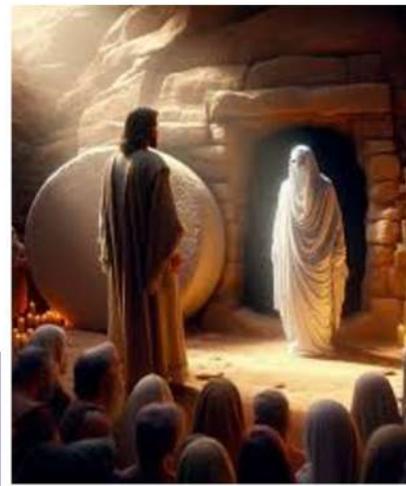




St. William the Abbot

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



March 22, 2026 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 said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

John 11:25-26

Mass Intentions

Sunday, March 22nd

7:30am: Melvin & Marie Carpenter

9am: Deceased members of Memorare Columbiettes

10:30am: Kerrie Ostrosky

12n: Dolores Marino, Daphnie Linda Grissom,

Lolita Manguinao Martinez, Manny Martinez,

Salvatore Lupo

Monday, March 23rd

8:30am: Joseph Callahan

Tuesday, March 24th

8:30am: People of St. William's

Wednesday, March 25th

8:30am: Gene Goettlicher

Thursday, March 26th

8:30am: Donato DiLeo, James A. Lowell,

Joseph Callahan, William R. Schunk

Friday, March 27th

8:30am: Joseph F. Votto

Saturday, March 28th

8:30am: Purgatorial Society

5pm: Grace Magrino

Pray for the Sick

Richard Fedyk - Rosemary Averill - Charlie Herbert

Frances Speidell - Thomas Stolfi - Most Rev. William Murphy

Pray for the Deceased

Richard G. Duncan - Antonino Vecchio

The Wine and Hosts

have been donated in honor of the Parishioners of St. William's

The Sanctuary Candle

has been donated in honor of the Parishioners of St. William's

The Raising of Lazarus – The Promise of Resurrection and New Life

This weekend we are given one of the most powerful and tender insights to Jesus' Sacred Heart in the Gospel story - the raising of Lazarus. This is not a random stranger or 'just another' miracle story - this is personal. For those of us who have been faithful watchers of the series called "The Chosen" - this is Laz – our Lord's dear friend - a lifelong friend. You can almost picture their lives woven together: families who knew one another, meals shared, holidays celebrated, children growing up side by side. Lazarus' parents and Mary and Joseph were probably close, Martha and Mary were like sisters to Jesus. They shared birthdays, milestones, laughter, and the hard moments too - sickness, loss, grief. This was family, or what many of us might refer to as "family"!

And yet... when Lazarus became gravely ill, Jesus did not rush to see him. He waited, He paused, and the situation became grave. There is no doubt the Lord could have arrived sooner for His friend – and let's face it, He had healed strangers, outcasts, the unclean – those people in society who had been traditionally pushed aside. So the disciples must have wondered: What is He doing? If this is how He treats His closest friends, what does that mean for them? Jesus' delay must have been confusing, even painful. But Jesus was aware, He was not inattentive - He was intentional - He waited so that God's glory could be revealed in a way no one could have imagined.

Just last Sunday we heard that God's ways are not our ways. There is always a deeper plan unfolding - one we cannot always see or easily understand. Sometimes while waiting we can grow restless. In the silence we can grow anxious and in the suffering we can question and doubt God's plan. But the Lord calls us to persevere in prayer, to remain rooted in trust even when the timing feels wrong. I was reminded this past week of Fr. Martin's homily from Tuesday night's Lenten Mass and the three "P's" – prayer, patience, and persistence. Faith is often strengthened in that space between promise and fulfillment.

The first reading echoes this promise and hope through the prophet Ezekiel; God makes an astonishing promise: "I will open your graves and have you rise from them... I have promised, and I will do it." The Lord is faithful. He is not limited by what limits us. He can - and does - undertake extraordinary measures to bring abundance where there is loss, hope where there is despair, resurrection and new life where there is death.

Still, many of us know how hard it is to hold onto that promise when we (or our loved ones) are in the middle of a struggle, illness, or grief. It is easy for us to lose focus - to become overwhelmed - to take our eyes off God. Martha and Mary lived that tension. I love Martha's honesty when she goes out to meet Jesus - you can almost hear it in her statement: "Lord, where were you?" It's so raw, real, and human. No doubt it is the voice of years of intimate friendship kind of slipping out before realizing what she is saying. But then she experiences a beautiful grace - she pivots – she again places her trust in the Lord, and Jesus tells her, "Your brother will rise," and Martha places her heart back into a posture of hope.

My friends, we are two weeks away from Easter Sunday and the Lord is no doubt still working on transforming us in His friendship and love. We too are part of the family – and perhaps when we look back on past Lenten seasons, spiritual graces, and successes, we may feel Lent 2026 has been less triumphant. There is a part of our hearts that may be struggling or disappointed – where is God? Will He show up? God, do you see me? Can you hear me?

Let us pray for the grace to trust more deeply in the Lord and in His promise. When His timing feels delayed, when prayers seem unanswered, when hope feels buried - stay close, remain faithful – He is coming for us. The same Jesus who stood before Lazarus' tomb stands with us. The same voice that called him forth calls us into life, into faith, and into renewed hope. May we experience the promise He offered to Martha and Mary for our loved ones - and know that the same promise is offered to us as well.



Baptisms

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

Colbie Bellezza
Connor McCann
Lucy Mooney

Year End Tax Statements

Year-end tax statements may be obtained by request from the Rectory.

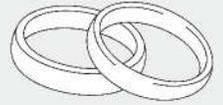
Please call 516-785-1266 or email
information@stwilliam.org

Banns of Marriage

Banns I

Briget Wiffler, & Brad Austin, both St. William the Abbot

Courtney Ruppert, St. William the Abbot & Ryan Harrison, St. Edward the Confessor, Syosset



Banns III

Lauren Nappi, St. William the Abbot & Tyler Wherry, Lindenhurst, NY

Alyssa Ferro, St. William the Abbot & Stephen Schultz, Our Lady of Hope, Carle Place

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)

**Palm
Sunday**
March 29th

**Palms will be blessed and distributed
at all Masses next weekend**



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 12n Mass on Sunday, March 29th.

Easter Memorializations



Paschal Candle

Every year, the new Paschal Candle is blessed and lit for the first time during the Easter Vigil. It is then used at special liturgies, including baptismal and funeral celebrations, as a symbol of hope and new life.

Auditorium Masses

To accommodate a large number of visitors to our parish on Easter morning, we will prepare the gym space in St. William the Abbot School for Masses. Our transformation will include fresh flowers, music, and seating.



Holy Thursday Altar of Repose & Lighting

On Holy Thursday, the Eucharist is brought to the Altar of Repose in the Convent Chapel, where we'll have the opportunity to pray before the Blessed Sacrament until Night. The Chapel Altar will be prepared for the evening and the path from the church to the convent will be lit with lanterns.

Easter Vigil Candles

The Easter Vigil begins in darkness and slowly comes to light as each parishioner lights their own candle in their seat to represent the risen Christ, driving away the darkness.



Church Environment

Our church will be transformed into a garden of fresh flowers, trees, greenery, and candles on Holy Saturday to prepare for the Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday Masses. We use a variety of flowers and plants to make our space come alive with the colors and smells of the spring season. Additional arrangements will be placed by the statues of the Blessed Mother and St. Joseph for the Easter Season.

Return to the Rectory Office or visit www.stwilliam.org/livemercy2026 to reserve online. All memorializations are first-come, first-served.

Item	Avail	Qty	Total
Paschal Candle (\$1150)		SOLD	
Auditorium (\$575)	2		\$
Large Altar Trees (\$450)	1		\$
Altar of Repose (\$375)	2		\$
Small Altar Trees (\$200)		SOLD	
Altar Greenery (\$175)	3		\$
Flowers for Blessed Mother (\$100)		SOLD	
Flowers for St. Joseph (\$100)		SOLD	
Pathway Lighting (\$50)	1		\$
Window Arrangements (\$35)	6		\$

Item	Qty	Total
Lily Plant (\$45)		\$
Hydrangea Plant (\$35)		\$
Tulip Plant (\$30)		\$
Hyacinth Plant (\$25)		\$
Daffodil Plant (\$20)		\$
Kalanchoe Plant (\$15)		\$

Name: _____

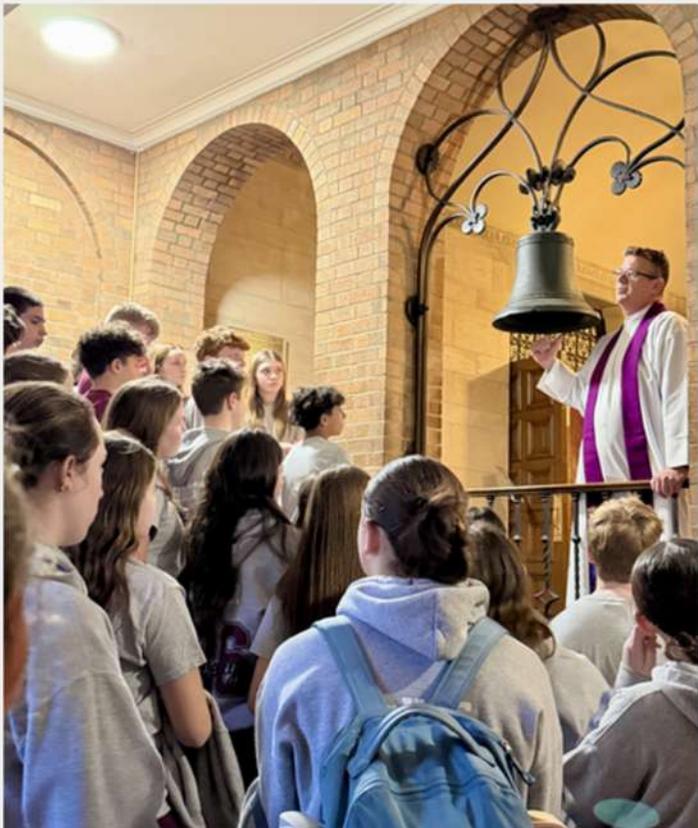
Telephone: _____ Email: _____

In Memory Of In Honor Of Name: _____

Checks can be made payable to St. William the Abbot



The Class of 2026 grade traveled to the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception for their 8th Grade Retreat. It was a beautiful day filled with prayer, reflection, and bonding.



Lenten Masses

Tuesday Nights at 7pm

February 24th - March 24th
there will be a free-will offering collected

This Week's Celebrant:
Msgr. John Cervini



Living Stations of the Cross

PRESENTED BY THE ST. WILLIAM THE ABBOT SCHOOL 7TH GRADE

Friday, March 27th at 7pm

Men's Prayer Group

Saturday Mornings at 6:30am

February 21st - March 28th
IN THE ABBEY

LENT DAY OF MERCY - MARCH 30TH

Reconciliation Monday

Confession Times:
7:15-8:20am
2pm-4pm, 6pm-9pm

Holy Thursday

April 2nd

Morning Prayer: 9am
Celebration of the Lord's Supper: 7pm

Adoration: 8-10pm
(Convent Chapel)

Night Prayer: 10pm
(Convent Chapel)

Good Friday

April 3rd

Morning Prayer: 9am
Solemn Celebration of the
Lord's Passion: 3pm

Please note Confession is not offered on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, or the afternoon of Holy Saturday

STWILLIAM.ORG/LIVEMERCY2026

Holy Saturday

April 4th

Morning Prayer & Food Blessing: 9am

Confession: 11am-12:30pm

Easter Vigil: 8pm

Easter Sunday

April 5th

Mass Schedule:

7:30am, 9am, 10:30am, 12n

Divine Mercy Sunday

with the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal - April 12th

Masses: 7:30am, 9am, 10:30am, 12n

Holy Hour & Confession: 3pm

Please note Confession is not offered on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, or the afternoon of Holy Saturday

STWILLIAM.ORG/LIVEMERCY2026



Support Catholic School Students at No Cost to You!

Beginning January 1, 2027, a new federal law provides an opportunity to support Catholic education by redirecting a portion of your federal taxes directly to student scholarships!

This program is a 100% tax credit, not just a deduction. Your federal tax bill will be reduced by the same dollar amount you contribute to a Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO). Because this contribution reduces your tax liability, you are simply “redirecting” money you already owe the government.

While the law prevents donors from directing this scholarship money to a specific child, you will have the power to choose which community benefits from your contribution. You will be able to direct the SGO to send your donation to a specific diocese or school.

For families to benefit, the State of New York must first “opt-in”. We ask you to use the QR code to contact Governor Hochul’s office to participate on an annual basis. If New York does not participate, donations from New Yorkers will be made available to SGOs in other states.



Please help support our SWS students - and all students in Catholic schools - by using the QR code today!



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

Lenten Revival Night at the Cathedral of Saint Agnes

Thursday, March 26, 2026 • 7:30 PM



All are invited to the Cathedral of Saint Agnes in Rockville Centre for a special Holy Hour with Bishop Barres and the faithful from across Long Island. There will be live music, a reflection, benediction and a candlelight procession. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be available in the church until midnight.

*Save
The
Date*

Our parish seminarian, Deacon Herley Mendez, has received his official priestly ordination date from the Bishop of Bridgeport!

Deacon Herley will be ordained a priest on Saturday, June 13th. More information on how we will celebrate as a parish will be announced soon, but for now, we ask for your continued prayers as he finishes his studies.



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: "Led By the Spirit" (#130)

Offertory Hymn: "Hosea" (#664)

Communion Hymn: "The Supper of the Lord" (#338)

Communion Meditation: "Lead Me to the Dessert"

Recessional Hymn: "There is a Wideness in God's Mercy" (#407)

Our Children's and Adult Choirs are back in session - visit 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

Canned Tuna - Canned Chicken - Sugar - Cooking Oil - Mayonnaise

Adopt-a-Neighbor Items due Tuesday!



If you participated in our Lenten Adopt-a-Neighbor Program, please remember to return your gift bags by Tuesday. This allows us time to distribute the items prior to Easter. Items should be returned to the Social Ministry office at 2020 Jackson Avenue any weekday between 9:30am and 4pm, or call us for an appointment at 679-8532.

Nassau Senior Center Open Houses this Tuesday

Did you know that there are seventeen senior centers in Nassau County? These senior centers will be hosting open houses and lunch this Tuesday March 24. Call your local center for reservations and directions, and bring a friend! The nearest senior center to our Parish is at St. Jude's Church in Wantagh. They can be reached by calling 516-797-5357. There is a suggested contribution of \$3 for lunch.

Self Defense Workshop Thursday, April 9

There will be a Self Defense Workshop presented by Nassau County Comptroller Elaine Phillips on Thursday, April 9 at 2pm at the Bethpage Senior Center. Comptroller Phillips is a sixth-degree black belt who has trained in Korean Martial Arts for 29 years. Participants will learn skills and techniques that can enhance personal safety, develop greater self-awareness and boost confidence. Reservations are required by April 2, call 516-227-8900 to reserve your spot! Sneakers and yoga/gym apparel are recommended, and modifications are available for those that need to remain seated.

Tax Assistance Available

FourLeaf Credit Union is offering free tax preparation for qualifying individuals and couples. Make an appointment by calling 516-349-4289 or check with your local library.

Job Fair March 26

The Town of Hempstead will be hosting a job fair on Thursday March 26 from 10:30am-3:30pm at the Freeport Recreation Center. To attend, register at www.hempsteadworks.com/jobfair, and bring copies of your resume! Employers that will be at the event include CVS, EAC Network, EPIC Long Island, City of New York Fire Department, Flagstar, Local 15, Long Island Cares, MercyFirst, MTA, NY Army National Guard, NYC Dept of Corrections, NYS Dept of Civil Service, PSEG, Sunrise Credit Services, USMC, USPS, US Air and Space, US Navy, Nassau University Medical Center, and many more! For more information call 516-485-5000 ext. 1100.



stwilliam.org

@stwilliamabbot

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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

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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
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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 Legacy of Excellence for Over 70 Years - 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
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