



St. William the Abbot

Roman Catholic Church



March 23, 2025 Third 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

“For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none. So cut it down. Why should it exhaust the soil?’ He said to him in reply, ‘Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future. If not you can cut it down.’”

Luke 13:7-9

Mass Intentions

Sunday, March 23, 2025

Joseph Callahan

Collective Intentions

Robert Herman

Frances Crosthwaite

Constance Lander

Maria Caiozzo

Donato & Grace Marrone

Michael Mosca

Monday, March 24, 2025

Melvin & Marie Carpenter

Tuesday, March 25, 2025

Collective Intentions

Eileen Ford

Philomena Rollino

Kasin and Ready

Families (liv)

Frank Rom

Wed., March 26, 2025

Grace Magrino

Thursday, March 27, 2025

Donato Dileo

Friday, March 28, 2025

Gene Goettlicher

Saturday, March 29, 2025

Purgatorial Society

Collective Intentions

Deborah Camp

Catherine Deane

Thomas B. Corsitto

Anne Conboy

Pray for the Sick

Sal Lupo

Richard Fedyk

Felix Terraferma

Paul Tuccillo

John Flood

Frances Speidell

Matthew Peacock

Jen Greico

Rosemary Averill

Michael D'Arpino

Robert Valerga

Pray for the Deceased

Joan Lyons Entenman Kathleen M. Egan-Wright

Sanctuary Candle

The Sanctuary Candle used at Mass this week has been donated in loving memory of

Robert Anderson

from the Koenig Family

Wine & Hosts

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

the Parishioners of St. William the Abbot

March Madness and the Barren Fig Tree

As we reach the Third Sunday of Lent, we find ourselves at a critical point in our Lenten journey. The Gospel this weekend presents us with the parable of the barren fig tree. The landowner is frustrated and wants to cut it down, but the gardener pleads for more time to cultivate the soil, prune the branches, and fertilize the roots, hoping it will bear fruit. This imagery speaks to our own spiritual lives - Lent is the time when God, the Heavenly Gardener, calls us to examine our own hearts and souls. What needs to be pruned, cut back, or fertilized by the Lord's gentle hands? What areas of our faith need the nourishment of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving to grow in personal holiness?

I have to admit, one of the areas I have been fasting from this Lent is the constant distraction and scrolling of screens. However, last week, I was caught up a bit in the Big East tournament and the great run that St. John's made in those exciting games in the Garden. It reminded me of last year when the Iowa phenom Caitlin Clark overtook the headlines. Between the Garden rocking and the wake of Caitlin Clark, this time of year is filled with the enthusiasm of March Madness even for the less intense sports fan. The NCAA basketball tournament is captivating even to the occasional watcher; teams prepare all season, yet the tournament always brings surprises - underdogs upsetting giants, buzzer-beaters, and moments of greatness that keep us tuned in and on the edge of our seats.

As I look at my NCAA Bracket, the stadiums and regional game sites listed are a collection of the most famous arenas in history - of championships that have been won, concerts that have been played, and even altar sanctuaries where Popes have celebrated Mass. In the first reading from Exodus, Moses encounters the burning bush and is instructed to remove his sandals because he is standing on holy ground - yes, even holier than Madison Square Garden. Moses' Holy Encounter with God in the Book of Exodus is a powerful reminder that we, too, stand on sacred ground at every Mass.

The Eucharist is our burning bush moment, the place where God reveals His presence to us. Do we recognize the holiness of this encounter? Do we approach the altar with a spirit of reverence and awe, knowing we are in the presence of the living God? The Lord still wants to surprise us, God often works in ways beyond our understanding, calling us to conversion when we least expect it. Maybe it is a line from a homily, or the refrain from a classic Lenten tune at Mass, or the memory of Friday night 'meat-less' dinners that remind us of our childhood. Are you open to the unexpected graces He offers us this Lent 2025?

We are now nearly halfway through Lent, can I encourage you to take a spiritual inventory and ask: have the disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving been easy or difficult? Perhaps we came out of the gate with enthusiasm, but distractions or fatigue have crept in. Rather than discouraging us, these struggles can be invitations to rely more deeply on God's grace - remember it is about His work, not necessarily what we "do." God does not demand perfection, but He does ask for perseverance. How is He calling you to finish strong in these remaining weeks before Easter?

One powerful way to prepare our hearts is through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Here at St. William's, we have confession every morning beginning at 7:15 and ending at the start of the 8:30 Mass and in a few weeks we will celebrate Mercy Monday during Holy Week, where every church in the Diocese of Rockville Centre will be open for confessions. Bishop John Barres recently said to us, "Confession is the beautiful embrace of God the Father's mercy. It is where we encounter the healing love of Christ, who lifts us up and sets us on the path of holiness." If you have not yet received this sacrament during Lent, now is the perfect time to do so - do not wait, whether it has been 30 days, or 30 years, let the mercy of God prune away sin and renew your soul.

May this upcoming week be one of deeper conversion, renewed fervor, and openness to the surprises of God's grace - and maybe a few NCAA upsets! Let us walk this Lenten journey together, keeping our eyes fixed on the cross of Good Friday which we approach with a spirit of hope in Christ, who desires to bring us to new life.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Fr. Joe". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Banns of Marriage

Banns I

Annie Jablonski, St. William the Abbot
& George Bendetti, St. Martin of Tours, Amityville

Banns II

Kristina Santoro, Floral Park
& Peter Pjetri, Our Lady of Shkodra Parish, Hartsdale,
NY

Pillar of Hospitality

Hospitality helps bring others to the Lord. How are you hospitable to your neighbors, co-workers, pupils, etc?

This Lenten season consider making a gift to the Catholic Ministries Appeal as your way of practicing almsgiving.

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

Baptisms

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

Luna Birardi
Chase Champion
Joshua Capriola
Valentine Gregorio
Ellis Tomczyk
Noah Tomczyk

Pray for Those in the Military

Lt. Ian Bayer (USN) - Lt. Rebecca Bayer (USN) - Lt. Ryan Bayer (USN) - Sgt. Craig Bianco (USA) - Lt. Col. Michael DiPietro (USA) - LCpl Daniel Dugan (USMC) - First Lt. 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) - Capt. Philip Lettieri, MD (USA) - Lt. Cpl. Kevin Marshall (USMC) - Major Eamon G. McArdle (USA) - Tech. Sgt. Eric Meyers (USAF) - 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)

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 30th



Second Collection Catholic Relief Services

Next weekend, March 29/30, our parish will take up The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to the vulnerable people here and abroad.

Please give generously to the collection and renew Christ's love to those most in need. Learn more about the collection by visiting: www.usccb.org/catholic-relief

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A FAITH JOURNEY WITH THE MARTIN FAMILY



TUESDAY, APRIL 8TH | 7PM MASS

Erik and Bridget Martin joined Family Missions Company, an organization devoted to sending lay Catholic missionaries to the ends of the earth to bring the love and salvation of Jesus Christ, in 2013 with their two oldest children. Bridget had previously served as a single missionary with FMC while Erik served in the Air Force for 7 years. Their roles have varied over their time with FMC, and have included helping with maintaining grounds, cooking meals, offering prayer ministry, running the Missionary Discipleship Program, and helping with short-term trips. Erik currently serves as FMC's Formation Manager. Since 2013, their family has grown with the birth of five more children.

The Martin family will come to St. William's to pray, inspire, and ignite the families of the parish with the Holy Spirit as we continue our journey to Holy Week and the hope of Easter.

PRAYER - FASTING - ALMSGIVING

Lent at St. William the Abbot




Lenten Mass

with FR. JOSEPH LETTIERI
SWA PARISHIONER & SWS GRADUATE

TUESDAY, MARCH 25TH | 7PM IN THE CHURCH

There will be a free-will offering collected during the Tuesday Masses



Stations of the Cross

with DEACON JOHN

FRIDAY, MARCH 28TH | 7PM

"My hope is in you all day long."

PSALM 25:5

MORE OPPORTUNITIES TO PRAY TOGETHER DURING LENT TO BE ANNOUNCED

VISIT STWILLIAM.ORG/LENTEASTER25



Congratulations to the SWS Boys' Basketball Team and Coach Brendan McGovern (who is an SWS alum!) on their Championship Season. Our boys defeated Saints United to become the 2025 CMSAA League Champions. Time to make room for a new banner in the Msgr. Leavey Auditorium! Great job, boys!

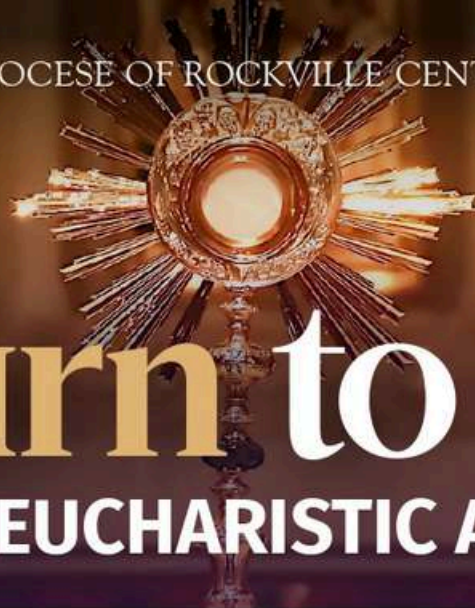


On St. Joseph's Day, SWS Dads were invited to school to work on a carpentry craft with their Kindergarteners, while also enjoying some March Madness-themed treats and activities. We are thankful to our Dads for their love and support of not only their children, but our school, as well! Aprons and Craft Kits were donated to SWS by Home Depot, and we thank them for their generosity. St. Joseph, Pray for Us!





20
25



Return to Me.

40 DAYS OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Starting on March 7th, visit 40 different parishes across Long Island for the 40 days of Lent.

MARCH

March 7: Our Lady of Ostrabrama

Cutchogue | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 8: St. Gertrude

Bayville | 3:00-4:45 p.m.

March 9: Mary Immaculate

Bellport | 1:30-2:30 p.m.

March 10: St. Raymond

East Rockaway | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 11: St. Luke

Brentwood | 5:00-6:00 p.m.

March 12: Our Lady of Lourdes

Malverne | 3:00-4:00 p.m.

March 13: Our Lady of the Assumption

Copiague | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 14: St. Catherine of Sienna

Franklin Square | 3:00-4:00 p.m.

March 15: St. Francis Cabrini

Coram | 3:30-4:30 p.m.

March 16: Holy Cross

Nesconset | 1:00-2:00 p.m.

March 17: St. Patrick

Huntington | 12:00-8:00 p.m.

March 18: St. Joseph

Hewlett | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 19: Most Holy Trinity

East Hampton | 8:30-9:30 a.m.

March 20: Our Lady of Mercy

Hicksville | 9:30-10:30 a.m.

March 21: St. Aloysius

Great Neck | 5:30-6:30 p.m.

March 22: Sacred Heart

Island Park | 3:30-4:30 p.m.

March 23: St. Anthony of Padua

East Northport | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 24: St. Mary

East Islip | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 25: Resurrection

Farmingville | 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

March 26: St. Boniface

Elmont | 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

March 27: St. Agnes

Greenport | 5:00-9:00 p.m.

March 28: Our Lady of Lourdes

Massapequa Park | 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

March 29: Good Shepherd

Holbrook | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

March 30: Sacred Heart

North Merrick | 1:00-2:00 p.m.

March 31: St. Joseph

Kings Park | 6:00-7:00 p.m.

APRIL

April 1: St. Bernard

Levittown | 12:30-1:30 p.m.

April 2: St. Jude

Mastic Beach | 1:00-3:00 p.m.

April 3: St. Gerard Majella

Port Jefferson Station | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

April 4: St. Aidan

Williston Park | 1:00-3:00 p.m.

April 5: Queen of the Most Holy Rosary

Roosevelt | 6:30-7:30 p.m.

April 6: St. John the Evangelist

Riverhead | 1:00-2:00 p.m.

April 7: St. Martin of Tours

Bethpage | 7:30-9:00 p.m.

April 8: Our Lady of the Mirac. Medal

Wyandanch | 8:00-9:00 p.m.

April 9: Holy Name of Mary

Valley Stream | 7:00-8:00 p.m.

April 10: St. Louis de Montfort

Sound Beach | 7:00-8:30 p.m.

April 11: St. Thomas the Apostle

West Hempstead | 9:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.

April 12: Our Lady of Grace

West Babylon | 8:30-9:30 a.m.

April 14: St. Rose of Lima

Massapequa | 8:00-9:00 p.m.

April 15: Our Lady of Lourdes

West Islip | 12:30-7:30 p.m.

April 16: St. Kilian

Farmingdale | 12:45-7:30 p.m.



To learn more, visit:
drvc.org/return25



Spring Plant Sale

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Are you being called?

CONSIDER JOINING ONE OF OUR MINISTRIES THIS SPRING

USHER
MINISTRY

GARDEN
MINISTRY

CHOIR/MUSIC
MINISTRY

MINISTRY OF
CONSOLATION

SOCIAL
EVENTS

CYO

LITURGICAL
MINISTERS

PARISH SOCIAL
MINISTRY

GREETERS/
WELCOME
MINISTRY

BAPTISM
MINISTRY

WEDDING
MINISTRY

FAITH
FORMATION

VISIT STWILLIAM.ORG/MINISTRIES
TO LEARN MORE OR JOIN ONE OF OUR MINISTRIES

ADULT MEN ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE

Men's Group

SATURDAYS
MARCH 22ND - APRIL 12TH
AT 6:30AM IN THE ABBEY
TO VIEW & DISCUSS VIDEOS
ON LIVING FAITH

BACK TO BASICS

Visit the parish Facebook and
Instagram (@stwilliamabbot)
every Tuesday and Thursday for
our video series explaining
elements of our faith and our
church!



Parish Social Ministry

Pantry List

Macaroni & Cheese
Ketchup
Pasta Sauce
Pancake Mix
Pancake Syrup
Apple Juice

Nassau Senior Center Open Houses March 24

Did you know that there are fourteen senior centers in Nassau County? These senior centers will be hosting open houses and lunch on Monday, 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. Please note there is a suggested contribution of \$3 for lunch.

Free Scam Prevention Seminars for Seniors

There will be free scam prevention seminars for seniors on Thursday, March 13 at 1:30pm at the Hicksville Community Center, and on Monday March 31 at 1:30pm at the Marjorie Post Park Community Center. Hosted by Nassau County District Attorney Anne Donnelly and Town of Oyster Bay Supervisor Joe Saladino, seniors and their caregivers can learn about phone, email and internet scams. The session will educate attendees about common scams, how to identify red flags, and steps to take if they encounter a potential scam. Participants will also hear practical tips to prevent becoming a victim of fraud and how to report scams and seek assistance. No RSVP is required to attend either of these free sessions.

Volunteer Opportunities for Lent

Are you looking for ways to make a positive impact this Lenten season? Consider volunteering at one of our local neighborhood charities where you can make a substantial difference to Long Island's most needy families. The Mary Brennan INN and the Long Island Coalition for the Homeless (LICH) both have large operations in our area that allow hands-on experience and multiple ways to make an impact. They offer individual and group volunteer experiences such as working for their thrift stores and food pantries, working at the INN's soup kitchen, or helping in the LICH community garden. Opportunities exist for both adults and children! There are St. William's parishioners volunteering weekly at The INN's soup kitchen that you can speak to regarding their experiences. Visit www.the-inn.org and www.addresssthehomeless.org to see the opportunities available!

Lunch and Learn April 4 - Stroke Awareness

Nassau County Office of the Aging will be offering a Senior Lunch and Learn session on Stroke Awareness, presented by the Comprehensive Stroke Center of NYU Langone Health. This session will cover recognition of stroke symptoms, plans of action, treatments, risk factors and preventions. The session will be on Friday April 4 at 11am at the Bethpage Senior Community Center. Reservations are required, call 516-571-9910 to register.

Donation Spotlight - Kellenberg Students

Thank you to our friends from the Kellenberg Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) for their donation to our parish food pantry! Every week, Kellenberg students teach classes in our Childhood Faith Formation Program. Last month they conducted a food drive to benefit our pantry. We thank them for their apostolic service and commitment to sharing their faith!





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. Michael Metzdorff

Dcn. John Lynch

information@stwilliam.org

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Business Manager
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Sue McCormick
Office Manager
information@stwilliam.org

Kate Walsh
Development & Operations
kwalsh@stwilliam.org

Office of 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
Principal

Kasey Grasso
Assistant Principal

516-785-6784

stwilliamtheabbot.net

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

Our Seminarians

Kevin Rueda
Pastoral Year

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 - 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

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