



# St. William the Abbot

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



## January 4, 2026 The Epiphany of the Lord

### 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 – 8:20am

Saturday: 3:45pm – 4:50pm

#### Adoration

Monday – Saturday: 7:15am – 8:20am

First Friday of the Month: 9am – 5pm

#### Private Prayer

Monday – Friday: 7:15am – 6pm

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." Matthew 2:2

### Mass Intentions

#### Sunday, January 4th

7:30am: People of St. William's, John Laddomada

George Faircloth (liv), Robert Wallace

9am: Agnes Canavan

10:30am: Giuseppa Carollo

12n: Theresa Vetere

#### Monday, January 5th

8:30am: Alphonsina Dondiego

#### Tuesday, January 6th

8:30am: Tracy Darmody, Robert Valerga,

Richard Turnbull, Benedetto Roselli

#### Wednesday, January 7th

8:30am: Francis Paul Tursi, Chuck Williamsen (liv),

Robert Valerga, Ralph Bisignano

#### Thursday, January 8th

4:00pm: Patricia Herrmann

#### Friday, January 9th

8:30am: Erika Fuessler

#### Saturday, January 10th

8:30am: Purgatorial Society

5pm: Diane Gaskin

### Pray for the Sick

Richard Fedyk - Rosemary Averill - Barbara Geraghty - Charlie Herbert

Frances Speidell - Thomas Stolfi - Loretta Rederscheld - Ann Gordon

### Pray for the Deceased

Barbara A. Ryan - Patricia Lynn Oliva

### The Altar Candles

have been donated in loving memory of

Patrick Russo

from the Russo & Miller Families

## ***Epiphany 2026 – “Go and search diligently for the child!”***

As we enter this new year of 2026, and approach the celebration of the parish's 100th anniversary, we are challenged to follow this same command – to go and search for the child. I often think about the Google searches I make each day and week on my phone and computer; sure, some are focused on content for my homilies, or biblical research, or even info about a saint. But, I can also be swept up in some political commentary – “did you hear what the president... or governor... or the new mayor said?!” and I am just as guilty to check scores... Islanders and Rangers, college football, and the NFL playoffs. And, most embarrassingly, “what is the origin and meaning of 6-7?” Lord, help me!

There are countless other life technological interruptions that distract us – but the new year is a time to refocus. We can take the focus off ourselves and our screens and look up at the bright lights that God is placing before us. The feast of the Epiphany always comes at the right time. If you remember, it is the celebration of the manifestation and presentation of the Messiah to the rest of the world – to pagans and non-believers – not “just the faithful.” The Christ was not just for the Jews – but for all who would be willing to come, to know, to adore, and to worship the newborn king. But, let's face it, the innkeeper, the local townsfolk, King Herod, even the priests of the temple, were all too busy to recognize that Jesus had entered the world right in front of them. And so, it was the shepherd, the Magi, and the angels who give us a gentle reminder to refocus and look up!

Have you looked up from your personal screens to allow for family quality time? It is in the facetime of family meals, and car rides, and snow shoveling, and maybe even sledding last week, where the meaningful and deep conversations can actually occur. So often I hear parishioners speak of a desire for older, simpler times, when family and faith were at the center of our lives; Grandma's Sunday dinner after Mass, stopping at the bakery for fresh bread, rolls, and dessert – everyone was there, no excuses. I recently saw a law or mandate that has been enacted in a few different countries, and even here in New York, that places warnings on devices for social media and what our young people are searching for and looking at. Are we passing on the responsibility of parenting to the state? People, wake up, and you “go and search for your children!”

I believe in this new year that the Lord is calling us once again to take a personal inventory of life, family, and loved ones. Where is our focus? Where is the focus of our time and calendar scheduled? The last thing we need is one more activity for the kids and grandkids that keep them away from our guidance and instruction. Trust me, your kids would rather have a catch and conversation in the backyard with you – not some former, mediocre high school or college athlete at one of our local fields and parks. You will never get this time back.

It's time for a personal epiphany – or an “a-ha moment.” We have the ability now to be intentional and focus our direction and attention on the things that will get us to heaven and not mindless distractions and timewasters. The Lord understands that life is busy and that we have responsibilities for ourselves and the ones we love. Jesus does not shy away from our messiness and imperfections, but desires to enter in – but He will not force Himself on us – we must invite Him. Remember where the Wise Men found him; in a dirty, smelly barn. Don't worry, our heart, our family, and our generational baggage does not scare God. Our God is merciful, forgiving, and loving. And that, my friends, is good news. In fact, it is the Good News! Now, we must tell others where to search.

May I invite you to take some time this week and discern what your faith experience will look like in this new year? Small, simple areas to grow individually and as a family: daily prayer, grace before meals, reading the Bible, and going to Sunday Mass. You will experience an epiphany each time you make more room for God when you search – and tell others where to go and see – the Christ Child, the King of Kings!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Fr. Joe". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.



## ***Baptisms***

Let us welcome the following children who were baptized this past weekend:

Santino DiPreta  
Gabriel Quagliano  
Madison Roy  
Romeo Thompson  
Sienna Tuxen

## ***Pillar of Hospitality***

In today's Gospel, we hear the story of the magi.

As we near the end of the Christmas season, be sure to keep Christ alive in your hearts. Don't let all the good deeds you performed and all the spiritual formation you developed during the Advent and Christmas seasons stay there - live the meaning of Christmas throughout the year - throughout your life!

## ***Pray for Those in the Military***

Lt. Ian Bayer (USN) - Lt. Rebecca Bayer (USN) - Lt. Ryan Bayer (USN) - Sgt. Craig Bianco (USA) - PFC Jake Cilento (USA) - PFC Ryan Daly (USMC) - Lt. Col. Michael DiPietro (USA) - LCpl Daniel Dugan (USMC) - Capt. Dana Duggan (USMC) - Lt. Joseph Fitzgerald (USN) - Capt. Michael Fitzgerald (USA) - Capt. Christopher J. Frasse (USA) - Capt. Matthew B. Frasse (USAF) - Lt. Col. John Kallo (USA) - STSC (SS) Thomas Kerley (USN) - CW2 Brian Kirby (USA) - Lt. Commander James Knudsen (USCG) - Capt. Caitlin Lee (USA) - Lt. Col Logan Lee (USA) - Major Philip Lettieri, MD (USA) - Lt. Cpl. Kevin Marshall (USMC) - Major Eamon G. McArdle (USA) - Tech. Sgt. Eric Meyers (USAF) - Pvt. Juliana Miller (USA) - Col. Sean Morrow (USA) - Lt. Michael Napolitano (USN) - Lt. Michael O'Hara (USN) - MMN2 Emily Partridge (USN) - Spc. Brian Reip (USA) - Sgt. Donald Rogers (USA) - Airman Carlos Rosado (USAF) - Lt. Col. Thomas F. Shields (USAF) - Lt. Col. Michelle Simpson (USAF) - Commander Michael S. Slatley (USN) - SR Ella Tietz (USCG) - Daniel Timpanaro (USCG) - Lt. Col. Christopher J. Ustler (USA) - Cdr. Katherine Ustler-Lodispoto (USCG) - Michael Vietri (USN) - 2nd Lt. John Whidden (USMC) - Lt. Joseph Yahner (USA) - Pvt. Philip Zanardi (USAR)



## ***St. Peregrine Prayer Hour***

The St. Peregrine Prayer Hour will be held on **Monday, January 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 are invited to come and pray.

## ***Year-End Tax Statement***

Please note that year-end tax statements for your taxes will not be automatically mailed out. They may be obtained by request from the Rectory.

Please call 516-785-1266 or email [information@stwilliam.org](mailto:information@stwilliam.org)



## ***Thank You!***

We want to again thank you for your presence, generosity, and the treats that made their way to the Rectory over Christmas!

We also loved receiving your family Christmas cards and all your well wishes!

May God bless you and your families in this new year!

Fr. Joe, Fr. Michael, and the staff of  
St. William the Abbot



# BLESSING YOUR HOME FOR THE EPIPHANY

“Chalking the Door” is a centuries-old tradition in which we ask for God’s blessings upon our home and families on the Feast of the Epiphany.

Typically done with chalk, you can also print the banner below and affix it over your front door.

**20 + C + M + B + 26**

The “20” and “26” represent the year and the “+” between each letter symbolizes the cross of Jesus Christ. The “C”, “M”, and “B” stand for the latin “Christus mansionem benedicat” (“Christ, bless this house”) and are also the initials of three Wise Men - Casper, Melchior, and Balthazar.

As you chalk your door, or affix the banner, you can recite the following prayer with your family:

God of Light, bless this home. Make it a haven of rest for all in need of your warmth and care. When we go out from this place, may we never lose sight of Christ's light. May all who enter throughout this year find love and light; for Christ has come to dwell in this home and the hearts of those who live here. Amen.



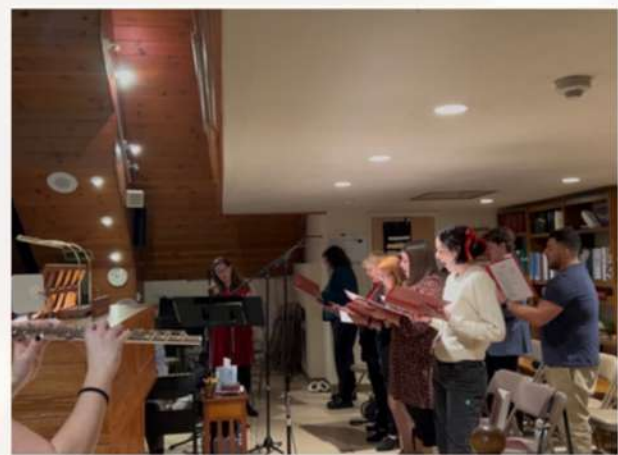


## *Christmas at St. William the Abbot*





## *Christmas at St. William the Abbot*





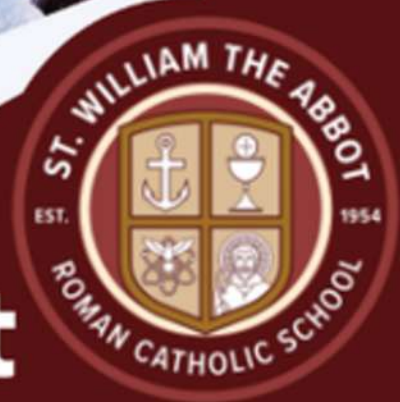
## *Christmas at St. William the Abbot*







# Discover St. William the Abbot



## OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, January 25, 2026

12:00 PM - Mass

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM - Open House

### TEACHING AS CHRIST DID

- Early Childhood (N-Pre-K)
- Elementary School (Grades K-5)
- Middle School (Grades 6-8)



2001 Jackson Avenue Seaford, NY 11783  
[stwilliamtheabbot.net](http://stwilliamtheabbot.net) | 516-785-6784





### ***This Weekend's Music Selections***

We invite you to participate by using the song numbers below and the missals found in the pews.

Entrance Hymn: "We Three Kings" (#117)

Offertory Hymn: "Cold was the Stable" (#103)

Communion Hymn: "Child of the Poor" (#100)

Communion Meditation: "Silent Night"/"Night of Silence" (#83/84)

Recessional Hymn: "Joy to the World" (#90)

Our Children's and Adult Choirs are back in session - visit [stwilliam.org/music-ministry](http://stwilliam.org/music-ministry) for more information on joining!

*"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing." Psalm 100:1-2*

## ***Parish Social Ministry***

### ***Pantry Needs***

Cookies - Cereal - Ketchup - Sugar - Apple Juice - Tissues



### ***Donation Spotlight - Seaford Lions***

We would like to sincerely thank the Seaford Lions for supporting our ministry to serve those in need. Recently, the Lions provided tickets to their annual "Polar Express" holiday party for families served by our office, and the children of these families were treated to a very special afternoon and a visit with Santa! In addition, the Lions made a large Christmas donation 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.

### ***Prayer Shawl Ministry***

The next meeting of the Prayer Shawl Ministry will be on Tuesday January 6 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!



### ***Poinsettias for Our Parish Homebound***

Last week Eucharistic Ministers delivered poinsettias from the Parish to homebound parishioners for Christmas. Each Homebound Eucharistic Minister delivered a poinsettia to their parishioner, including 25 deliveries at Cedar Cove done by EM Keith Glastal! We are so grateful to all of the Parish's Eucharistic Ministers and volunteers for helping us bring joy to the homebound this Advent season!

### ***Local Clothing Donations***



Did you know that used clothing can be donated locally to be re-used by those in need? "The Boutique" in Amityville is run by the Long Island Coalition for the Homeless. This special distribution center allows people in need to come and pick out clothes and other essential items, all for free! Donations of new and used clothing are accepted Tuesday through Thursday, 10am to 3pm at their 600 Albany Avenue location, or by appointment. By helping The Boutique, you also help our Parish families in need, because we can send referrals for our families to shop there! To contact The Boutique, call 631-464-4314.





stwilliam.org

f @stwilliamabbot

Scan here to make a one-time donation  
by Credit Card, Apple Pay, Google Pay, or CashApp

Or visit  
stwilliam.org/ways-to-give



**Rev. Joseph H. Fitzgerald**  
*Pastor*

**Rev. Michael Edathil**  
*Associate Pastor*

priests@stwilliam.org

#### **Deacons**

Dcn. John Lynch      Dcn. Michael Metzdorff  
Dcn. Anthony Cedrone (Retired)  
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

#### **Office of Childhood Faith Formation**

Laura Walsh  
*Director*  
faithformation@stwilliam.org | 516-783-2528  
stwilliam.org/faith-formation

#### **Parish Social Ministry**

Allison Marro  
*Director*  
socialministry@stwilliam.org | 516-679-8532  
stwilliam.org/social-ministry

#### **Music Ministry**

Jennifer Hegmann-Palminteri  
*Director*  
information@stwilliam.org

#### **Rectory Information**

2000 Jackson Avenue  
Seaford, NY 11783  
516-785-1266

Office Hours  
Monday - Thursday: 9am - 12:30pm, 1pm - 4pm  
Friday & Saturday: 9am - 12:30pm

*If there is an emergency where someone is critically ill or injured  
and needs a priest outside of office hours, please call 516-312-7361*

#### **St. William the Abbot School**



Elizabeth Bricker      Kasey Grasso  
*Principal      Assistant Principal*

516-785-6784

stwilliamtheabbot.net

*A 70 Year Legacy of Excellence - Nursery through 8th Grade*

#### **Our Seminarian**

Dcn. Herley Mendez  
*SWA Parishioner*

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

#### **Pastoral Council**

Chris Blankley - Fred Duemig - Barbara Geraghty  
Lara Klein - Kelly Koster - Peter Tietz

#### **Finance Council**

Rita Defendini - Debra Eannel - Robert Gerhard - John Kaley\*  
Tom Kiley - Ed Lettieri\* - Michael Turturro  
\*Parish Trustee

#### **Resources**

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA)  
ocia@stwilliam.org | stwilliam.org/ocia

Baptisms & Weddings at St. William the Abbot  
stwilliam.org/sacraments

Register as a St. William the Abbot Parishioner  
stwilliam.org/i-am-new

Catholic High Schools of Long Island  
chsee.org

Diocese of Rockville Centre  
drvc.org

Formed: The Catholic Faith. On Demand  
formed.org

Tomorrow's Hope Foundation: Financial Aid for Catholic Schools  
tomorrowshopefoundation.org

#### **The Diocese of Rockville Centre**

*Fifth Bishop of Rockville Centre*  
Most Reverend John O. Barres

*Auxiliary Bishops*  
Most Rev. Robert J. Coyle  
Most Rev. Luis Miguel Romero Fernandez, M.Id  
Most Rev. Andrzej Zglejszewski  
Most Rev. John C. Dunne (Retired)

*Bishop Emeritus*  
Most Reverend William Murphy

drvc.org