

St. William the Abbot

Roman Catholic Church



Welcome to St. William the Abbot

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday, August 9, 2020

Rectory Office Hours

The Rectory will remain closed until further notice. If you need to contact the Rectory please email your request.
information@stwilliam.org

Parish Information

Office: 516.785.1266
2000 Jackson Avenue
Seafood, NY 11783
stwilliam.org

Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" After they got into the boat, the wind died down. Those who were in the boat did him homage, saying, "Truly, you are the Son of God."
- Matthew 14:31-33

Banns of Marriage I

James Richard Barile

- (St. Martin, Amityville)

&

Paulina Guta

- (St. Lawrence, Brooklyn)

Need to contact one of the Priests?
Need to schedule a Confession appointment?
Have a prayer request?

priests@stwilliam.org

Mass

Daily Mass

Monday - Friday 8:30am

Weekend Mass

Saturday 5pm

Sunday 8am, 10am, & 12pm

The Church will remain closed when
Mass is not being celebrated.

Pray for the Deceased

Norma Pace

Pray for the Sick

Carol Calderazzo

Genevieve Ireland

Billy Kelly

Baptism

Daniel J. Holian

&

Lia T. Schuerlein

&

Lorenzo M. Amato

Let us welcome those children who were
baptized this past weekend.

Mass Intentions

Monday, August 10, 2020

8:00 AM Simon Jaipaul

9:00 AM Stephen Mirabito

Tuesday, August 11, 2020

8:00 AM John McGrath

Thursday, August 13, 2020

8:00 AM Vera Gatto

9:00 AM George Cain

Saturday, August 15, 2020

8:30 AM Purgatorial Society

12 PM Dolores DeRita

5:00 PM Collective Intentions

Eileen DeGaetano, Paul Benevento,

Mildred Brennan

Sunday, August 16, 2020

7:45 AM Nocturnal Adoration

9:15 AM Robert J. Bonomo

10:45 AM Theresa Keiser

12:15 PM Regis & Susan Le Goff (LIV)

5:00 PM People of St. William

Where is our focus?

By the time you read this letter, a number of major subjects will be affecting us as individuals and members of this parish will likely be answered. Decisions about the opening of school, the effects of the tropical storm Isaias, more information about the blast in Lebanon, and of course the most recent briefing and update on the coronavirus from the President and the Governor. As we look at these items, and how they affect us and our families, the information can be overwhelming, stressful, even scary. The unknown can cause anxiety about the next steps we take. All of us have concerns about the safety of our families, what will education, the economy, healthcare, faith practice, and how we prepare and share a meal look like in a week? A month? A year?

When we look at all these things collectively, it is no different than being in the middle of the storm we all experienced last week. Trees are uprooted, utility wires are snapping, lawn furniture is flying across the backyard like the Wizard of Oz, and then the power goes out! It is so overwhelming. Then we wake up the next day, look out the window and all we see is one big mess. That doesn't take into account if a family member is sick, or there is a strained relationship with your spouse or children or the concerns of sending your kids back to college next week. There is a lot going on for all of us.

This week's Gospel tells the story of Jesus' disciples being tossed in a storm on the sea. The winds, rain, and waves are crashing on the boat – and at some point, they switch their focus off the storm and see that Jesus is walking towards them on the water. Peter bravely steps out of the boat, focuses on Jesus, and actually walks on the water (miracle alert). But he gets distracted, he takes his eyes off the Lord and begins to sink. Jesus reaches out and rescues Peter, and then gets onto the boat – and the storm is calmed. What a powerful lesson for all of us, especially here in Seaford, stay focused on Jesus and invite him into our boat.

This past week my eyes were looking at many things that affect me as the servant of our community. What will need to be done: for us to open the school in September, the assisting of many families who were without power from the storm, preparing for the First Holy Communion's last week, assisting in cleaning up here on the campus of broken fences, branches, and trees, reviewing and reevaluating our faith formation program which will be partly virtual and partly in person, calculating our upcoming budget to be sure we have the right number of staff, sufficient PPE, cleaners and cleaning supplies, desks for the school, as well as several personal doctor appointments with mom and dad. The storm was really closing in on me.

But it was the wedding of Joe and Kristen on Wednesday night that helped me refocus. This couple had to reschedule their wedding three times due to the pandemic, had a member of the wedding party get the virus last week (they are ok/ but could not attend), experience a hurricane the day before the wedding, have to get ready in their family homes without power, and had to postpone the big reception they always dreamed about. But through the whole process, Kristen and Joe spoke about keeping the focus on "the sacrament" - that Jesus was invited and present at their wedding with the 19 guests and those who watched on video. Kristen and Joe helped me, and all of us as a parish stay focused on Jesus - they invited the Lord into the boat - kept their priorities in order, and Jesus blessed them and calmed the storm. Thank you, Kristen and Joe!

And so, for all of us, where is our focus? God is truly here with us. God has all the distractions, disruptions, and discomforts of the storms of our lives. We just need to invite him into the boat and he will command the storm to be calm.

God Bless you and thank you for your presence and generosity.

Fr. Joe



Food Pantry

Canned Corn	Tuna
Canned Spinach	Pasta Roni
Crushed Tomatoes	Pasta Sauce
Egg Noodles	Chef Boyardee
Apple Sauce	Detergent
	Deodorant

Back to School Supplies

With the uncertainty of schools opening and the anticipated mix of in-school and virtual learning, we are adjusting our Annual Back to School Supplies Drive.

This year we are asking if you would be so kind and donate gift cards for TARGET or WALMART or even a Visa Card. This will allow us to give the cards to our families and they can purchase specific school supply items requested by their teachers. Perhaps we will also be able to give gift cards for a few new clothing items.

Parish Calendar

It is important to bear in mind that because of COVID-19 restrictions, at this point in time we are uncertain what scheduling any activities for next year will look like. We are gathering requests as we normally would, but cannot make any promises that your requested activity will be scheduled.

If you were on last year's September through August calendar and wish to be on the 2020 – 2021 calendar, please send your written request listing the name of your organization and the approximate number of people using the facility, the exact dates, times (beginning and ending time, making sure to include additional time for set-up and clean-up, if necessary), and room requested, together with your name, address, email address and telephone number to Susan McCormick in the Rectory – 2000 Jackson Avenue, Seaford, NY 11783 or via email – information@stwilliam.org. You can also place your request in the drop-box of the Rectory.

Baptisms

Baptisms have resumed and can be scheduled until Sunday, September 27. Please email priests@stwilliam.org for more information.

Sacrament of Marriage

Arrangements should be made six months prior to your wedding. If you need to make changes to your current date please contact the Rectory. Please email priests@stwilliam.org.

For the latest Parish information please visit stwilliam.org

Faith Formation

Our First Communions are well under way. Over the course of six sessions, most of the students in SWS and Faith Formation have now received the Eucharist for the first time. Due to the current situation the Masses were celebrated with just the child and their parents present. Childcare was provided in the Abbey for families who needed it. The children in childcare had a good time and were united with their families at the end of Mass for pictures. Family members and parishioners were able to participate by viewing the Mass on livestream. Many thanks go to Ms. Iris Gomez, Communication Director, who enabled others to participate in this way.

As our First Communicants entered the church, you could see how excited they were, and they all looked fantastic! The Communion Masses were reverent and it provided the parents with the opportunity to really focus on their child who was receiving the sacrament. Time was also given for the parents to pray for their child and to thank God for the wonderful gift of their child. Our priests helped the children realize that they were really receiving Jesus, not just a symbol and just as the Blessed Mother was a vessel by carrying Jesus inside of her, the children would now be vessels of Jesus and were encouraged to live like him.

We want to express our gratitude to the many people who helped make this day a special one. Many thanks go to our Pastor, Rev. Joseph H. Fitzgerald, Rev. James Hansen, and Rev. Collins Yeboah who presided and concelebrated at each Mass. Thanks also go to our school teachers and catechists who were influential in the faith formation of the children. Each Communion Mass was captured on film by our photographer, Mrs. Gaylynn Inness. She took pictures before, during and after every session.

Families can view her work on the following link that she set up: <https://gaylynninnesphotography.shootproof.com/gallery/com2020>. Our musicians, Mr. Matt Georgetti and Mr. Alfred Allongo enhanced our celebrations with uplifting and prayerful music and provided the booklets. Maria Paguaga, Patrice Bailey and Kathy Cain set up for every Mass. We are thankful to them for all their dedication and hard work.

All families new to the parish and families with incoming First Graders should continue to contact the Faith Formation Office for registration. You can contact the office by phone at: 516-679-9558 or by email at: faithformation@stwilliam.org. Please continue to pray for our students and their families in the Faith Formation Program. Our next Communion Mass will be held, Sunday, August 16th at the 12:00pm Mass.

Queenship of Mary

Come and celebrate the Queenship of Mary on Saturday, August 22 following the 5:00pm Mass. To honor our Blessed Mother Mary. There will be a Rosary Procession throughout the parish grounds. We will stop to recite a decade of the rosary at the various statues. At the end of the Rosary we will process into church for Benediction. The Rosary inspires us to meditate on the mysteries of the lives of Jesus and Mary. This is great opportunity to introduce the Rosary to the young members of our families. Throughout the procession we will maintain proper social distancing and masks will be required.

