



# St. William the Abbot

Roman Catholic Church



## March 17, 2024 Fifth Sunday of Lent

### 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

Jesus replied, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.

John 12:23-24

### Mass Intentions

#### Sunday, March 17, 2024

Joseph Perenti

#### Collective Intentions

People of St. William's

Joseph & Patricia

Sheridan

Phyllis Danson

Kristin Valerga-Goetze

Joan Winiarski

Rudy Koenig

Michael Mosca

#### Monday, March 18, 2024

Regina Shanahan

#### Tuesday, March 19, 2024

#### Collective Intentions

James Power

Dolores Marino

#### Tuesday continued...

Valdez & LeGoff Family

(liv)

Joseph A. Nieckarz

Lajla Oliva

#### Wed., March 20, 2024

Lois Capurso

#### Thurs., March 21, 2024

Marrienne Beauzile

#### Friday, March 22, 2024

Joseph Callahan

#### Saturday, March 23, 2024

Purgatorial Society

People of St. William's

### Pray for the Sick

Barbara Mitchell

John Mitchell

Sal Lupo

Sharon Renee Cooper

Mary Ellen Conlon

Dorothy M. Hyman

Richard Fedyk

Kathleen Guele

William Kimbley

Keith Gorton

### Pray for the Deceased

Julie A. Loesch

### Wine and Hosts

The Wine and Hosts used at Mass this week have been donated in loving memory of

Deborah Camp  
from Donald Camp

### Altar Candles

The Altar Candles used at Mass this week have been donated in loving memory of

Lillian Lantini  
from the Santini Family

# The Grain of Wheat

What is the 'grain of wheat' that needs to "die" in us? The Scriptures tell us that unless the grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it cannot produce the fruit it was created and made for. In the faith journey it is no different. There are certain things within us that need to die, or be pruned, or to be removed in order for us to fulfill the fullness of our spiritual walk. We are now a week away from the Passion and Triduum, similar to Jesus drawing closer to Jerusalem to suffer and die for us. What have we sacrificed and allowed to die for Him during Lent this year? Maybe it was dessert, meat on Fridays, Netflix, cold (or room temperature) "adult beverages," idle time, or technology which are all great things to get rid of, but there has to be a "why" behind them. Ultimately it is to remove the extras that prevent us from being one with God, to be in communion. Were you able to do that?

Last weekend I had an opportunity to visit some family and friends in Florida for a little downtime and also parish recon. Outside of the wonderful meals, conversations, and relaxing, I was able to prayerfully enter their parish and observe the way they celebrate the sacraments, greet parishioners and visitors, and experience another vibrant Catholic community similar to SWA. It is always helpful to get a perspective different than the angle and lens you generally look through. This visit affirmed the wonderful approach we have to the sacraments, prayer, outreach to the vulnerable, and the formation of the faithful. It also allowed me to look at certain processes, programs, and systems that could benefit our parish faith community. In some of the conversations, I found myself trying to "die to" the desire to boast about how wonderful we do things here, and also refrain from being too defensive in areas where we can improve. It was a blessing.

In this last week of Lent how can you and I look at ourselves and invite the Lord into the Spring cleaning and pruning that will best prepare us for Holy Week and Easter. We can be tempted to glide into cruise control, but Jesus is calling us to more, to be like him. In his humanity, he grappled with the temptation caused by this looming suffering of Good Friday, and to flee from His "hour" and 'chalice.' But he chooses to be obedient and enters into deeper prayer and trust in the Father and we learn a lesson from His human experience. Jesus easily connects and relates to us, He knows our struggles and suffering, and models the pathway to freedom, redemption, and restoration. It is through the Cross!

Okay St. William the Abbot family, what is causing us hesitation, or fear, or anxiety when we look into the future, to Holy Week and beyond? If there is something blocking you from God; a habit, a sin, even if it is a relationship or person that needs to be pruned or trimmed away from you, try to look at it in the context of the Stations of the Cross. This was the reason Jesus came to earth, to suffer the consequences of our sins and to destroy death itself. The mission comes with a cost, with sacrifice, with suffering and with the temptation toward fear. But it was how Jesus turned to the Father, trusted more and deeper in God that He perfectly overcame this burden. Jesus willfully embraced the Cross, He understood that His suffering and death would glorify the Father in Heaven. His yes glorified the Heavenly Father, and the same must happen in our lives, in our 'yes' to our cross. Sometimes this is hard to embrace, but no matter what we face in life, if it is the will of God then we must see it not only as a suffering to be endured but also as an action by which God will be glorified through our yes.

Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat. The Lord is calling for certain things to be purified, certain things to die within us to make more room for him to flourish and grow. In this short period remaining in Lent, let us prayerfully present to the Lord what he desires to prune in order for our souls to be renewed and bloom. These adjustments and changes may be difficult and, in some cases, painful when we leave behind certain disordered comforts and habits, but the hope and promise of Easter is drawing closer. Be vigilant, hang in there, and rely on the Lord because death leads to New Life.

Thank you for your presence and generosity.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Fr. Joe".

## ***Banns of Marriage***

### **Banns I**

Amanda Grulke, All Saints Parish, Alpena, MI  
& Stephen Bellipario, St. William the Abbot

Lara Klein, St. William the Abbot  
& Akash Jadonandan, St. William the Abbot

### **Banns III**

Melanie Diminico, St. William the Abbot  
& Jack Rung, St. Anthony's, Oceanside

Amanda Santoro, Floral Park, NY  
& Matthew Hunker, St. Agnes Cathedral, Rockville  
Centre

## ***Anointing of the Sick***

Anyone going to the hospital or who has a serious illness can receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, which will be celebrated communally immediately following the 12:00 N Mass on Sunday, March 24th.



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

### **US Air Force -**

Capt. Matthew B. Frasse  
Tech. Sgt. Eric Meyers  
Airman Carlos Rosado  
Major Thomas F. Shields

### **US Army -**

Capt. Caitlin M. Lee  
CW2 Brian Kirby  
Major Eamon G. McArdle  
Spc. Brian Reip  
Sgt. Donald Rogers  
Lt. Col. Christopher James  
Ustler

### **USMC -**

First Lt. Dana Duggan  
L.Cpl. John Mosier

### **US Navy -**

Lt. Joseph Fitzgerald  
Jr. Lt. Ryan Bayer  
Jr. Lt. Rebecca Bayer  
Jr. Lt. Ian Bayer  
STSC (SS) Thomas Kerley  
Lt. Michael O'Hara  
MMN2 Emily Partridge  
Commander Michael Sean Slatley  
Lt. Michael Napolitano  
Michael Vietri

### **US Coast Guard -**

LT Commander James Knudsen  
Daniel Timpanaro  
Commander Katherine Ustler-  
Lodispoto

### **US Army -**

Sgt. Craig Bianco  
Capt. Michael DiPietro  
Capt. Michael Fitzgerald  
Capt. Christopher J. Frasse  
Capt. Logan Lee  
Lt. Col. John Kallo

## ***Mass Intentions & Memorializations***

we will begin accepting 2025 requests for masses (\$20),  
altar flowers (\$100), wine & hosts (\$50), adoration candles (\$30),  
altar candles (\$30), and sanctuary candles (\$15)

**on Wednesday, March 20th at 9:30am**  
in person only at the Rectory office

Mass Intention and Memorialization requests will be limited to 2 masses/memorializations  
per person per visit (one visit per day)

Stipends Payable by Check (St. William the Abbot) or Cash

# LENT AT ST. WILLIAM THE ABBOT

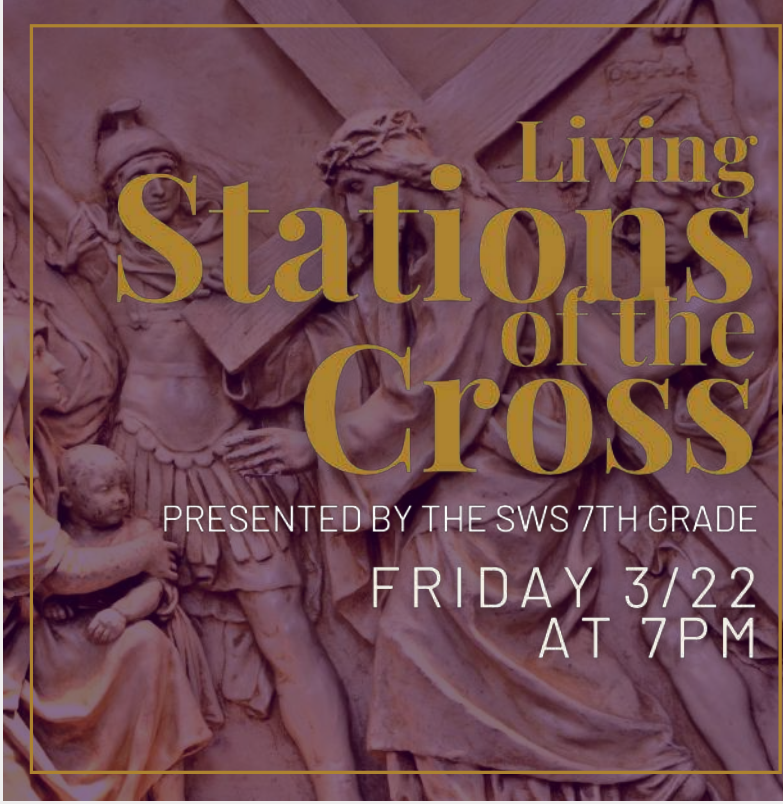
## *Reflect & Renew*



## Lent Mass

WITH FR. LOUIS CONA  
ASSOCIATE PASTOR - ST. PATRICK (SMITHTOWN)  
TUESDAY, MARCH 19TH - 7PM

THIS MASS WILL CONCLUDE OUR  
2024 TUESDAY NIGHT LENTEN SERIES



## Living Stations of the Cross

PRESENTED BY THE SWS 7TH GRADE

FRIDAY 3/22  
AT 7PM

## Men's Prayer Group

EVERY SATURDAY THROUGH 3/23  
6:30AM IN THE ABBEY

# Lent Confession

MONDAY - SATURDAY: 7:15 - 8:20AM

SATURDAY: 3:45-4:50PM

**MERCY MONDAY (3/25): 7:15-8:20AM, 3-9PM**

**HOLY SATURDAY (3/30): 11AM-12:30PM**

(EARLY MORNING AND AFTERNOON CONFESSION IS NOT OFFERED ON HOLY SATURDAY)

*"Always be ready to give an explanation for a reason for your hope"*

1PETER 3:15

MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO COME HOME FOR LENT TO BE ANNOUNCED. VISIT [STWILLIAM.ORG/LENTEASTER24](http://STWILLIAM.ORG/LENTEASTER24)

— HOLY WEEK AT ST. WILLIAM THE ABBOT —

MARCH 23RD & 24TH

# Palm Sunday

SATURDAY: 5PM

SUNDAY: 7:30AM, 9AM, 10:30AM, 12N

MARCH 25TH

# Mercy Monday

CONFESSIONS: 7:45-8:30AM, 3-9PM

MARCH 28TH

# Holy Thursday

MORNING PRAYER: 9AM

SOLEMN CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER: 7PM

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: 8-10PM

NIGHT PRAYER: 10:15PM

MARCH 29TH

# Holy Friday

MORNING PRAYER: 9AM

SOLEMN CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION: 3PM

MARCH 30TH

# + Holy Saturday

MORNING PRAYER & FOOD BLESSING: 9AM

CONFESSION: 11AM - 12:30PM

EASTER VIGIL: 8PM

MARCH 31ST

# Easter Sunday

MASSES: 7:30AM, 9AM, 10:30AM, 12N

*"Always be ready to give an explanation for a reason for your hope"*

1 PETER 3:15

VISIT [STWILLIAM.ORG/LENTEASTER24](http://STWILLIAM.ORG/LENTEASTER24)

# Easter Memorializations



## **Paschal Candle**

Every year, the new Paschal Candle is blessed and lit for the first time at the Easter Vigil. Over the year, it is used at special liturgies, including baptismal and funeral celebrations, as a symbol of hope and new life, representing Jesus' resurrection.

## **Holy Thursday Altar of Repose & Pathway Lighting**

On Holy Thursday, all consecrated Eucharistic is removed from the church tabernacle and brought to the Altar of Repose. There, we have the opportunity to pray before the Blessed Sacrament until the conclusion of night prayer. Many people have the tradition of visiting three different Altars on this special night. For us, this Altar is prepared and decorated with flowers, candles, and greenery in the Convent Chapel. The path from the church to the chapel will be lined with torches and candles.



## **Auditorium Altar**

To accommodate the large number of visitors to our parish for Easter, we will prepare the Msgr. Leavey Auditorium in the St. William the Abbot School for masses, including music, fresh flowers and other decor.

## **Easter Vigil Candles**

The Easter Vigil begins in darkness, and slowly comes to light as parishioners each light a personal candle in their pew to represent the risen Christ, driving away darkness.



## **Altar Flowers & Window Arrangements**

On Holy Saturday, our sanctuary is transformed into a garden of fresh flowers, greenery, floral trees, and candles. This year, we intend to use lilies, hydrangeas, tulips, hyacinths, kalanchoe, and calandiva plants to make our space come alive with the colors and smells of the spring season.

Return the below to the Rectory or visit [stwilliam.org/lenteaster24](http://stwilliam.org/lenteaster24) to reserve online



<i>Item</i>	<i>Available</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Qty</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Qty</i>
Paschal Candle	1	\$1000		Lily Plant	\$35	
Altar of Repose	1	\$350		Hydrangea Plant	\$30	
Auditorium Altar	1	\$250		Tulip Plant	\$20	
Altar Trees/Greenery	4	\$100		Hyacinth Plant	\$20	
Vigil Candles	6	\$75		Kalanchoe/Calandiva	\$15	
HT Path Torches	6	\$50				
Window Arrangements	9	\$25				

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

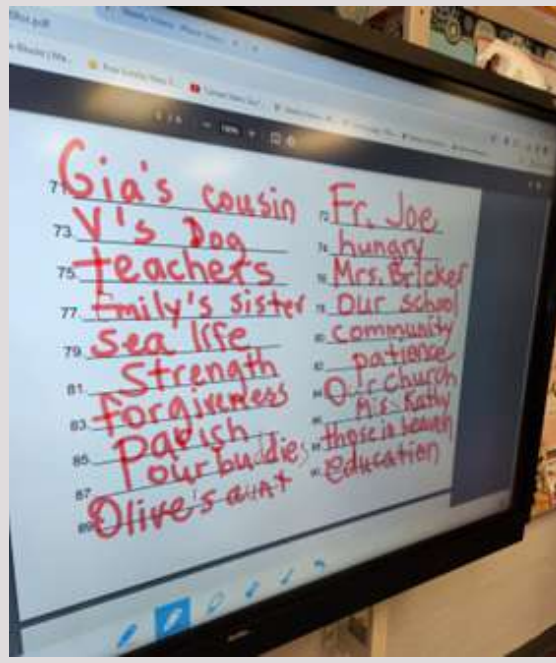
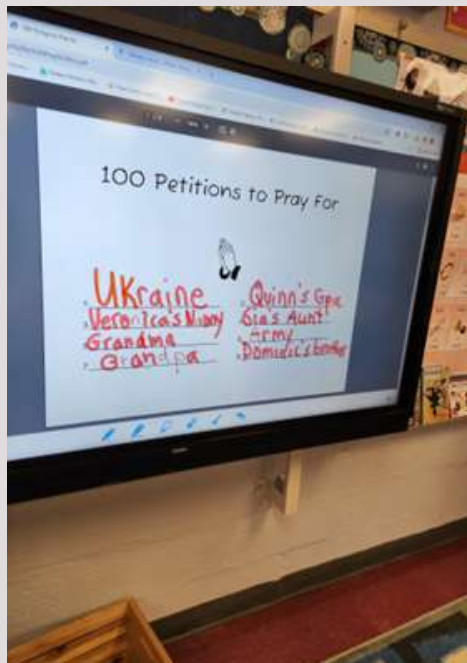
Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ In Memory Of - or - ☐ In Honor Of Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Checks can be made payable to St. William the Abbot

Mrs. Kuehn's class celebrated 100 Days of Learning by completing various STREAM tasks throughout the day. They completed a booklet of 100 Words, built castles and towers with 100 cups, counted 100 Legos and built a tower taller than themselves! The first graders used 100 dice, dominoes, linking cubes, blocks, and tens sticks to create all kinds of things! The best project of the day was coming up with 100 petitions to pray for!



# Chrism Mass

March 26, 2024 • 4:00 p.m.  
at the Cathedral of St. Agnes, Rockville Centre



All are invited to attend in person.

This Mass will be broadcast live on the Catholic Faith Network:  
Optimum channel 29/137, Verizon FiOS channel 296 and Time Warner Cable  
channel 471. Viewers can watch the Mass online at [cfntv.org](http://cfntv.org).



POWERED BY DRVC OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

## Girl Scout Sunday

Last week we celebrated Girl Scout Sunday and 7 of the SWS 2nd Grade Brownies received their Ave Maria Award, which they worked on at home on their own time.

Congratulations to Valentina, Ella, Allison, Sophia, Mackenzie, Gabriella, and Mary!

Our Girl Scouts set an example as they live by their promise to serve God, their community, and to show kindness at all times. We thank them and their Troop Leaders for all their hard work and dedication!



## Faith Formation

The Level 8 students gathered together this past weekend to participate in their Confirmation Retreat.

The students nurtured their relationship with God through discussion, song, games, and journaling.

Please keep them, their catechists, sponsors, and families in your prayers as they continue to prepare to receive the Holy Spirit in May.



## Family Soup Supper

This Lent, families with school-aged children gathered for a traditional Lent soup supper. Families broke bread together, and also learned of the importance of the pillars of Lent (prayer, fasting, and almsgiving), and also the importance of being grateful for all we have been blessed with.

Afterwards, following the Stations of the Cross lead by Fr. Joe and children of the parish, everyone had the opportunity to pray before a relic of the cross Jesus was crucified on. It was a very special, very moving experience for everyone involved.

Thank you to members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society and Homebound Ministry for your help with this event!

## ***Parish Social Ministry***

### ***Pantry Needs***

This week we are collecting toiletries for Parish families in need because they are not covered by SNAP (food stamps). If you would like to donate, suggested items you can choose from are toothpaste/toothbrushes, deodorant, soap, shampoo, conditioner, body moisturizer, razors and shaving cream. Thank you!

### ***Thank You - Woman's Club of Massapequa***

A very special thank you to the Woman's Club of Massapequa for their cash donation to help fund the purchase of items for our food pantry. Their recent donation will help us stock the fridge and freezer with proteins so that our families have well-balanced meals and stay healthy and strong. The Woman's Club Child Welfare Committee is in frequent contact with us to ensure our families have everything they need, and we are grateful. Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

### ***Job Fair March 21st***

The Town of Hempstead will be hosting a job fair on Thursday March 21 from 10:30am-3:30pm at the Freeport Recreation Center. To attend, register at [www.hempsteadworks.com/jobfair](http://www.hempsteadworks.com/jobfair), and bring copies of your resume! Employers that will be at the event include Amazon, Catholic Charities, DNATA Catering, Mount Sinai South Nassau, National Grid, Nassau/Suffolk County Police, NYS Civil Service, NYC Fire Department, Northwell Health, NYS Comptroller's Office, PSE&G, Scope Education Services, TSA, USPS and many more! For more information call 516-485-5000 ext. 1146.

### ***Donation Spotlight - CYO Lenten Food Drive***

The children and families of St. William's CYO did a food drive last week that resulted in 30 baskets of food for families in need. They also donated food store gift cards, which allow our families to shop independently. What a lovely gift of empowerment during hard times! In addition, the Sharks swim team created 80 Easter cards for our homebound parishioners, and collected an equal amount of Easter treats to distribute with them. We are blessed to have such generous and thoughtful CYO members and families! Thank you for your ongoing support!





stwilliam.org



@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*

Rev. John Crozier  
*In Residence*

priests@stwilliam.org

**Deacons**

Dcn. Anthony Cedrone

Dcn. John Lynch

Dcn. Michael Metzдорff

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 Faith Formation**

Sr. Joan Klimski, OP  
*Director*

faithformation@stwilliam.org | 516-783-2528  
stwilliam.org/faitth-formation

**Parish Social Ministry**

Allison Marro  
*Director*

socialministry@stwilliam.org | 516-679-8532  
stwilliam.org/social-ministry

**Music Ministry**

Jennifer Lynde  
*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: 9am - 12n

*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  
*Principal*

Ryan Fedak  
*Assistant Principal*

516-785-6784

stwilliamtheabbot.net

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

**Our Seminarians**

Dcn. Joseph Lettieri  
*SWA Parishioner*

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 - Thomas Ward

**Finance Council**

Rita Defendini\* - Robert Gerbard - John Kaley\*  
Tom Kiley - Ed Lettieri

\*Parish Trustees

**Resources**

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)  
rcia@stwilliam.org | stwilliam.org/rcia

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**

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

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

Most Reverend William Murphy  
*Bishop Emeritus*

drvc.org