

The Church of  
**ST. WILLIAM THE ABBOT**  
A Roman Catholic Church  
2740 Lakewood Allenwood Road  
Howell, NJ

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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: 4:00PM (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 3:00 to 4:00PM. 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



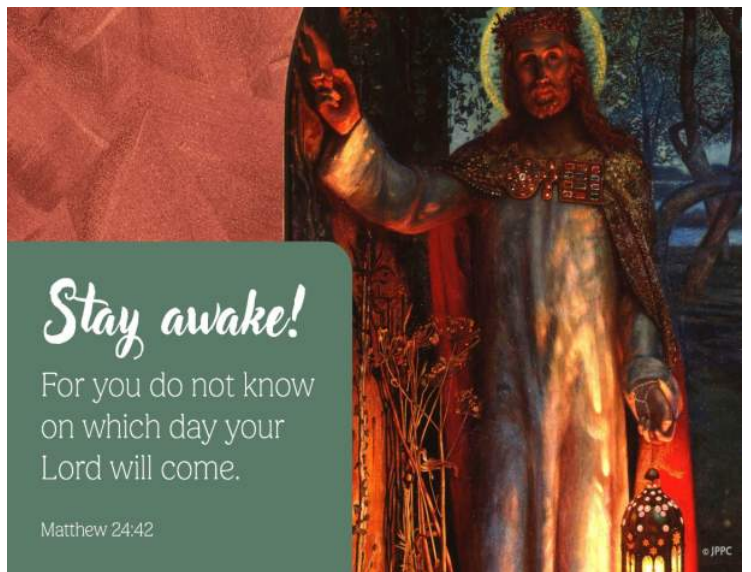
Rev. Thomas Maher, Pastor  
Rev. James Redstone, In Memoriam  
Rev. Lewis Papera, Weekend Assistant  
Rev. Michael Vona, Weekend Assistant  
Deacon Michael Abatemarco, Pastoral Associate  
Deacon George A. Prevosti  
Deacon Kevin Smith

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS**

Monday—Friday, 9:30AM—1:30PM  
(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.



*November 30, 2025*

*First Sunday of Advent*

### 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.



### WREATH SALE!

Due to popular demand, **The School of Religion will be selling wreaths again this year after all Masses on this weekend.**

Please stop by and see their display. Your support is always greatly appreciated.



### Weekly Collection for November 16, 2025

Number of registered families. . .1209  
 Number of envelopes. . .162  
 Envelope contributions. . .\$5,384.00  
 Loose contributions. . .\$589.00  
 Human Development. . .\$535.00

WeShare. . .\$1,200.00

**Total. . .\$7,708.00**

**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 those who faithfully use their weekly parish contribution envelopes and those who give online through WeShare.



### GIVING TREES



It's that time of year again! The Social Concerns Committee will be putting up giving trees on Saturday, November 22nd. We will have two trees.

**One tree will assist our local families in need.** In addition to their wish list, we will be collecting gift cards from Shop Rite, Target, Walmart, Visa, American Express, restaurants, and movies. We will get the gift cards to them early in December so the families will have time to shop for Christmas. **Please return the UNWRAPPED gifts and gift cards by: December 8th.**

**The second giving tree will be for the Seniors at our local nursing home.** Please take a tag and return the gift in a gift bag with the tag attached by December 8th.

If your family is in need of assistance for Christmas, please call the parish office at 732-840-3535. Thank you for your continued generosity. St. William the Abbot parish community is so giving and compassionate. It make a tremendous difference in peoples' lives. God bless!



The Sanctuary Lamp is lit in memory of The Martino Family r/b The Lenardo Family.

## 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, November 29 Here ends the year of Grace 2025

9:00—Robert Ciliege  
r/b David Chmielewski  
4:00—Donna Marie Thorsten  
r/b Deacon Mike & Pat Abatemarco

### Sunday, November 30 First Sunday in Advent

8:00—Janice Ciardiello  
r/b Sal Ciardiello  
10:15—Pedro Mata  
r/b Mata Family  
11:45—People of the Parish

### Monday, December 1

9:00—Donald B. Deacon  
r/b Wife & Son

### Tuesday, December 2

9:00—Edward Ward  
r/b Pangaro Family

### Wednesday, December 3 St. Francis Xavier

9:00—Michael Anthony Kurzeja  
r/b John Lenardo  
7:00—Joseph & Kathleen Pangaro special intention  
r/b Pangaro Family

### Thursday, December 4 St. John Damascene

9:00—Beatrice & Neil Bonner  
r/b Pangaro Family

### Friday, December 5 First Friday

9:00—Wallace Osborne  
r/b Sal Ciardiello

### Saturday, December 6 First Saturday / St. Nicholas, Bishop

9:00—Elizabeth Knych  
r/b Nosnicki Family  
4:00—Edward Mansfield  
r/b Barbara & Rich Capitan

### Sunday, December 7 Second Sunday of Advent

8:00—Sandra Campos  
r/b Ron Campos  
10:15—People of the Parish  
11:45—Anna & Joe Kelly  
r/b Terry Kelly

## The power of prayer!

PRAY FOR HEALING

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Please bring health, healing, and hope to those who are sick in our community, especially: Jonathon Capriotti, Emily Capriotti, Matthew Cerritelli, John Sproat, Jr., June Daquaiust, Eileen Bertola, Michael Untisz, Joseph Untisz, Wayne Farmer, Barbara Maloney, Natasha Sanchez, Richard Policastro, Erin Mackintosh, Gene Sacco, Johnny Daley, Richard Romano, Kerry O'Connor, Ethel Lowe, Nicola Schirripa, Mary Ann Carissimo, Debbie Palmer, Gina Furci, Dr. Fiore, Lisa Brooks, Daniel Bivona, Alana Parisi, Nicholas Asterino, Nicholas Serzan, Michael Thompson, Anthony, Randy Zawacki, Donna Calamia & Grace Santisi. We also ask you Lord, to watch over all those with incurable autoimmune diseases and for all those who are afflicted with cancer, 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.**



**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 & Emma Carlucci—Air Force  
Anthony Morsillo—Marines  
Kathryn McEnaney—Coast Guard  
Mitchell McEnaney—Coast Guard  
Katie Austin Underhill—Army  
Jeremy Ramos—Air Force  
Eddie Roszkowski—Navy  
Aaron MacDonald—Marine  
Max Culbertson—Navy  
Eric Hertel—Navy  
Lauren Millerbernd—Marines  
Darlene Pabon—Army



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.*



**Reading I:** Isaiah 2:1-5 The prophet sees all nations converging as pilgrims on Jerusalem. At that time, the Lord administered His judgment, which will in turn lead to universal peace.

**Reading II:** Romans 13:11-14 The time has come for true conversion, as “darkness” (evil) will yield to daylight (goodness), All must then renew their baptismal commitments and put on the Lord Jesus Christ.

**The Gospel:** Matthew 24: 37-44 Seated on Mt. Olivet, Jesus begins His instructions with a reference to Noah and the Great Flood story. He emphasizes our need for preparedness. It determines who will be spared and who will be lost. He adds a command to “Watch, therefore, for Christ’s coming. For us, here and now, He comes in the Holy Eucharist. For us and all the world, His second Coming will be on the Day of Judgment and the end of history.

**🎄 The Night the Savior Was Born 🎄**

Join us for a weekend of faith and festive fun!

**Saturday, December 13th, right after the 4:00 mass:**

Enjoy our *musical Christmas pageant* in the church, followed by **crafts for kids** and an **Adult Beverage Garden** in the parish hall.

**Sunday, December 14th at 3:30:**

**Don't miss the Christmas play, plus crafts, hot cocoa, and cookies** for all.

**👼 Santa and Mrs. Claus will be there both days!**

Celebrate the joy of Christmas and the night our Savior was born!



--  
Dawn Cappelto  
School of Religion  
Administrator

**Ways to remember or commemorate an event at St. William the Abbot**

**Commemorative Bricks:** This is an ideal way to commemorate a graduation, wedding, special family celebration, or to acknowledge a loved one. To order a brick, which will be placed in the garden near Mary, contact the parish office. The cost is \$100 for 8x8 brick and \$75 for a 4x8 brick.

**Bequests**

St. William is a tax-exempt non-profit Organization and gratefully accepts donations from last will and testament and/or stock to assist our parish. For more information on how to have your wishes known, please talk to your personal banking representative. May God Bless you for your generosity!

**Sanctuary Lamp**

The Sanctuary Lamp can be lit in honor of or in memory of a loved one for one week. It is announced in the bulletin and before all the Saturday/Sunday Masses. The donation is \$25.

**Flowers for Jesus**

Flowers for Jesus is a bouquet of flowers that will be bought in honor or memory of a loved one. They will be placed at the Altar for the weekend Masses. It will be announced in the bulletin and at each Mass. The donation is \$50.

**Celebrating 40 Years of the St. William the Abbot Parish**

Our Anniversary Committee is now diligently planning special events to celebrate our 40th Anniversary throughout the year. ALL are welcome to join the committee and help with the planning. Below is a list of members of the committee so far; if you would like to join it or get involved, please email one of the members below and they will reach out to you.

- Tricia Berwick: tberwick@live.com
- Diane Smith: foodiedcs@aol.com
- Pete Gilbert: pete2516@optimum.net
- Deacon Kevin: kmsmith9@aol.com
- Sal Ciardiello: salmaypink@hotmail.com
- Mike Eadicicco: i95mead2@aol.com
- Lorrie Gratton: lorrie915@aol.com



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Online giving is the best way to support St. William the Abbot now more than ever! It provides steady support, it's environmentally friendly, and less costly than using envelopes. Look for the WeShare link on our website.

### Family Advent Prayer

Heavenly Father, give us the grace to know and feel your infinite love for us.

Lord Jesus, open our hearts to prepare for your coming at Christmas and help us to recognize the amazing gift of your life and love.

O Holy Spirit, guide us in all that we do this Advent season, may it always bring us closer to you.  
Amen.

The Knights of Columbus will be hosting **Breakfast with Santa, December 6<sup>th</sup>** in the Parish Hall at 8:30am and 10:30am. Sign up will be available after each Mass. The cost is \$5 for children 6 yrs and older and \$10 for adults. Pay at Door.



OUR **ANNUAL BON-FIRE** WILL BE HELD ON **MONDAY, DECEMBER 15TH AT 6:00PM, WEATHER PERMITTING.** JOIN US FOR REFRESHMENTS AND CHRISTMAS CAROLING TO KICK OFF THE HOLIDAY SEASON!

## Symbols of the Advent Wreath

### Circular shape

Reminds us that God has no beginning and no end, He is one and eternal.

### Pink candle

Lit on Gaudete Sunday, it symbolizes joy as we approach the birth of Jesus.

### 4 candles

The 4 Sundays of Advent. When we light each one we are reminded that the light of Jesus is coming into the world.

### Green branches

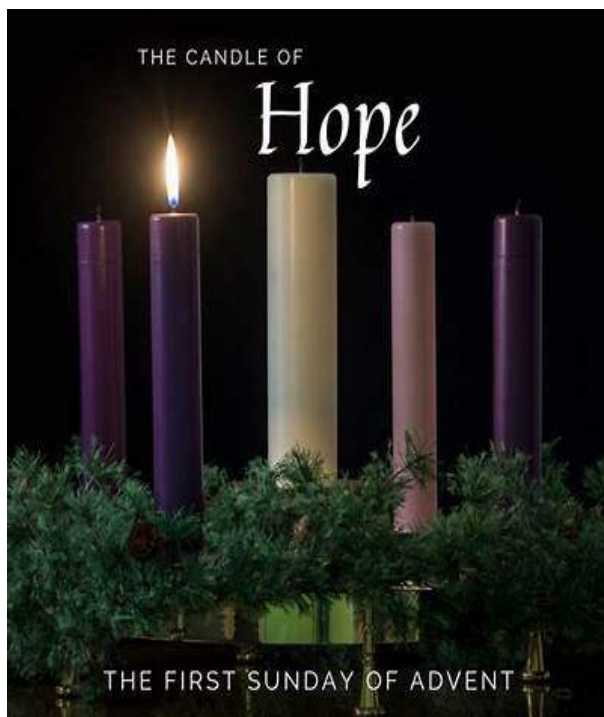
Green symbolizes hope and life. It reminds us that Christ lives among us.

## What is Advent?

Beginning the Church's liturgical year, Advent (from, "ad-venire" in Latin or "to come to") is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas. The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas. From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus' promise to come back. But the scripture readings during Advent tell us not to waste our time with predictions. Advent is not about speculation. Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world (Lk 21:34-36). Like Lent, the liturgical color for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.

As we prepare for Christmas, the General Instruction of the Roman Missal notes some differences to the Mass that should be observed during the season. For instance, the priest will wear violet or purple during Advent, except for the Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) when rose is worn (GIRM, no. 316). Aside from what the priest wears, other aesthetic changes in the Church can include a more modestly decorated altar.

The final days of Advent, from December 17 to December 24, we focus on our preparation for the celebrations of the Nativity of our Lord at Christmas. In particular, the "O" Antiphons are sung during this period and have been by the Church since at least the eighth century. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming of Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but of present ones as well. Advent devotions including the Advent wreath, remind us of the meaning of the season.



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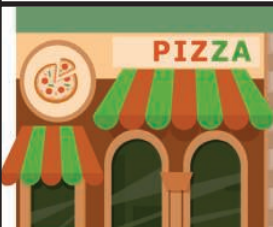
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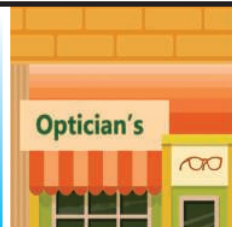
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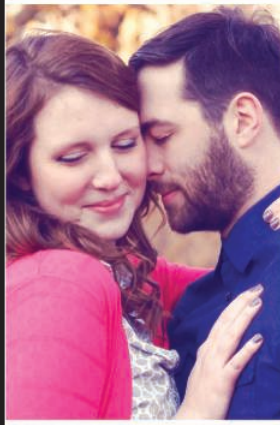
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