

St. William the Abbot

Roman Catholic Church



Welcome to St. William the Abbot

The Baptism of the Lord January 10, 2021



"You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." - Mark 1:11

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
Seaford, NY 11783
stwilliam.org

Banns of Marriage

Christopher Bonetti

SWA

&

Hira Saeed

St. Patricks RC Church, Huddersfield, UK

The bread and wine used at mass this week
were donated in loving memory of

Jeanne Cox

from Kevin Cox.

Pray for the Sick

Dominick Gudice

Richard Ford

Patricia Swedenberg

Pray for the Deceased

Sofia Ortiz

Walter Karas

Joan T. Desmond

Frances Giarratano

Emily Angelo

Florence Cuomo

Rosemary Shortis

Peter Himmelmann

Patrick Russo

Mass Schedule

Daily Mass

Monday - Friday 8:30am

Weekend Mass

Saturday 8:30am & 5pm

Sunday 7:30am, 9am, 10:30am, & 12pm

The Presider Schedule can be found on stwilliam.org.

Mass Intentions

Monday, January 11, 2021

John Gauci

Tuesday, January 12, 2021

Vincent J. Russo

Wednesday, January 13, 2021

Peter Montalbano

Stella Power

Arlen Heller

Robert Jacoby

Thursday, January 14, 2021

Stephen Gaughan

Friday, January 15, 2021

Herbert Haas

Saturday, January 16, 2021

Purgatorial Society

Vito Magrino

Sunday, January 17, 2021

Nocturnal Adoration

People of St. William's

Felicia Durante

Lena Visconti

Thomas D. Paolucci

Lois Gallagher

Joseph Lane

Nicole Tedeschi

The Mass Intentions are celebrated each day by a member of the Clergy, in either a public Mass or private Mass. Please be advised the current Mass schedule may not allow the family to be present for all Mass Intentions celebrated.

The Baptism of Our Lord

September 17, 1971 - This is the most important day of my life. It is when my parents brought me to Saint Patrick's church in Bay Ridge, and my Uncle Bob, Father Robert Emmett Hearn baptized me. It began a relationship that will last through eternity. Do you know your date of baptism? I was challenged by a faithful Catholic woman when I was a young man to know that date as if it was a birthday, feast day, or any other significant life anniversary. Perhaps you can sit as a family, maybe go to your filing cabinet, or pull out the scattered papers underneath your bed to find your baptismal certificate, and write it down, or put it in your phone to remind you. It is the day you were claimed for Christ!

This weekend, for us as a church we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord, and theologically we know that Jesus did not need to be baptized and purified from Original Sin. In fact, many of the early Church writers described his presence in the water as what purifies and makes the water holy for all others. When Jesus submitted and allowed John to baptize him, he shows us the way for all to be saved. To walk as he did, and this significant moment (the Baptism) begins his life's ministry.

The Baptism Scriptures reveal the roadmap and invitation for all Christian disciples to follow. At the moment of our baptism, we enter into a relationship with God the Father. This is the most important core of who you are – not because of the things that we “do,” but simply the bond and mark of faith that is put on our souls. We are claimed, loved, and protected by God. The relationship also reveals our deepest identity, and just as the message that came from the sky above – “YOU ARE MY BELOVED,” it is said of you and I as well. We too are beloved daughters and sons of God, in whom he is well pleased.

Nothing changes that, no sin, no action or lack of action. We are given a dignity over all other creation. We have seen how humanity can be exploited for the functional service of consumers. We get on the treadmill of life, school, college, work, promotion, retirement, and then we volunteer our time. The world preaches a utilitarian Gospel – what can you “do” for me? What can you give me? What have you done for me lately? We can carry that over into the Church world as well. We place our identity on the functions we do in the parish – altar server, EM, usher, lector, outreach shelf stocker, greeter, CYO coach. These are all necessary ministries and ways to build up the Kingdom of God and our parish – but in the time of a Global Pandemic those services and functions change. But our identity and worth in the eyes of God does not.

If I may point to a group of parishioners who have been a rock of faith and inspiration for me, the 80 -100 daily communicants and morning Eucharistic Adoration faithful. For non-believers it would appear that they come each day and “just sit there” – how can this be effective? How can this make a difference? As so many of you communicate to me, “Father, I look at Him, and He looks at me – and I tell Him everything. The joys, the hurts, the worry, the confusion. I present my loved ones and family, the parish, the priests, sisters, deacons, seminarians, the school, and just lay that all at His feet.” Some would ask, “Is that it?” “No, in front of Jesus, I know that I am cared for and loved!” They sit in His gaze.

My friends, for 2021, can I encourage you to make some space in your life, and schedule for a little more Jesus time. I do know how difficult is to be in this pause mode for our ministries and those who have so generously served, but the Lord is allowing the ground of the parish to fallow – to replenish the nutrients of grace, and hope. In this natural slow down, I believe the Lord is allowing us to relish in those words, “you are my Beloved” – not because of what you do, or did, or will do for the parish – but just because of that great dignity bestowed on you at your Baptism.

The Baptism of Jesus ends the Christmas Season, we move to Ordinary Time. What will that mean for us this year? Can we make this time less about what we “do” for God, and more about giving permission to “BE”-LOVED by God? To actually slow down – not speed up as the rest of the world is doing. After all we are not Human Doings, we are Human Beings. So, be in His presence, His Gaze, His Word, His Silence. Let that be the “ordinary” of our time and life, and if we do that, I am pretty sure our time and life will be EXTRAORDINARY!

I want to acknowledge and thank you once again all for your commitment to the parish and responding to ‘be and make’ Disciples. As always thank you for presence and generosity, especially at Christmas.

Peace,



Memorials Available

We are pleased to announce that the Sanctuary Candle and the Altar Candles that are used at Mass throughout the week are now available as memorials.

Anyone wishing to donate the Sanctuary Candle or the Altar Candles in memory of a loved one or on the occasion of an anniversary, birthday, etc., can make this request at the Rectory. Please call 516-785-1266. The offering for the Sanctuary Candle is \$15 and the offering for the Altar Candles is \$30. The name of the person will be announced in the bulletin for each week the candles are donated.

Year-End Tax Statements

Please note that year-end statements for your taxes will not be automatically mailed out. They may be obtained upon request from the Rectory. Please call 516-785-1266 to request your statement, or email your name, address, phone number and envelope number to information@stwilliam.org.

Reconciliation

Reconciliation is offered Monday - Saturday from 7:00 am - 8:30 am.

You may also schedule your time for confession by emailing priests@stwilliam.org.



Safety Protocols



As more of you are returning back to in-person Mass, we want to re-emphasize that all of our safety protocols are still in place. Please allow the ushers to seat you - they have been carefully trained in our seating arrangement that will enable us to get the maximum number of worshippers seated in the Sanctuary while maintaining social distancing.

Arrive Early & Wear Your Mask



Also, we do ask that everyone arrive early so that we can everyone seated before the start of Mass. We ask that all parishioners wear their mask covering their nose and mouth at all times while inside the church.

LIVE-STREAMED MASSES

The Monday - Friday 8:30am Daily Mass and the Sunday 12pm Mass can be viewed on the parish website stwilliam.org

Light a Prayer Candle



Lighting candles has long been a sacred ritual in all traditions, creating precious moments in our own and other people's lives where we pray for loved ones, friends, and ask for or give support.

Prayers for those in the Military

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
Sgt. Brian Kirby
Major Eamon G. McArdle
Sgt. Donald Rogers
Major Christopher James Ustler
Major Kurtis Unger

US Navy -

Lt. Joseph Fitzgerald
Ensign Michael Napolitano
MMN2 Emily Partridge
Commander Michael Sean Slatley

USMC -

Lt. Kevin J. Butler
2nd Lt. Dana Duggan
Private John Mosier
Sgt. Robert Nesci
LCpl Christopher Russell

US Coast Guard -

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

US Air Force -

Capt. Matthew B. Frasse
AIC William Hughes
Tech. Sgt. Karl Muench
Major Thomas F. Shields

BREAKING BREAD
2021



At this time we are able to offer the sale of individual missals for \$10 per missal. Please bring a check for \$10 payable to St. William the Abbot or \$10 exact cash to the rectory. There will be no change for cash purchases. We have a limited number at this time, so it is a first come first served basis. Please come to the rectory door Monday – Friday from 9am-5pm to purchase your missal.

Rectory News

The Rectory is issuing Mass Cards, enrollment in the Purgatorial Society, Memorializing the Wine, Host and Altar Flowers. Please call the Rectory for more information (516) 785-1266.

CONTACT THE PRIESTS

Please send your email to priests@stwilliam.org to contact Fr. Joe, Fr. James or Fr. Collins directly.

CONTACT THE PASTORAL COUNCIL

Please send your email to pastoralcouncil@stwilliam.org.

QUESTIONS FOR COMMUNICATIONS

Please send your email to igomez@stwilliam.org.

CONTACT FAITH FORMATION

Please send your email to faithformation@stwilliam.org or contact the office directly at (516) 783-2528.

CONTACT SOCIAL MINISTRY

Please send your email to socialministry@stwilliam.org or contact the office directly at (516) 679-8532.

CONTACT MUSIC MINISTRY

Please send your email to mgeorgetti@stwilliam.org.

QUESTIONS FOR THE RECTORY

Please send your email to information@stwilliam.org.

CONTACT THE BUSINESS MANAGER

Please send your email to jgoldman@stwilliam.org.

CONTACT THE SCHOOL St. William the Abbot School



Office: 516.785.1266
2001 Jackson Avenue
Seaford, NY 11783
stwilliamtheabbot.net
(516) 785-6784

Low Gluten Hosts Available at Mass

For those who must avoid gluten in their diet, the parish has low-gluten hosts available for Holy Communion. If you wish to receive such a host, please arrive prior to Mass and inform the priest and he will place your host in a oyx.

Food Donations

The food donations bins will no longer be located in the Church. Please bring all donations directly to Parish Social Ministry Office, the church no longer has donation bins. The Social Ministry office is located South of the Church.

Monday - Friday
9:30am - 4:00pm
Sunday
9:00am - 12:00pm

Rectory News

CANNED FRUIT
CANNELINI BEANS
RAISINS
GRAPE JELLY

SALAD DRESSING
DISH SOAP
DETERGENT
DIAPERS 5 & 6

Bereavement Ministry

Although we cannot hold actual Bereavement Ministry sessions at this time due to the restrictions of meetings, we want you to know that we care about the grief you are experiencing. Let us help you take the walk in your grief journey. Trained facilitators are available to support you. Our mission is to help you to find peace in the midst of dealing with your loss. Please call Parish Social Ministry at (516) 679-8532.

Homebound

Do you know someone who is homebound or lonely? Please let us know so we can reach out to them in the spirit of Christ. Perhaps they need someone to food shop for them. Please call (516) 679-8532.

Caring for the Caregiver

Although our program cannot currently meet we are reaching out to those who are caring for a homebound family member. You are filled with compassion for your loved one, it is not an easy situation. The time involved and the emotions you experience can be overwhelming. Particularly at this time you may be without a backup caregiver which compounds the stress. If you would like to call to speak to someone experienced with these situation, please do so (516) 679-8532.

Faith Formation

Today the Church celebrates the Baptism of Jesus. Jesus was not baptized at a younger age because he is the Son of God and he was born without sin. As Jesus was getting older, he knew that he wanted to spread the good news from God and wanted to be baptized from John the Baptist to show people when you get baptized you are being forgiven of sin and that you are making a commitment to be part of the Church and become one like God; to be a good person, a better person. The Church is important for all of us and it also allows us to become closer to God, especially when feeling like there is no hope.

Below is a Reflection about the Church that Christopher Goetz who is in 8th grade wrote.

There are so many people, especially in the year 2020, who feel lost or sad. Many people have lost their jobs and don't have enough food to eat, or even a roof over their head. Children are isolated from their friends, we have to wear masks all day long, and we can't even play school sports. It's easy to think about your own problems and then feel like there's no hope. If you listen to God's word, you will hear about hope and sacrifice and all feel good things. When you feel that you have nowhere to turn, God is always there. It is comforting to know that. I think everyone would benefit from listening to God. Sitting in church or taking quiet time at home are the best places to look up at the sky and imagine that you're talking to Jesus. It always makes me feel better when I do that.

The 2nd Parent/Child Session started up again on January 6th. Mrs. Walsh, Michele Atanasio, and Fr. Joe discussed about the Church of how important it is to come together as a Community, and to pray to God and ask for guidance and for our loved ones. Just as Christopher Goetz stated above; God is always there. A Church Tour was given so that the children can get a better understanding about the Church. Everyone learned something that they never knew before. Below is some of the work from our Faith Formation Program students who are working on their assignments.



Antonia Timiani -
Corporal Works of Mercy Mobile



Skyler Kurz – Jesus' Teachings



Isabella Meyer – Church Work

**ARE YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW CONSIDERING COMING INTO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH,
OR ARE YOU ALREADY BAPTIZED AND WISH TO RECEIVE THE SACRAMENTS OF EUCHARIST AND CONFIRMATION?**

BECOME CATHOLIC

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT: JO-ANN METZDORFF AT RCIA@STWILLIAM.ORG





A Thank You from the Rectory:

On behalf of Fr. Collins, Fr. James, Herley and I, we wanted to say thank you for the many beautiful cards, encouraging letters, generous gifts, meals, cookies, pies, cakes, and other snacky snacks that made their way into the rectory.

We are so blessed to be assigned here at St. William the Abbot by Bishop Barres, and to journey with you all as a community, and family of faith. Let us continue to lift each other up in prayer – and may the Lord bless us with an abundance of Joy, Hope, and Love in 2021.

God Bless You.

Fr. Joe



STUMP THE PRIEST !



The Interpretation of Scripture Can I interpret the Bible on my own?

One thing I love about belonging to the Catholic Church is its structure! The simplicity of the Baltimore Catechism, the respect for Apostolic Succession, and the preservation of the great faith handed down to us. I love picking up the bible, reading a section of scripture that makes no sense to me but having the tools and resources to realize that much smarter theologians and SAINTS have studied and interpreted these same verses in the light of faith – and this is handed down to all of us.

So the question: Can I interpret the Bible on my own? I'd like to share some thoughts from a book by Trent Horn called *Hard Sayings*. Trent poses this question: Imagine if every American had the authority to decide what the U.S. Constitution means. There would be pure chaos! The Founding Fathers of our great country had the foresight to create the Supreme Court and it is here that lies the authority to provide all citizens with an equal playing field. The same goes for the Bible – if there is no proper authority to interpret the bible – chaos will reign! So as the advocates of the Reformation cry “sola scriptura” (Faith alone), their claim that the Traditional Authority of the Church has no true authority – Scripture is the only authority – we see what one theologian calls the “blueprint to chaos.” Thus we see the splintering of believers in Christ. In the US alone, we have over 200 different denominations! That was just a quick Google Search – personally, I imagine the number is much greater.

As intelligent as our founding Fathers were, God is the source of all wisdom and knowledge. The “founding fathers of the faith” have Christ Jesus as the Head and 12 Apostles as that authority given to us to interpret the faith and scripture. It's Jesus 12 closest friends – not scholars, not academics – but tax collectors and fishermen. And through Apostolic Succession – the College of Bishops – we see the persevering of the faith to today. Well who gave them authority? Jesus. Is this in Scripture? YES! Is it in the tradition of the Church? YES!

2 Peter 1:20: “No prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation.”

Horn proclaims, “Fortunately, Christ did not leave us orphans. Instead, he gave us the Church guided by the Holy Spirit, so that unlike a fallible Supreme Court, the Church would be capable of infallibly teaching us the nature of Sacred Scripture.”

We believe that Christ, the Head of the Church, gave teaching authority to the 12 Apostles and that the line of Apostles stands unbroken till today – Francis, our Pope, and John, our Bishop. This might be difficult for some of us, especially if we struggle with some of the decisions those in authority in the Church decide on – and it's okay to disagree with certain statements or actions taken by those in authority in the Church. However, I love that every Sunday, we proclaim, “I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church!” Tradition and Scripture – hand in hand – I believe is much bigger than any pope or bishop – the Teachings and interpretation of Scripture handed down to us is like pure crystal clear refreshing water – the purest of water. The vessels that bring us that water – or teach us about that water – myself included – are sinners loved by God. But all of us together, the laity, the religious, the bishops, and even the popes, make up the spotless bride of Christ, the Church – when I think of all of us together, throughout history and into the future – all trying our best to understand Christ in our lives, guided by the Church and the Holy Spirit – I like to think of us as spotless, beautiful, and radiant.

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!"



Catholic Kids

January 1, 2020
Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God
Color: White

Bulletin

KJWPEOMAYPGODPWBLESSIWAI

BEAMERCYPWOIEJAISO

May God
bless us in
his mercy.

PEOIAJUSOEAPINTOEKA

BEWOPAHISOWPAKEMOZDIAKSE



It is still the
Christmas season.
Merry Christmas!



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



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



Reconciliation

Reconciliation will be held in the Church
Monday through Saturday 7:30 AM – 8:30 AM
and on Saturday from 3:45 PM – 4:45 PM.



Personal Prayer

In order to allow for quiet, personal prayer time, the Church will remain open
until 12:00 N Monday through Friday as of Thursday, October 1, 2020.
This will be suspended on days when we have scheduled Funeral Masses.



Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration will be held from 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM
every day, Monday through Saturday.



Rosary

The Rosary prayer time will be held
Monday - Saturday after the 8:30 AM Mass.



Miraculous Medal

Novena Devotions will be held on Saturday's at 8:15 AM.



St. Peregrine

St. Peregrine a prayer group for cancer victims, families, and their care givers.
The Peregrine Hour of Prayer is held on the
first Monday of each month from 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM.