



# St. William the Abbot

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

**November 30, 2025**  
**First Sunday of Advent**



## 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

“So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.”

Matthew 24:44

## Mass Intentions

### Sunday, November 30th

7:30am: Connor Kasin

9am: Laura Blasi

10:30am: People of St. William's

12n: Keith Gorton

### Monday, December 1st

8:30am: Nicole & Jeanine Tedeschi, Connor Kasin, Robert John Jackson, Nancy Alicia Humphrey

### Tuesday, December 2nd

8:30am: Robert Sullivan

### Wednesday, December 3rd

8:30am Dagmar Baldino

### Thursday, December 4th

8:30am: Michael Maiello

### Friday, December 5th

8:30am: Jeannine Kelly, Ernst Degraaf, Kevin Flanagan, Baby David George Skennion

### Saturday, December 6th

8:30am: Purgatorial Society

5pm: People of St. William's, John Mackay, Ralph Sabatelli, Biago "Joe" Lacalamita

## Pray for the Sick

Sal Lupo - Frances Speidell - Thomas Stolfi - Riley Lynn Maggiotta  
Richard Fedyk - Rosemary Averill - Barbara Geraghty - Charlie Herbert

## Pray for the Deceased

Arlene Martin

### The Altar Flowers

have been donated in honor of the  
Parishioners of St. William the Abbot

### The Wine and Hosts

have been donated in honor of the  
Parishioners of St. William the Abbot

## Before Christmas – Make an Advent List

This weekend we enter the holy season of Advent with the purple cloths, the lighting of the Advent wreath, the scaled back music, and almost penitential environment of the Church building. Something is different, it catches our attention. The scriptures also attempt to rouse our senses and greet us with a bold and urgent invitation and challenge: "Stay awake!" Jesus reminds us that He may return at any moment, and the question we must all wrestle with is simple yet profound - *are we ready?*

Advent readiness goes far deeper than the perfect Christmas light display, the beautifully decorated tree, or even the most thoughtfully wrapped gift. Those things are fine and good, but they are not the heart of what we as Catholic Christians are preparing for. What truly matters is whether the people we love - and we ourselves - actually know the Lord in an intimate and personal way; NOT just know 'about' Jesus – His Mother's name, the town he was born in, or that he had a cousin named John the Baptist. The beauty of Advent is that it becomes our yearly reset, a sacred opportunity to refocus our hearts and remember that the One we prepare for is Christ.

We have the potential to make this the best Advent yet, not by adding more busyness, but by choosing practices and devotions that help us encounter the living God. Would you consider adding Scripture readings to your daily routine, or setting aside a moment of quiet prayer before the rest of your house wakes up? Try offering small, intentional acts of kindness - time spent with a family member who needs you, a visit or meal for a neighbor who is struggling. Lessen your screen time, or even skip a Starbucks run or two, and direct those resources to SWA Parish Outreach or someone in need. And please, make a plan to come to Confession before Christmas Day, put it on your Advent list! The grace of God works powerfully when we slow down, simplify, and open our hearts.

For many of us, Advent calls for a new attitude - one that resists the constant pressure to be swallowed up by consumerism. Think if we adjusted just a little time away from scrolling for Black Friday Sales and Cyber Monday Deals and thought about the greatest gift we all received from our families – the gift of our Catholic faith. This season cannot be just about the latest gadgets, fashion items, or appliances, but an opportunity to intentionally prepare for the coming of Jesus into our hearts, our homes, and our world.

I do recognize the temptation to be pulled into the whirlwind of our time. Our schedules are precious, and if we are not attentive, we will become people who prepare for the celebration of being a shopper - on Amazon, at Target, Macy's, or Toys "R" Us (with rewards status) - rather than preparing for the birth of our Savior in Bethlehem. Jesus comes quietly, humbly, and patiently. He desires to enter into the busyness of our lives, not only our shopping carts. Wake up. Be attentive. See before you a God who is pursuing you, loving you, guiding you - and He so often does this through the people we cherish most. Wake up! As we enter Week One of Advent in this Jubilee Year of Hope, let us fix our eyes on the Hope that Christ brings to the world.

Think about this, in the scriptures, the Magi - the Three Wise Men - have already started their journey to Bethlehem. They followed a guide - the star - which was their GPS leading them to the Hope of God. They had a list of the route, the stops, supplies, provisions, and gifts. Yes, the Magi brought gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh for Jesus, but what are we bringing to him? As you make your lists of food, presents, and decorations that don the externals of our homes – what about a spiritual list for our souls? Make our gift be that we are bearers of light and hope which will pierce the darkness. Let us remind others by the way we practice our faith that God is faithful to His promises, and that He is already here at work in our midst.

My friends, I pray that Advent 2025 will be a season that will renew us, challenge us, and draw us closer to the Heart of Jesus. Know of my prayers for you and your families as we begin this sacred journey together.

In Christ's peace and hope,

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



## Baptisms

Let us welcome the following child who was baptized this past weekend:

Vincent Friscia

## St. Peregrine Prayer Hour

The St. Peregrine Prayer Hour will be held on **Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup>** from 2:00 - 3:00 PM in the church. St. Peregrine is the patron saint of those suffering from cancer. Cancer victims, families and their caregivers are all invited to come and pray.

## 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) - Capt. 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)

## The Little Blue Book

The *Little Blue Book* for the Advent and Christmas Season is available at the doors of the Church this weekend. Each day we are alive, the Lord gives us 24 hours or 1,440 minutes to grow closer to him. The *Little Blue Book* will help you devote some of those minutes for prayer during the Advent season. So try to commit to daily prayer time and make this *Little Book* your companion. Please take one book per family.

## The First Week of Advent: Hope

*"Lord, our God, we praise You for Your Son, Jesus Christ, for He is Emmanuel, the Hope of all people. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise of salvation. May He come quickly and not delay. We ask this in His holy name.*

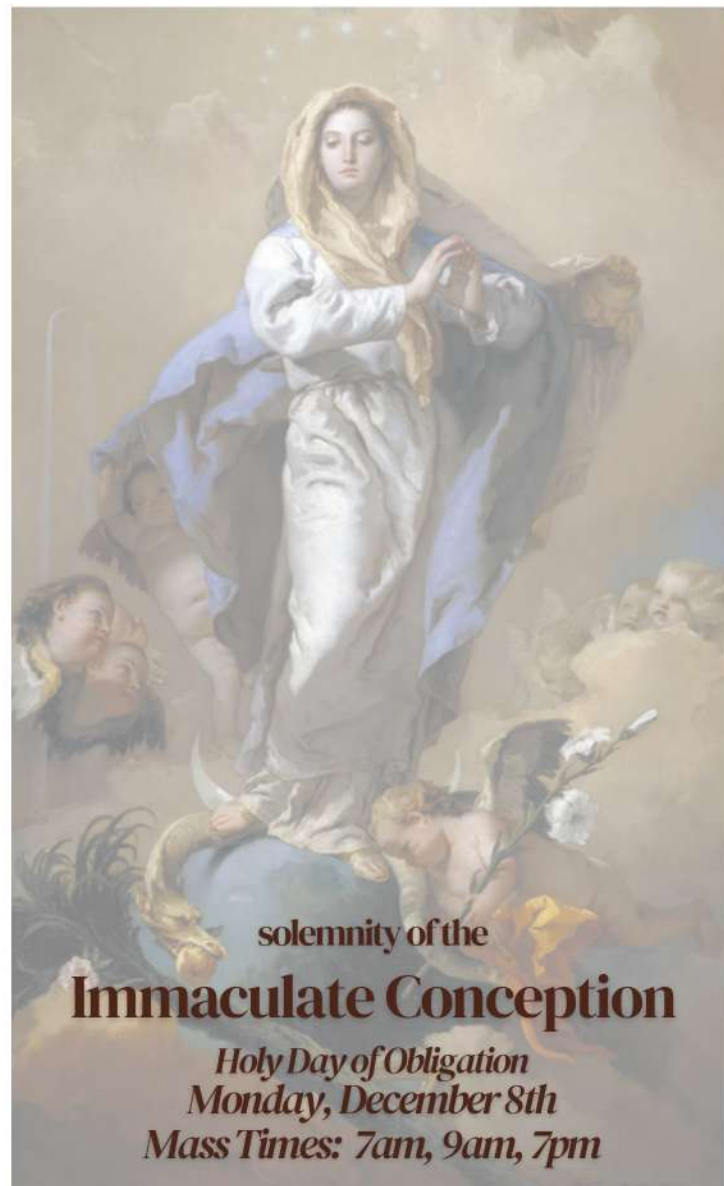
*Amen*

This week we will light 1 purple candle

## Thank You!



Thank you to the Memorare Council Knights of Columbus for providing copies of Bishop Barron's book, "What Christians Believe: The Nicene Creed". It was a wonderful addition to this fall's adult faith formation series!



solemnity of the  
**Immaculate Conception**

*Holy Day of Obligation*  
**Monday, December 8th**  
**Mass Times: 7am, 9am, 7pm**



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# BEHOLD

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## *The Beginning of Advent*

The origin of "Advent" comes from the Latin word "adventus," meaning "coming" or "arrival," and it is a season of expectant preparation in the Christian church. Early origins in the 4th and 5th centuries involved preparing new Christians for baptism at Epiphany. By the 6th century, Roman Christians linked it to the coming of Christ, and it became more explicitly tied to Christmas during the Middle Ages, evolving into the four-week season of anticipation we recognize today.

Many families mark the passing weeks of Advent by lighting an Advent Wreath together, using one candle for each week of the season, or by opening the doors of an Advent Calendar to countdown to Christmas Day.

Our Advent season also includes two Holy Days of Obligation. On Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate the Immaculate Conception. On this day, we celebrate Mary's conception by her parents and our belief that she was preserved from original sin and redeemed by God's grace from that moment. Mary is indeed "full of grace."

The second Holy Day of Obligation is the Nativity of Our Lord. Catholics around the world celebrate the birth of our Jesus by attending Mass on either Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.



### ***Christmas Eve Mass Schedule***

***4pm - 5:30pm - 8:30pm - 11pm***

### ***Christmas Day Mass Schedule***

***8am - 9:30am - 11am - 12:30pm***



# CHRISTMAS MEMORIALIZATIONS

<i>Item Available</i>	<i># Needed</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Total</i>
Christmas Tree - Rectory Lawn	1	\$1,000		
Auditorium Altar & Flowers	2	\$575		
Large Christmas Trees - Sanctuary	2	\$350		
Large Wreaths - Main Entrance	2	\$300		
Advent Wreath	1	\$275		
Outdoor Decorations	1	\$250		
Choir Loft Wreaths	3	\$225		
Medium Christmas Trees - Sanctuary/Vestibule	2	\$175		
Arrangement for Blessed Mother Statue	1	\$150		
Arrangement for St. Joseph Statue	1	\$150		
Wreaths for Church Interior	12	\$135		
Wreaths for Church Doors	12	\$100		
Small Christmas Trees - Sanctuary/Creche	4	\$85		
Red Pointsettias	100	\$45		
White Pointsettias	65	\$45		
Window Arrangements	8	\$35		

Total Enclosed

*All memorializations are first-come, first-served.  
Memorial names and donors will be listed in the bulletin and on the parish website the week of Christmas.*

*Please return to the Rectory with a check made payable to St. William the Abbot or complete the form online by visiting  
[stwilliam.org/christmas2025](http://stwilliam.org/christmas2025)*

Your Name:

Email:

Telephone:

Name for Listing:

Choose One: In Honor of

In Memory of



SWS Kindergarteners marked the 50th day of School in true 50's style—poodle skirts, slicked-back hair, and all! From ice cream sundaes to popcorn treats and retro-themed crafts, our little learners celebrated this milestone with joy! At SWS, we don't just count the days—we make the days count!







ST. WILLIAM THE ABBOT

# CRECHE BLESSING & TREE LIGHTING



FRIDAY  
**12/5**  
6:30PM

ON THE  
FRONT LAWN  
OF THE  
RECTORY  
(RAIN OR SHINE)

[STWILLIAM.ORG/CHRISTMAS2025](http://STWILLIAM.ORG/CHRISTMAS2025)

## O Come, O Come Emmanuel!

We are looking for volunteers to help us light our Advent Wreath before each Mass during the season!

If you and your family, friends, or ministry group would like to participate, please email us at [priests@stwilliam.org](mailto:priests@stwilliam.org)



## Save the Dates

MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON!

**FEAST OF ST. LUCY  
CANDLELIGHT HOLY HOUR**  
THU DEC 11

**BAMBINELLI WEEKEND**  
SAT/SUN DEC 13/14

**CELEBRATING SEMINARIAN  
HERLEY'S ORDINATION AS A  
DEACON**  
SUN DEC 14

**AFTERNOON MOVIE**  
THU DEC 18

**FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT**  
THU DEC 18

**ADVENT CONFESSIONS**  
MON DEC 22

**NEW YEAR BALL DROP  
RAFFLE**  
WED DEC 31



[STWILLIAM.ORG/CHRISTMAS2025](http://STWILLIAM.ORG/CHRISTMAS2025)

ST. WILLIAM THE ABBOT RC CHURCH & SCHOOL

# CHRISTMAS FAIR *and Cafe!*

ARTISAN VENDORS - RAFFLES - SNACK  
BAR - CHRISTMAS TREATS -  
CHRISTMAS KARAOKE - HOT COCOA  
BAR - PHOTOS WITH SANTA AND MORE!

SATURDAY SUNDAY  
**12/6 & 12/7**  
10AM - 4PM



ST. WILLIAM  
THE ABBOT  
SCHOOL  
2000 JACKSON AVE  
SEAFORD, NY

[STWILLIAM.ORG/CHRISTMAS2025](http://STWILLIAM.ORG/CHRISTMAS2025)



# He Is Not Here

A Study of the Accounts of the  
Resurrection with Fr. Michael

Last Session: Thursday, December 4th  
7pm in The Abbey

*All Adults Welcome - No Registration Necessary  
Please bring your Bible and a notebook*

**Men's Prayer Group**  
*"Are You Going to Heaven?"*

SATURDAYS NOV 22ND - DEC 20TH  
AT 6:30AM IN THE ABBEY  
ALL ADULT MEN WELCOME

ST. WILLIAM THE ABBOT

NEW  
YEAR  
Ball Drop  
Raffle

SINGLE  
ENTRY:  
\$50

THREE  
ENTRIES:  
\$125

WINNER TO BE ANNOUNCED DECEMBER 31ST

PURCHASE ENTRIES BY VISITING [STWILLIAM.ORG/CHRISTMAS2025](http://STWILLIAM.ORG/CHRISTMAS2025)



### ***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: "O Come O Come Emmanuel" (#39)

Offertory Hymn: "Maranatha" (#68)

Communion Hymn: "One Bread One Body" (#327)

Communion Meditation: "The King Shall Come"

Recessional Hymn: "O Come Divine Messiah" (#44)

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***

Thanks to your holiday generosity, the pantry is full! What a blessing! There is no list of pantry needs for this week. If you would still like to donate, feel free to bring one of your favorite pantry staples.

### ***Thank You Thanksgiving Donors!***

Donations received for the Thanksgiving Program were extremely generous! Parishioners created over 25 beautiful gift bags and baskets of Thanksgiving items for families in need. In addition, pantry and gift card donations were extremely plentiful! We are so grateful for the kindness and generosity of our parishioners. Thank you for ensuring local families in need have enough for their Thanksgiving dinner and beyond. God bless our donors!

St. William the Abbot CYO 'Sharks' swim team generously donated 75 placemats for our homebound parishioners. Each placemat was cheerfully colored and was a wonderful surprise for everyone that received it! How generous of the Sharks to spend time on this project to bring holiday joy to our parishioners at home. Thank you, Sharks, for your generous spirit and dedication to our parish! You have helped to ensure our homebound parishioners know how important they are to our parish family.

Last week our Homebound Ministry met to create Thanksgiving gift bags for the homebound in our parish community. Seventy five bags were created containing advent calendars, prayer books, and homemade Thanksgiving pictures from the CYO Swim team. Parish Eucharistic Ministers to the Homebound were kind enough to deliver these gift bags the weekend before Thanksgiving. We are so thankful for the dedicated Eucharistic Ministers and volunteers in the Homebound Ministry, who make sure that parishioners unable to physically make it to the parish are still connected to their parish family!

### ***Christmas Adopt-A-Family Program***

The Parish Social Ministry is happy to offer a Christmas Adopt-A-Family Program! Each year we help local families with Christmas gifts as an act of being Christ to others, in the true meaning of the Advent season.

All gifts should be delivered unwrapped to the Social Ministry office by Monday, December 15 to allow enough time for distribution. Drop off is at St. William the Abbot Parish Social Ministry, 2020 Jackson Avenue. We are open weekdays between 9:30am and 4pm, or by appointment.

For security reasons, we ask that you please do not leave gifts in the food bin.

Simply log on via the below website and browse for the item(s) that you would like to donate!



Go to website: [www.signupgenius.com](http://www.signupgenius.com)

Click the magnifying glass (upper right corner) to search.

Select "search for signup by creator email" and enter [socialministry@stwilliam.org](mailto:socialministry@stwilliam.org)

Click on "2025 Christmas Adopt a Family" and then select the items you would like to donate!

Questions? Contact the Social Ministry at 679-8532.





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**

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

drvc.org