



St. William the Abbot

Roman Catholic Church



So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

Luke 2:16-18

January 1, 2023 Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

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

Mass Intentions

Sunday, Jan. 1, 2023

Kevin Rich
Charles Kiefer
Mary, Peter & Ben
DeGaetano
Jean Marie Rogers
Vincent Miles

Monday, Jan. 2, 2023

Dennis O'Connor

Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2023

Trevor Verga

Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2023

Gisela Giese

Thursday, Jan. 5, 2023

Fr. James Hansen

Friday, Jan. 6, 2023

Collective Intentions

Erin Brown
Thomas Gattringer
Louise Driscoll
Charles Kiefer

Saturday, Jan. 7, 2023

Purgatorial Society
Carole Orth

Pray for the Deceased

Norma Mosia
Maureen McDonough

Gloria Mitesser
Carmine Serravalli

Pray for the Sick

Richard Fedyk
Vincent Rapacciuolo
John Reynolds
Eric Thomas Guzzo
Nancy Priola

Kristin Valerga-Goetze
Joey DiCarlo
Brayden George Centeno
Lesla Laurence
Keith Gorton

Wine and Hosts

The Wine and Hosts used at Mass this week have been donated in loving memory of
Rose A. Sisalli
with love from her family

Sanctuary Candle

The Sanctuary Candle used at Mass this week have been donated in loving memory of
Angelina Selvaggio
from her family

Altar Candles

The Altar Candles used at Mass this week have been donated in loving memory of
Sam Marino
from the Marino Family

Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

Bumper stickers often catch my eye, riding on the Southern State or on Sunrise Highway – there are some good ones, and especially during this time of year. Feliz Navidad, Happy Birthday Jesus, Powered by Reindeer, the Roman Catholic Church - established in 33 AD, and of course - Keep the Christ in Christmas. One that caught my eye this year was Keep the Mass in Christmas. I have to say, last weekend was so encouraging with the response of those who attended Mass here at St. William the Abbot on both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. As we move into a New Year, 2023, I am praying for a personal and parish revival celebrating the Eucharist and return to Mass for our families. As a priest, my greatest joy is celebrating the Mass – where the whole parish gathers as a people of faith, and in great humility says thank you to God, and asks for His daily assistance. Sometimes we forget that the person whose birthday we are celebrating on December 25th is often the one who does not receive a gift, and all He truly desires is our presence – not presents.

No one was more aware of that presence than Mary of Nazareth, and as we kick off the New Year by honoring her with this huge feast day, maybe we can make it our focus to honor her with a greater effort in 2023. So many of you told me – “Father, my Christmas gift was that my kids and grandkids joined me for Mass!” The new sweaters, shoes, scarves, crosses, necklaces, and even a few engagement rings made it into Church last weekend. What a gift it would be to keep that same passion and joy of placing Our Lord and Our Lady at the center of our lives, family, and faith journey. We do that not only because God gave us the commandment to ‘keep Holy the Sabbath,’ but to deepen our friendship and relationship with HIM and the community. God in His wisdom gave us the Sabbath – to slow down, to be aware of our loved ones, and to make just a little time for God in the midst of a hectic week of work, school, activities, and many other stresses.

The readings over the past few days often point out how Mary and Joseph were able to sit calmly in the presence of Jesus – to ponder, discern, plan, and then know how to act/move. Our culture and media will be quick to challenge us to come up with resolutions for self-help and self-reliance – and then be the first to criticize or knock us down if we fail to be perfect in that quest. The Lord invites us to pray and discern what is truly best for us – and when we do respond and follow HIS will for us there is nothing that can possibly get in the way for accomplishing his plan, goal, or vocation He is laying out. Mary and Joseph are the great models of doing that – those first few years of Christ’s life were challenging, and messy – but the Holy Family trusted in God’s plan for them, and so must we. Perhaps that simple message will be our bumper stick, “Be Like Mary, and Trust God!”

The past week was a little slower than usual – which allowed me to pause and remember with great gratitude the response of so many of the St. William the Abbot ministries and parish staff. I would like to acknowledge once again our rectory and office staff, the St. William the Abbot school administration, support staff and teachers, Faith Formation staff, catechists, and volunteers, the maintenance, and custodial staff for the set up and breakdown of the Church and Auditorium for the Christmas Masses, and the beauty of the campus; the incredible response from Social Ministry and Outreach’s attentiveness and care for the homebound and needy individuals and families. Thank you to our Deacons, Seminarians, and the religious Sisters in the Ursuline and Dominican convents for the witness of your faith and lives. To Jenn, Paul, and those who assisted with music, we are grateful for your talents and gifts, and to Bob Moulder and all the ushers, the altar servers, our extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, lectors, decoration elves, the crossing guards, and sacristans – you are seen and appreciated. You all contributed to make this Christmas Season Merry, Bright, Joyful, and Beautiful.

Finally, Blessed Mother we turn to you – protect us with your mantle, and help bring clarity to our lives, as well as guidance and direction to our families, our parish, and world. May we too, keep all these things in our hearts to reflect on. Mary Mother of the Church, Pray for us!

Happy New Year!



Purgatorial Society

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.

Loretta Swain, Gaetano Emmolo, Jr., Roberto Goffredo, Cathryn Passaro, Maria Rosa, Rose Mirabile, Charles Bullaro, Jerry Gorman, Gloradine Abenes, James Rodgers.

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



St. Peregrine Prayer

Hour

The Saint Peregrine Prayer Hour will be held on **Monday, Jan. 9th** 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.

Pillar of Prayer

As we start the New Year, try to take up the daily (or weekly) practice of praying the Rosary. Turn to Our Lady in prayer through the Rosary and invite Her into your life - to help you grow closer to Her Son.



Christmas at St. William the Abbot



Christmas at St. William the Abbot



St. William the Abbot School

It was a busy few weeks leading up to break with Breakfast with Santa, the Polar Express, gingerbread houses, and the 8th Grade trip to NYC, but the real reason for the Christmas Season is always at the heart of what we do! In preparation for Birth of Jesus, the upper grades attended Confession, Prayer Services, and Adoration. The younger grades each visited Church for special story time with Fr. Joe, and the 4th Grade prepared the Christmas Liturgy and Nativity for the school community.



The Celebration Walk was a huge success! Students from all grades were able to show off their biggest accomplishments from the first half of the year in front of their families before heading to our Christmas Liturgy.

Classes were able to surprise each other with our Operation Secret Santa!

From stories to specially prepared Christmas Carols and cookie decorating, it was a special treat and lesson on the beauty of giving for everyone!



Parish Social Ministry

Extra Grocery Bags?

If you have extra grocery or shopping bags at home, please consider donating them to the Parish Social Ministry. We are in need of bags for sending food home with the families we serve. Bags with handles and reusable bags are particularly appreciated. Thank you for your support!

Pantry Needs

Coffee
Cooking Oil
Pasta Roni

Laundry Detergent
Mustard
Chocolate Pudding Mix



Thank You Seaford Lions and Memorare Knights of Columbus



We would like to sincerely thank the Seaford Lions and the Memorare Knights of Columbus for supporting our ministry to serve those in need. Recently, both the Lions and the Knights provided tickets to Christmas events for families served by our office, and the children of these families were treated to a special visit with Santa! In addition to these parties, the Lions and Knights have always been generous donors to the Social Ministry, allowing us to help our neighbors that need it most. They are a great example of faith in action, and we truly could not serve our Parish as generously as we do without their support.

Home Heating Assistance Available

Applications for obtaining HEAP benefits are currently being accepted! HEAP is the Home Energy Assistance Program, which helps low-income individuals and families pay for the cost of heating their homes. Eligibility and benefits are based on multiple criteria such as income, household size and heating source. If you are eligible, you may receive one regular HEAP benefit per program year. You could also be eligible for emergency HEAP benefits if you are in danger of running out of fuel or having your utility service shut off. For more information or to apply, visit <https://otda.ny.gov/programs/heap/>

Affordable Connectivity Program

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is offering an Affordable Connectivity Program which provides a \$30/month subsidy to pay for broadband internet services. This subsidy can be used for any internet service provider. In addition, 20 internet service providers have committed to offer discounted service plans for those using the subsidy. This program has income eligibility requirements, but your household automatically qualifies if you currently receive SNAP, National School Lunch/Breakfast Program, Medicaid, SSI, WIC, Veterans Pension or Survivors Benefits. Visit the FCC's website to apply at www.fcc.gov/acp.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The next meeting of the Prayer Shawl Ministry will be on Tuesday January 3rd. The meeting will occur at 10am in the Abbey. This ministry knits and crochets lap robes, blankets, hats, scarves, and other items for the sick and needy of our community. Yarn is provided, and new members at any skill level are always welcome!



Refer a Friend in Need

Do you know someone in need of assistance? Your Parish Social Ministry offers confidential support and advice regarding hardships experienced by adults and seniors who may be struggling with sensitive issues. We have access to relevant state, local and charity-based programs that may help, and we offer other services such as client advocacy and regular use of our food pantry. Partnering with our St. Vincent de Paul conference, we help with budgeting, expense management and building financial independence. For more information call the Parish Social Ministry office 516-679-8532

Consider Automated Giving

Automated giving provides a steady stream of support. It is a great way to manage your Sunday Offerings without the worry of missing a payment and the worry of forgetting your weekly envelope.

We are able to offer the ability of having Sunday Offerings deposited directly from your checking or savings account into the St. William's account. This would apply only to weekly collections, not to any second collections, such as Holy Days, Catholic Relief Services, etc.

The form to begin this process can be printed, filled out and mailed to the Rectory. Please be sure to attached a voided check.

Authorization Agreement for Automated Giving

I, _____, hereby authorize the R. C. Church of St. William the Abbot, 2000 Jackson Avenue, Seaford, NY 11783 to initiate debit entries to my Checking () Savings () account indicated below and the depository named below to debit the same such amount.

Amount \$ _____ Monthly on the fifteenth of the month.

Depository: Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Banking Transit ABA # _____
(always nine digits)

Bank Account Number _____

(Attach to this form a voided check if checking account debit or a pre-printed savings deposit ticket if savings account).

This authorization is to remain in full force effect until the R. C. Church of St. William the Abbot has received written notification at least five business days in advance of the desired termination date.

(Authorized signature for above account)

(Print Name)

Date: _____

If second signature is required:

(Authorized signature for above account)

(Print Name)

Date: _____

Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God.

We know that Mary is Jesus' mom. Why is she called the Mother of God? The Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit are all three persons in one God. That means that we can call Mary, "Mother of God" or "Mother of Jesus!"



Year A: Solemnity of the Virgin, the Mary Mother of God

Catholic Kids
Bulletin

January 1, 2025
Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin
Mary, the Mother of God
Color Write

KJWPEOMAYPGODPWBLESSIWAJ

BEAMERCYPWOIEJAISO

May God
bless us in
his mercy.

PEOIAJUSOEAPINTOEKA

BEWOPAHISOWPAKEMOZDIAKSE



It is still the
Christmas season.
Merry Christmas!

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The Angel Gabriel told Mary that she would have a baby. He told her to name Him, "Jesus."
Today, we see Mary give him that name.

Follow the lines to write Jesus' name.

S E U S J



Gospel



The shepherds visited Jesus and spread the good news that our Savior had been born!

Year A: Solemnity of the Virgin, the Mary Mother of God

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www.stwilliam.org

Facebook Instagram @stwilliamabbot

- Pastor -

Rev. Joseph H. Fitzgerald

priests@stwilliam.org

- Deacons -

Dcn. Anthony Cedrone

Dcn. Michael Metzdorff

Dcn. John Lynch

Dcn. Joseph Tumbarello

Dcn. Steven McClernon

information@stwilliam.org

- Rectory Staff -

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Sue McCormick

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Kate Walsh

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- Faith Formation -

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Maria Paguaga

Office Assistant

- 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 Parisbioner



Herley Mendez
SWA Parisbioner

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