pick up various objects.





# Parish Social Ministry

## ***Adopt-a-Family Items due Wednesday Dec 14th!***

A friendly reminder that if you participated in this year's Adopt-a-Family program all items should be returned unwrapped to the Parish Social Ministry by Wednesday, December 14th. This is so that we have time to distribute the items to our families in need.

Please also remember to label the items with their assigned code so that we know what family they belong to! Office hours are Monday through Friday 9:30am to 4pm, or evenings by appointment.

## ***Pantry Needs***

Sugar  
Mustard  
Egg Noodles

Canned Beets  
Pretzels  
Jello Gelatin

## ***Thank You Exit Realty***

Exit Realty of Massapequa recently conducted a winter coat drive and donated new women's coats to the Social Ministry office. These coats will be given out to our Parish neighbors that need them. Thank you, Exit Realty, for your generosity, and your help to keep those in need warm this winter!

## ***Thank You Girl Scout Troop 3656***

This week the Girl Scouts from Seaford Middle School's 6th grade stopped by to donate first aid kits that their troop made for our families in need. The girls had a tour of the pantry and even made greeting cards for some of our parishioners. Thank you Troop 3656 for choosing to have our Parish benefit from your kindness and generosity! We appreciate it!



## ***Christmas Adopt-A-Family Program***

The Parish Social Ministry is happy to offer the Christmas Adopt-A-Family Program! We serve over 60 families in the Seaford, Wantagh and Massapequa areas. Each year we help these families with Christmas gifts as an act of being Christ to others in the true meaning of the Advent season.

All gifts should be delivered unwrapped to the Social Ministry office by December 14th to allow enough time for distribution. Drop off is at St. William the Abbot Parish Social Ministry, 2020 Jackson Avenue. We are open weekdays between 9:30am and 4pm, or by appointment. For security reasons please do not leave gifts in the food bin.

Simply log on via the below website and browse for the item(s) that you would like to donate!



Go to website: [signupgenius.com](https://signupgenius.com)

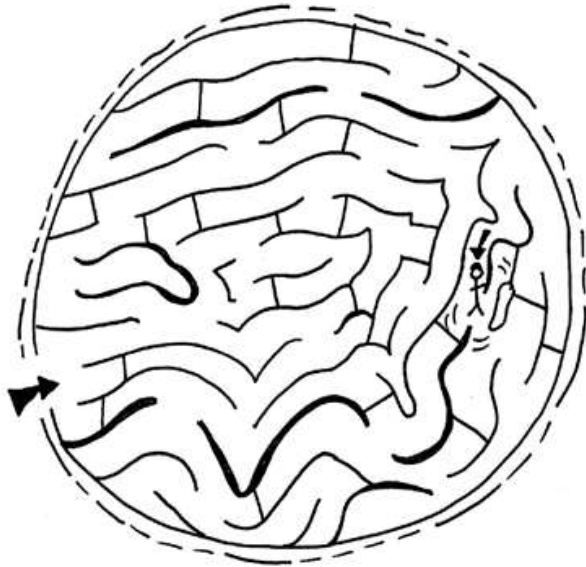
Click the magnifying glass (upper right corner) to search

Select "search for signup by creator email" and enter [socialministry@stwilliam.org](mailto:socialministry@stwilliam.org)

Click on "2022 Christmas Adopt a Family" and then select the items you would like to donate!




# Saint Francis Xavier




Saint Francis Xavier traveled all over the world taking care of the poor and teaching about Jesus.

Year A: Third Sunday of Advent



## Catholic Kids Bulletin

December 11, 2022  
Advent  
Color: Rose



WAPDLORDPWCOMEPWLAIN

BPCKOESUSPAWOE

Lord,  
come and  
save us.

ZPCKANDPWKCSLE

SOEKVISAPEPWJSOZOEIGSIEIKP



Today is Gaudete Sunday.  
Gaudete means, "To rejoice." The pink candle reminds us to rejoice because Jesus is coming.



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## Gospel



John the Baptist was a great man and people thought he might be God. He told them that a greater man was coming. They were waiting for Jesus!

Year A: Third Sunday of Advent

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  @stwilliamabbot

**- Pastor -**

**Rev. Joseph H. Fitzgerald**

priests@stwilliam.org

**- Deacons -**

Dcn. Anthony Cedrone

Dcn. Michael Metzдорff

Dcn. John Lynch

Dcn. Joseph Tumbarello

information@stwilliam.org

**- Rectory Staff -**

Judy Goldman

*Business Manager*

jgoldman@stwilliam.org

Sue McCormick

*Office Manager*

information@stwilliam.org

Kate Walsh

*Development & Operations*

kwalsh@stwilliam.org

**- Faith Formation -**

Sr. Joan Klimski, OP

*Director*

Maria Paguaga

*Office Assistant*

faithformation@stwilliam.org / 516-783-2528

**- Social Ministry -**

Allison Marro

*Director*

socialministry@stwilliam.org / 516-679-8532

www.stwilliam.org/social-ministry

**- Music Ministry -**

Jennifer Lynde

*Director*

**- Our Seminarians -**



**Joseph Lettieri**  
SWA Parishioner



**Steven McClernon**  
Transitional Deacon 2022-2023



**Herley Mendez**  
SWA Parishioner

*Please pray for our Seminarians and for all  
those discerning religious life*

**- Rectory Information -**

2000 Jackson Avenue

Seaford, NY 11783

Office: 516-785-1266

information@stwilliam.org

**Office Hours:**

Monday - Friday: 9am - 5pm

Saturday: 9am - 3pm

Sunday: 9am - 1pm

**- St. William the Abbot School -**



**Elizabeth Bricker**

*Principal*

2001 Jackson Avenue

Seaford, NY 11783

Office: 516-785-6784

www.stwilliamtheabbot.net

**- Emergency Line -**

If there is an emergency in which you need to contact a priest immediately outside of office hours, please call

516-312-7361

**- Pastoral Council -**

Chris Blankley - Fred Duemig - Barbara Geraghty

Lara Klein - Kelly Koster - Trisha Mullen

Peter Teitz - Thomas Ward

**- Finance Committee -**

Rita Defendini\* - Robert Gerbard - John Kaley\*

Tom Kiley - Ed Lettieri

\*Parish Trustees

**- Other Resources -**

Bible in a Year Podcast  
[ascensionpress.com](http://ascensionpress.com)

Formed: The Catholic Faith. On Demand  
[formed.org](http://formed.org)

Life Teen Youth Ministry  
[lifeteen.com](http://lifeteen.com)