

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

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.

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
Website: 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—1:30PM
Also Wednesdays 4:00PM—6:30PM
(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.



January 5, 2025

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.



WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL.

WE HAVE REACHED OUR GOAL! TO THOSE WHO HAVE MADE PLEDGES, PLEASE CONTINUE TO PAY THEM OFF.



Weekly Collection for December 22, 2024

Due to early bulletin deadlines, figures will be provided in an upcoming bulletin.

We are so grateful to all those who financially sacrifice each week to support our parish and it’s 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.

The month of January is devoted to the most Holy Name of Jesus.



Weekly MASS Intentions

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

Saturday, January 4 St. Elizabeth Ann Seaton / First Saturday

4:00—People of the Parish

Sunday, January 5 Epiphany of the Lord

8:00—Patrick Cleary

r/b M/M Steve Sousa

10:15—Zach Duff special intention (living)

r/b Debbie Miller Family

11:45—Nina Militano

r/b Deacon Mike & Pat

Monday, January 6 St. Andre Bessette

9:00—Donna Angelucci special intention (living)

r/b Beyer Family

Tuesday, January 7 St. Raymond of Penafort

9:00—Walter & Eileen McLaughlin

r/b Son & Family

Wednesday, January 8

9:00—Michael Grisi

r/b M/M George Weis

7:00—Patrick McDonagh

r/b M/M Ngrl

Thursday, January 9

9:00—Bob Kuchler

r/b O'Sullivan Family

Friday, January 10

9:00—Katelyn Morales

r/b M/M Jim Danaher

Saturday, January 11

9:00—Eleanor Wernerspach

r/b Beyer Family

4:00—Vince Reilly special intention (living)

r/b Debbie Miller

Sunday, January 12 Baptism of the Lord

8:00—People of the Parish

10:15—Patrick Cleary

r/b Deacon Kevin & Diane Smith

11:45—Ernest Smoyak

r/b Beyer Family



The Sanctuary Lamp is lit in memory of Sara Gilbert r/b M/M Peter Gilbert.

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.



The power of prayer!

PRAY FOR HEALING

Please bring health, healing, and hope to those who are sick in our community, especially: Jonathon Capriotti, Emily Capriotti, Matthew Cerritelli, John Sproat, Jr., Joe DelGuercio, Jesse Pintillo, 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 & Dr. Fiore. 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.



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 Mor-sillo—Marines; Kathryn Arway—Coast Guard;
Mitchell McKenney—Coast Guard; Katie Austin Underhill—Army; Jeremy Ramos—Air Force; Eddie Roszkowski—Navy; Aaron MacDonald—Marines

Volunteers needed

Our crochet group, Stitches from the Heart, is in need of crocheters. We make blankets for baptisms, the sick, and the residents at Preferred Care in Wall. If interested, please call or email the parish office.



Join us at 1:00pm 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. Please call the parish office.



Reading I: Isaiah 60: 1-6

All parts of the world will process to Jerusalem. There they will rebuild the city in prosperous times.

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

The author recounts Paul's role in announcing the divine plan. Its main point is the new inclusion of the Gentile world.

The Gospel: Matthew 2: 1-12

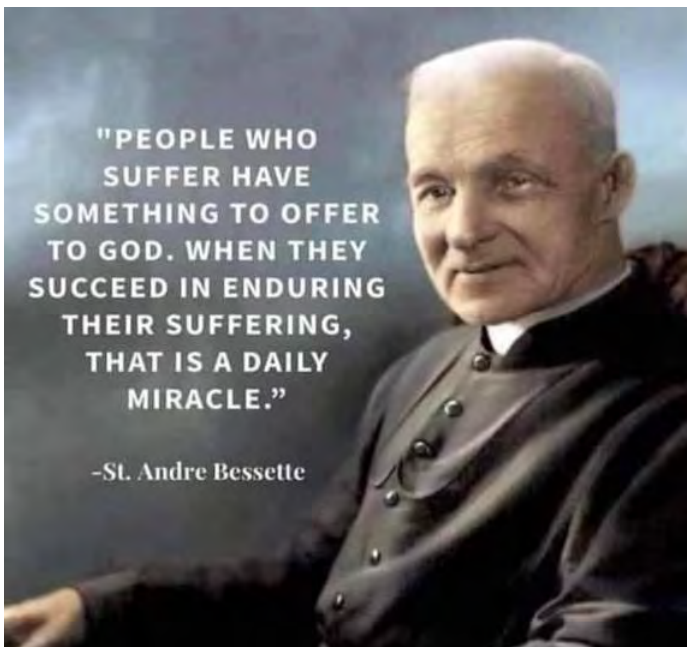
Jesus' birth is inserted into the political and social context. The wise men represent the Gentile world coming to Christ.

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 or contact Mary Weis at 732-939-0172.

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





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.

Convalidation

Bringing your Marriage
into THE Church

Are you a Catholic who was married by a justice of the peace or a minister of another denomination? As a married couple, you have already made a commitment to one another. Perhaps you'd like to consider taking your marriage to the next level by inviting Jesus to dwell within your relationship. If you feel ready to begin the process of preparing for marriage in the Church, or if you'd simply like to discuss your options, please call the parish office to set up an appointment

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.



- ◆ Choose weekly or monthly donation
- ◆ Update desired offering any time
- ◆ And, print your year-end statement in seconds—at any time!

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.





The feast of the Epiphany, celebrated on January 5th, 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.



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