

# The Church of ST. WILLIAM THE ABBOT A Roman Catholic Church

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We, the parish family of St. William the Abbot, a welcoming Catholic community, led by the Holy Spirit, are called to proclaim, and to witness to, the Good News of Salvation, so that we may grow together, among all generations, and advance the Kingdom of God, in our love and service of God and neighbor.

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## MASS SCHEDULE WEEKENDS

Saturday: 5:00PM (Vigil)  
Sunday: 8:00, 10:15 & 11:45AM

## WEEKDAYS

Monday & Tuesday: 9:00AM  
Wednesday: 9:00AM & 7:00PM  
Thursday, Friday & Saturday: 9:00AM

## HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

As announced in the bulletin.

## CONFESSIONS

Saturday after the 9:00AM Mass, and 4:00 to 5:00PM. Half hour before each weekend Mass, and Wednesday at 6:00PM.

## ROSARY

The Rosary is recited weekdays and Saturdays after the 9:00AM Mass with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

Parish email: [stwilliam@optonline.net](mailto:stwilliam@optonline.net)  
Website: [stwilliamtheabbot.com](http://stwilliamtheabbot.com)  
Phone: 732-840-3535



Rev. Thomas Maher, Pastor  
Rev. James Redstone, In Memoriam  
Deacon Michael Abatemarco, Pastoral Associate  
Deacon George A. Prevosti  
Deacon Kevin Smith

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Friday, 9:30AM—3:00PM  
(Closed on Holy Days & Legal Holidays)

## ANOINTING OF THE SICK

This sacrament is given for those facing serious illness or surgery, and for those of advanced years. If you or a family member plan to enter the hospital, please see Fr. Tom following Mass if you would like to receive this sacrament. In case of emergency, please call the parish office.



January 7, 2024

*The Epiphany of the Lord*

**What is an active parishioner?**

An active parishioner is a person who participates in the life of the Church. This means to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ and share in Christ's role as priest, prophet and King. We are called to lead others to faith by our good example, through loving service to others, and offering our prayers, works and activities to God.

- An active parishioner is a person who has received or is preparing to receive the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation.
- An active parishioner is a person who attends Mass regularly at St. William the Abbot and actively supports the sacramental programs for Penance, Eucharist and Confirmation. Parents who want a Catholic Faith Formation & Education for their children will see to it that their family attends Mass faithfully EVERY Sunday.
- An active parishioner gives of themselves by donating TIME, TALENT and TREASURE to the ministries of the parish and or to the volunteer organizations that support the parish. We are to share in the responsibilities that keep our Parish alive in a vibrant way.
- An active parishioner is a good financial steward of the church. As a parishioner, it is important to understand that giving financially to support the parish is a vital and key component to active parishioner status.

**Why you need to be an active parishioner**

Parishioners seeking to be godparents or sponsors for the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation, or those wishing to be joined in Holy Matrimony must first be verified as "active members" of the parish.

**An active member:**

- 1) Is properly registered with the parish
- 2) Faithfully attends Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation
- 3) Participates in parish activities/ministries whenever possible.
- 4) Consistently uses the parish envelope system or the electronic giving program to support the parish.



Weekly Collection for December 24	
Number of registered families . . .	1,247
Number of weekly envelopes returned . . .	127
Number of Christmas envelopes returned . . .	212
Envelope contributions . . .	\$4,987.00
Loose contributions . . .	\$438.00
Flowers . . .	\$260.00
Vigil Candles . . .	\$106.00
We Share . . .	\$4,547.00
Christmas . . .	\$18,312.00
WeShare for Christmas . . .	\$2,028.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$30,678.00</b>

**Thank You!** We are so grateful to all those who financially sacrifice each week to support our parish and its ministries! We would especially like to thank all of those who faithfully use their weekly parish contribution envelopes and those who give online through We Share.

**SAVE THE DATES**

RING IN THE NEW YEAR WITH YOUR FELLOW PARISHIONERS AT  
**HOSPITALITY SUNDAY,**  
TODAY, JANUARY 7TH.



**ROCKIN ROLL CONCERT WITH BILLY LAWLOR!** SATURDAY, JANUARY 27TH, 7PM. DOORS WILL OPEN AT 6PM, BRING YOUR DINNER AND DRINKS. WE WILL ALSO PLAY A TRIVIA GAME BEFORE THE SHOW STARTS AND ONCE MORE DURING A BREAK. PRIZES TOO! TICKETS WILL BE \$20 EACH AND ARE ON SALE NOW. THE TRIVIA GAME WILL BE BY TABLE, SO RESERVE YOUR TABLE TODAY.

**Standing Together for Life—Mass for Life; Lunch and Seminar**

On Friday, January 19th, the faithful of the Diocese of Trenton will come together in prayer and solidarity to proclaim the sanctity of all human life! All are invited to an 11AM **Mass for Life** celebrated by Bishop David M. O'Connell, C.M., at St. Robert Bellarmine Co-Cathedral. No registration is needed for the Mass, seating is first come first served. Mass will be livestreamed on [Youtube.com/trentondioocese](https://www.youtube.com/trentondioocese).

The Mass will be followed by a **Lunch & Seminar** in the Co-Cathedral's Dentici Hall. A panel of local expert speakers will offer practical, actionable, ideas and resources to take back to parishes where they can be immediately applied to build a culture of life in a spirit of inter-ministry collaboration and radical solidarity with vulnerable pregnant women and families. Advanced registration to attend the **Lunch & Seminar** is required by January 10th. Full details for the day's events, including a registration link for the **Lunch & Seminar** can be found at [dioceseoftrenton.org/standing-together-for-life](https://www.dioceseoftrenton.org/standing-together-for-life). Questions contact Belem Perez at 609-403-7133 or [bperez@dioceseoftrenton.org](mailto:bperez@dioceseoftrenton.org).

# Weekly MASS Intentions

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*"It is a holy and wholesome thing to pray for the living and the dead." II Mac. 12:46*

Saturday, January 6—St. Andre Bessette

+5:00

**Kimberly Zipp**

r/b M/M Charlie Garofano

Sunday, January 7—The Epiphany of the Lord

+8:00

**Elizabeth Duffy**

r/b Lenny Munyer

+10:15

**Regina Stein**

r/b M/M John Messina

11:45

**People of the parish**

Monday, January 8—The Baptism of the Lord

+9:00

**Ray Peters**

r/b The Beyer Family

Tuesday, January 9

+9:00

**Joseph Scagliuso**

r/b M/M Artie Morsillo

Wednesday, January 10

+9:00

**Rose Ambriano**

r/b M/M John Messina

+7:00

**Patricia Volpe**

r/b M/M Barry Matrale

Thursday, January 11

+9:00

**Tom VanEpps**

r/b M/M George Weis

Friday, January 12

+9:00

**Jack Marabello**

r/b M/M Dave Cerciello

Saturday, January 13—St. Hilary

+9:00

**Diane Chance**

r/b M/M George Weis

5:00

**People of the parish**

Sunday, January 14—Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

+8:00

**Ann Pasquariello**

r/b M/M Ron Neal

+10:15

**Barbara Peterscek**

r/b Vivian Goff

+11:45

**John Duffy**

r/b The Cisek Family

## The power of prayer!

PRAY FOR HEALING

Please bring health, healing and hope to those in our community who are sick especially Jonathon Capriotti, Emily Capriotti, Dakota Schick, Evelyn Zelif, Matt Puglisi, Matthew Cerritelli, Christopher Puglisi, John Sproat, Jr., Joe DelGuercio, Tricia Berwick, Katelyn Morales, Jesse Pintillo, Joan Rocco, Michael Untisz, we also ask you Lord, to watch over all those with incurable autoimmune diseases and for all those who are afflicted with MS, CF, Lou Gehrig's disease, for those who suffer from Alzheimer disease, dementia, addictions, and their families.

**God of all consolation, give life and health to our sisters and brothers for whom we pray in your Holy Name. Amen.**



The Sanctuary Lamp is lit this week in memory of Walter McLaughlin, requested by his son and family.



**Please keep in your prayers those serving in our military. Send in names of friends or family members you would like us to pray for.**

Oryah Hametz Hokzler—Army  
Vincent Moran—Marines  
Hunter Freedline—Army  
John Carlucci—Air Force  
Anthony Morsillo—Marines  
Kathryn Arway—Coast Guard  
Mitchel McKenney—Coast Guard  
Katie Austin Underhill—Army  
Jeremy Ramos—Air Force



**Reading I: Isaiah 60: 1-6**

The prophet announces that all parts of the world will come to Zion to rebuild Jerusalem. Then throughout land the glory of the Lord will shine forth.

**Reading II: Ephesians 3: 2-3a, 5-6**

Paul's chief insight into the mystery of Christ is that Gentiles are to be recognized as full participants in the life of the Church.

**The Gospel: Matthew 2: 1-12**

The special personages in this episode are the magi, or wise men, who come to visit Jesus. Over time, Christianity has made them into kings, numbering them as 3 because of the number of gifts they presented to the Child. Above all, they symbolize the Gentile world coming to the Jewish Christ.

**Bible Quiz—Women in the Bible**

1. Which woman was the Jewish queen of Persia? A) Esther B) Deborah C) Jezebel D) Priscilla
2. Which woman did Peter raise from the dead? A) Joppa B) Lydia C) Dorcas D) Priscilla
3. This woman was barren, but when God answered her prayer for a child, she dedicated her newborn son's life to the Lord's work. Who is she? A) Hagar B) Eunice C) Phoebe D) Hannah
4. Which woman committed adultery with David, but a few years later gave birth to Solomon, the wisest king in the Bible? A) Bilhah B) Abigail C) Bathsheba D) Michal
5. She was an 84-year-old woman who saw baby Jesus when he was brought to the temple for his circumcision. A) Bernice B) Hadassah C) Anna D) Jerusha
6. Which woman was a prostitute who married Hosea, the Old Testament prophet? A) Gomer B) Hephzibah C) Drusilla D) Vashti
7. Which woman was a Gentile and the great-grandmother of King David, placing her in the genealogy of Jesus Christ? A) Tamar B) Ruth C) Rahab D) Naomi
8. Which woman was Jacob's first wife? A) Rhoda B) Lois C) Leah D) Mara
9. Which woman was Moses and Aaron's sister? A) Miriam B) Damaris C) Elisabeth D) Tirzah
10. Which woman bore the twins Jacob and Esau? A) Rebekah B) Sarah C) Zipporah D) Judith

**The Epiphany of the Lord**

*January 7*



The feast of the Epiphany, celebrated on January 7th, this year, is one of the oldest in the Church and one of the greatest in the ecclesiastical year. The word Epiphany is a Greek word which signifies a manifestation or revelation. During the first three centuries the manifestation of Christ to the chosen people, and His manifestation as the Savior of all races and nations, were celebrated on the same day, but since the 4th century, December 25th has been the feast of the Nativity, or Christmas, and January 7th the feast of the Epiphany, or the feast of the

Three Wise Men. It is so-called because the Gospel of the day tells us that Magi came from the East to the Jerusalem saying: "Where is the newborn King of the Jews? We saw His star at its rising and have come to pay Him homage."

They may have come from Arabia, Chaldea or Persia. Tradition says that there were three, Gaspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. The prophecy that "a star shall rise out of Jacob," and the teaching of the prophet Daniel at Babylon had spread throughout the East. When the mysterious star appeared, learned men recognized it as a sign that the coming of the Messiah was at hand and that He would be born in Judea. Following the star appeared, learned men recognized it as a sign that the coming of the Messiah was at hand and that He would be born in Judea. Following the star they reached Bethlehem. On entering the house, they found the child with Mary, His Mother. They prostrated themselves and did Him homage. Then they opened their coffers and presented Him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

**A New Years Prayer**

Another Year is dawning  
 With the chance to start anew  
 May you be kinder, wiser  
 In all you say and do  
 Not so caught up in selfish gain  
 That you would fail to see  
 The things in life that mean the most  
 Cost not a fancy fee  
 The warm kind word that you can give  
 The outstretched hand to help  
 The prayers you pray for those in need  
 More precious these than wealth  
 You know not what may be ahead  
 Of laughter or of tears  
 You only need to know each day  
 That our Lord is walking near  
 You should be thankful for  
 this brand new year  
 As now you humbly pray  
 Your hand secure in our dear Lord  
 Each step along the way.  
 Amen

**Eucharistic Revival**

"If angels could be jealous of men, they would be so for one reason: Holy Communion." - St. Maximilian Kolbe

**Where will the Eucharistic Miracles Exhibit be?** Our Lady of Grace, Fairview, NJ, January 2 thru January 15.

**Mysteries of Christmas and the Epiphany**

- In the mysteries of Christmas and Epiphany, we celebrate with wonder the truth that is Christ, God is Emmanuel with us. You are our light and our helper.
- For those who feel alone in a world too large for them, may they know the sheltering presence of your love.
- For those who feel bewildered amid the storms that overtake them, may they know the safety that You give.
- For those who feel afraid as death approaches, may they find their courage in Your Light.



Maximilian Kolbe was born in Poland on January 8, 1894. His father fought for Poland's independence from Russia, and was hanged as a traitor in 1914. After her husband's death, Maximilian's mother became a Benedictine nun. In 1910, Kolbe entered the Franciscan Order, and eight years later was ordained a priest. In 1931, he went to Japan and founded a monastery in Nagasaki, and then another in India. He returned to Poland in 1936 because of ill health.

Two years after the 1939 Nazi invasion of Poland, Fr. Kolbe was arrested for helping to house Jewish refugees and for publishing anti-Nazi materials. He was sent to Auschwitz. Several months later, a prisoner escaped from Auschwitz. It was the Nazi practice there to execute 10 men for each escaped prisoner. When the 10 were chosen, one pleaded for mercy, saying that he was a married man with young children.

On hearing this, Fr. Kolbe stepped forward and offered to take his place. The camp guard accepted his offer.

Fr. Kolbe's execution was to be slow and painful—confinement in a starvation bunker. When, after three weeks, he was still alive, he was given a fatal injection.

Maximilian Kolbe was canonized by Pope John Paul II in 1982. His feast day is August 14th.



You are invited to join a community of like-minded Catholic men who share their faith, hands, hearts, and prayers, providing support and communing with each other. You can also bring your families along and get to know other members. Membership is FREE to join online, and you can request to join anytime. Merry Christmas!



Pray to your Guardian Angel everyday:  
*Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here. Ever this day, be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen.*

**Cursillo Corner**

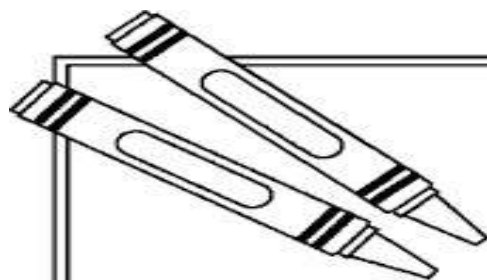
Want to grow deeper in your relationship with God? Want to rediscover the sense of Christian community? Participate in the joyful experience of *Cursillo*. *Cursillo* is Spanish for "short Course" and has been in our diocese for over 50 years. A *Cursillo* is an encounter with self, Christ and others that enhances the rest of your spiritual life. *Cursillo* focuses on piety, study, and action and includes faith sharing which helps us to live our lives in a Christian manner. For more information visit our website at [www.trentoncursillo.org](http://www.trentoncursillo.org) or contact Mary Weis at 732-939-0172.



Join us at 1:00 on Wednesdays to play Mah Jongg. If you don't know how to play and would like to learn, we do have experienced players to help you. All are welcome. Please email or call Maureen at the parish office.

**Answers to the Bible Quiz**

1. A—Esther, 2. C—Dorcas, 3. D—Hannah, 4. C—Bathsheba, 5. C—Anna, 6. A—Gomer, 7. B—Ruth, 8. C—Leah, 9. A—Miriam, 10. A—Rebekah



# Just for KIDS

## Luke 2:1-20

In Luke 2:1-20, we read the familiar story of Jesus' birth. The scrambled words and names in the list below are a part of that story. Unscramble them and circle them in the puzzle. You will find them → ↓ ↗ ↖ ↕ ↘

eaCrSa \_\_\_\_\_  
 gnamre \_\_\_\_\_  
 laiGele \_\_\_\_\_  
 nso \_\_\_\_\_  
 hritb \_\_\_\_\_  
 adfari \_\_\_\_\_  
 oylgr \_\_\_\_\_  
 athre \_\_\_\_\_  
 eecpa \_\_\_\_\_

aMyr \_\_\_\_\_  
 opesJh \_\_\_\_\_  
 auedJ \_\_\_\_\_  
 csenus \_\_\_\_\_  
 ilfeds \_\_\_\_\_  
 daVID \_\_\_\_\_  
 oyj \_\_\_\_\_  
 isbotrfrn \_\_\_\_\_  
 nin \_\_\_\_\_

zaNhtare \_\_\_\_\_  
 uutUAsgs \_\_\_\_\_  
 rephsehds \_\_\_\_\_  
 teeBhhelm \_\_\_\_\_  
 enagl \_\_\_\_\_  
 tginh \_\_\_\_\_  
 robn \_\_\_\_\_  
 ecrdee \_\_\_\_\_



B	C	A	E	S	A	R	M	E	A	R	T	H
D	E	C	R	E	E	E	Y	R	U	A	G	B
F	N	T	R	B	I	R	T	H	G	F	A	O
I	S	Y	H	S	O	N	N	I	U	R	L	R
R	U	O	Y	L	E	G	N	A	S	A	I	N
S	S	J	G	P	E	A	C	E	T	I	L	M
T	J	O	S	E	P	H	C	J	U	D	E	A
B	S	D	R	E	H	P	E	H	S	A	E	N
O	M	A	R	Y	H	R	I	M	S	V	T	G
R	F	I	E	L	D	S	T	H	G	I	N	E
N	A	Z	A	R	E	T	H	M	A	D	S	R



There will be 14 uncircled letters. Write them in order from top to bottom on the lines. They will spell a special message to you.

\_\_\_\_\_

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IN REMEMBRANCE OF  
SAMANTHA JOSEPHSON

**S**

**A**

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