



# St. William the Abbot

Roman Catholic Church



## December 4, 2022 Second 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

"I baptize you with  
water for repentance.  
But after me comes  
one who is more  
powerful than I, whose  
sandals I am not worthy  
to carry. He will baptize  
you with the Holy Spirit  
and fire.  
Matthew 3:11

### Mass Intentions

#### Sunday, Dec. 4, 2022

##### Collective Intentions

Dagmar Baldino  
Grazietta & Donato  
Marrone

Roberto Giancaterino  
Delores Synnott  
Joanna Colton  
Baby David George  
Skennion  
People of St. William's  
Bridget Sullivan

#### Monday, Dec. 5, 2022

Jeannine Kelly

#### Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2022

Ernst DeGraaf

#### Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2022

Stephen Mullen  
Nancy & Frank Lamb  
Robert Lawler

#### Thursday, Dec. 8, 2022

Anna Poplarski  
Bronislawa Lutynska  
Collective Intentions  
People of St. William's  
Theresa Morse  
Theresa King  
Connie Guerriero

#### Friday, Dec. 9, 2022

Elizabeth Morr

#### Saturday, Dec. 10, 2022

Purgatorial Society  
Archbold & Durnin  
Families

### Pray for the Deceased

Madaline S. Cristallo

Carlos Gonzalez

### Pray for the Sick

Keith Gorton  
Richard Fedyk  
Frances Interrante  
Eric Thomas Guzzo

Kristin Valerga-Goetze  
Michael McGillicuddy  
John Michael Primavera  
John Reynolds

### Feast of the Immaculate Conception



Next Thursday, December 8th, we will celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. The Masses for this Holy Day of Obligation will be held at 7:00 PM on Wednesday and 7:00 AM, 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM on Thursday.

The 9:00 AM Mass will be live streamed on the parish website.

## Advent Week 2 - The Plot Thickens!!!

This weekend we encounter one of the greatest and most interesting characters in the story of salvation, John the Baptist! There are different perspectives and stories from the Scriptures and especially the Gospels where we are introduced to John which only add to his legend; his birth and upbringing, the way he dressed, the things that he ate, and the fact that he went out into the desert wasteland. The desert is not an appealing place, it is not a place where most people want to go because the basic comforts, and to be honest, the simple distractions that help us forget the challenges of life are not there. No Wi-Fi, Facebook or Tik Tok scrolling, no Keebler elves or cold adult beverages, and no favorite Netflix, Paramount, or Amazon Prime series. Whaaattt??? The desert strips everything away and streamlines our focus on things that we do not normally look at or want to look at.

And yet, the people flocked to John - because they had come to a place in their lives where they had either forgotten their identity or were searching for a deeper meaning to their existence. John does not hold back, he challenges them and all of us to look at our lives, and repent, change, stop doing the same non-productive, non-fulfilling activities, or you will continue down a path of loneliness and despair. I saw an interesting statistic the other day about the decline in attendance and practice of ALL religions. It is alarming and concerning, especially to someone who has not only experienced the Lord in my life, but also to a person whose main responsibility is to be the steward of a faith community and its actual practice of that faith. At the same time there has been a tremendous decline over the past few years of an awareness and practice of God and faith, we have also seen a tremendous increase in anxiety, depression, and mental illness. Each week we are met with a new story on the information wire about another physical assault on innocent bystanders, or mass shooting in a school, mall, or place of work. Is it a correlation to a dismissal of God in our life, family, society, and culture? Is it laziness? Or are we just imagining all of this?

In the second week of Advent 2022 you and I are unlikely going to heal and fix every single one of the ills in our culture and society, but with God's help, we can begin to work on some of those challenges in our own heart, our family, and in this community. What is it for you and I that needs to be looked at and either pruned or completely rooted out? Do I find myself falling back into negative talk, gossiping, tearing down people at work, in school, or in my family. We often can be so quick to criticize all that is wrong in the world, our local community, and the parish, but are we willing to do on our part to make it better?

The message from the Scriptures is clear that there is still a voice crying out in the desert, "to prepare the Way of the Lord, and to make straight his path." Maybe you have gotten off to a slow start in Advent 2022 with prayer, or lighting the Advent wreath at home, or attempting to get into the church to light a candle or pray quietly, or even attend an extra Mass during the week. If the Lord is here, then why are we so quick to go everywhere else with our attention and time? I think it comes back to the Gospel and John the Baptist - he forces the people of his time and today to hold the mirror up to our own life and spiritual journey. We can all get a little lazy and comfortable, however, if we repent, we must adjust and change our ways. That makes us uncomfortable. I have recently gone back to exercise a little bit, and there's an expression at the gym that says, "you have to be comfortable with being uncomfortable," and then you will see the growth. Ultimately, we want to be transformed by God and His love, He is willing to do His part, now it's up to us to do ours.

John the Baptist does not hold back on anyone, the people in his time, the religious leadership of his time, and he lays down the gauntlet for you and me as well today. He makes a very direct challenge and warning – a wrath is coming, and we will be judged by the fruit of our faith, which ultimately is how we in our family and parish, not only know who Christ is, but how we put that knowledge into practice. "Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance" or know that the ax is being lined up at the root of the trees, and "every tree that is not very good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire!" Those are tough words to hear amidst the personal and community crèche and tree lightings and decorations - but John the Baptist knows the truth, that the deepest joy and happiness in our life, will come with an intimacy and relationship with the Jesus. That can only occur for us when we are attentive and active in our faith journey. How will we respond? The Advent story's plot thickens, but so will also the demands on us, our time, and our calendars. We have the control over what ourselves and our family says yes to – will it be more distractions and noise – or will it be more time with God? Allow yourself to enter into the desert – more time with God, more time with family, more time of quiet and peace.

Thank you for your presence and incredible generosity. May Advent Peace dwell in your heart.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Fr. Joe". The signature is stylized with a large, flowing "F" and a cursive "Joe".

### November Offertories

	2014	2018	2019		2020	2021	2022
Attendance	13072	7575	7919		4647	5795	5836
Total \$	\$ 111,625.00	\$ 93,195.00	\$ 98,418.00		\$ 111,663.00	\$ 105,933.00	\$ 104,470.00
#Sundays	5	4	4		5	4	4
Avg/Sunday	\$ 22,325.00	\$ 21,017.25	\$ 22,176.75		\$ 19,710.20	\$ 22,717.25	\$ 22,052.50
AvgAtt/Sun	2614	1894	1980		929	1449	1459

### Diocese of Rockville Centre Catholic Ministries Appeal - Parish Totals

	2014	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022-Current	Change from Oct
Goal	\$ 132,700.00	\$ 136,700.00	\$ 136,700.00	\$ 146,700.00	\$ 151,400.00	\$ 162,000.00	-
Pledged	\$ 182,158.00	\$ 142,107.00	\$ 142,360.00	\$ 121,048.00	\$ 114,461.00	\$ 107,053.00	\$ 2,919.00
Paid	\$ 171,628.00	\$ 140,827.00	\$ 139,348.00	\$ 120,018.00	\$ 113,786.00	\$ 102,993.00	\$ 6,878.25
# of Donors	1,153	603	550	480	440	405	13
Rebate	\$ 57,682.00	\$ 30,642.00	\$ 31,368.00	\$ 2,934.00	\$ -	-	-

## Pray for Those in the Military

### USMC -

First Lt. Dana Duggan  
L.Cpl. John Mosier

### US Air Force -

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

### US Coast Guard -

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

### 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 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 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 Second Week of Advent: Peace

*God of peace and mercy, open our hearts in welcome. Remove the things that hinder us from receiving Christ with joy so that we may share his wisdom and become one with him when he comes in glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.*

Amen.

This week, you will light two purple candles on your Advent Wreath

## Wedding Banns

### Banns I

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

### Banns III

Maggie Kammerer, St. James, Seaford  
& Vincent Lettieri, St. William the Abbot

## Baptism

Let us welcome the following child who was baptized this past weekend:

Joseph Locoteta

## Pillar of Service

As Christians, we are called to put our faith into action - this means many things, including to be at the service of others. This week, try to perform at least one additional work of mercy.





# 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)	2	\$ 275		
Christmas Wreaths - 48" (Vestibule & Choir Loft)	2	\$225		
Garland Roping (Choir Loft)	1	\$ 175		
Christmas Trees - 5'-6' (Creche)			<i>sold</i>	
Christmas Wreaths - 32" (Church Interior)	2	\$ 110		
Christmas Wreaths - 12" (Exterior Doors)	12	\$ 55		
Red Pointsettias - 6"	56	\$ 30		
White Pointsettias - 6"	33	\$ 30		
White Orchid Cyclamen - 6"	12	\$ 30		
White Calandiva - 4.5"	72	\$ 25		
<i>Total</i>				

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

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

3/4

### Christmas Fair

10AM - 4PM

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

## Religious Retirement Collection

The annual collection that supports nearly 25,000 elderly religious sisters, brothers and religious order priests in the United States will take place the weekend of December 10-11. This



collection, coordinated by the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO) distributes financial assistance for retirement needs to eligible religious institutions. Historically, Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests served in Church ministries at parishes, schools, and health care facilities for little to no pay. As a result, many now lack adequate retirement saving. With rising health-care expenses, hundreds of U.S. religious communities are now struggling to care for elder members. For more information on the work of the NRRO please visit [www.retiredreligious.org](http://www.retiredreligious.org).



### St. Peregrine Prayer Hour

The Saint Peregrine Prayer Hour will be held on Monday, Dec. 5th from 2:00 - 3:00 PM in the church.

St. Peregrine is the patron saint of those suffering from cancer. Future prayer hours will be held on the first Monday of each month.

Cancer victims, families and their care-givers are all invited to come and pray.

## Adult Faith Formation Series



Thank you to Bishop Henning for joining us this week! We wish him well as he prepares for his next role as Coadjutor Bishop of the Diocese of Providence.

Our Adult Faith Formation series will continue in January.





# 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*

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## St. William the Abbot School

November was a busy month for the third graders in Ms. Mortensen's class! One of their favorite activities was using Skittles to introduce a new Math unit on Multiplication. The students were given 30 Skittles and had to place them in equal groups. Using the Skittles supported the students in understanding the concept of equal groups and multiplication. Although it was fun to sort them, their most favorite part was getting to eat them after!



Mrs. Frank's class participated in today's STEAM challenge. Students were asked to move a toy car the farthest without putting their hands on the car. They were only allowed to use supplies like magnets, straws, string, and tape. Magnets worked great and good old wind power with the straws did the job as well!





# Parish Social Ministry

## Thank You Turkey Donors!

Our office received so many turkey donations for Thanksgiving that we were able to provide a turkey for every family that needed one! Thank you so much to everyone that donated! In particular, we would like to thank Susan and Michael Arcari for donating over 20 turkeys, and the Take Me Out to the Ballgame Foundation for donating a multitude of turkeys, hams and turkey breasts. Whether you donated one turkey or many, please know that your donation made a family very happy this Thanksgiving!



## Special Deliveries Completed for Thanksgiving

All Thanksgiving cards donated to our office were mailed out during the month of November to our homebound parishioners. We received many grateful phone calls from these individuals, asking us to pass along their sincere appreciation for your kindness. Thank you to everyone that took the time to write a card to a Parish friend at home, you helped to spread holiday joy among our Parish family!

## 86 Apple Pie Donations!

Thank you to everyone that donated pies to the Social Ministry as part of the HSA's Thanksgiving Pie and Bread



Fundraiser. A grand total of 86 pies were donated to us, just in time to distribute for Thanksgiving dinner!

We are so grateful to the St. William the Abbot Home School Association for including us again this year as part of their fundraiser. Thank you, pie donors, for your very delicious donations!

## Seaford Lions Sponsor Santa's Workshop

The Seaford Lions donated 14 tickets to the Social Ministry for their Santa's Workshop event this weekend. This event is their annual children's holiday party, which provides gifts and necessities to children in need. The donated tickets were distributed to Parish families in need who would enjoy and benefit from the event. We are so grateful to the Seaford Lions for their generous work within our community, and their support of our ministry!

## 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 Lucia

To celebrate Saint Lucia, girls around the world wear wreaths with candles on their heads. They wake up their families with special treats and sweets to celebrate the Christmas season. What nice thing can you do to help your family get excited for Christmas?



Year A: Second Sunday of Advent

## Catholic Kids Bulletin

December 4, 2022  
Advent  
Color: Purple

WKAJUSTICEPSHALLWPOID

FPEACEFORPEVERP

Justice shall  
flourish in his  
time, and  
fullness of  
peace for ever.

APFLOURISHAINHIS

PTIMEPANDOFULLNESSPWOFPEA



Find the advent wreath in your church. Which candles are lit today? Color the wreath and the candles.



✝

📖

🎵

📖

📖

🍷

🕯

🕯

✝

Countdown to Jesus' Birthday...

# 3

Sundays!

## Gospel

John the Baptist baptized people so they were ready to see God. He said, "Prepare the Way of the Lord."



www.stwilliam.org

  @stwilliamabbot

**- Pastor -**

**Rev. Joseph H. Fitzgerald**

priests@stwilliam.org

**- Deacons -**

Dcn. Anthony Cedrone

Dcn. Michael Metzdorff

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

Formed: The Catholic Faith. On Demand  
formed.org

Life Teen Youth Ministry  
lifeteen.com