

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: 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



The month of February is devoted to the Holy Family.

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.



*February 2, 2025*

*The Presentation 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.

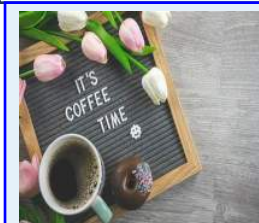
- An active parishioner is a person who has received or is preparing to receive the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation.
- An active parishioner is a person who attends Mass regularly at St. William the Abbot and actively supports the sacramental programs for Penance, Eucharist and Confirmation. Parents 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.



Please join us for the next Hospitality Sunday after all Masses on February 9th.



Weekly Collection for January 26th, 2025

Number of registered families . . .	1,266
Number of weekly envelopes returned—	131
Envelope contributions . . .	\$5,496.00
Loose contributions . . .	\$944.00
Mortgage Reduction . . .	\$665.00
Latin America . . .	\$256.00
Candles . . .	\$228.00
WeShare . . .	\$2055.00

**Total: \$9,644.00**

**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.



Simeon, a Levitical Priest in the Temple, who was inspired by the Holy Spirit, said of the infant Jesus, "A light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel." Luke 2:32



The Knights of Columbus are asking any parishioners with used eye glasses to donate them to the Joe Mazarella Eye Glass Donation Program. An eye receptacle is located in the parish hall. All eye glasses are donated to the Eye's for Needy Program, who since 1932, provided over 8 million needy people in the United States and throughout the world the gift of better sight. We thank you for all your donations and support.

# Weekly MASS Intentions

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

**Saturday, February 1 First Saturday**

4:00—Mary Cleary  
r/b Rachel Rizzo

**Sunday, February 2 The Presentation of the Lord**

8:00—People of the Parish  
10:15—Mary Cleary  
r/b M/M George Weis  
11:45—Albert Abatemarco  
r/b Deacon Mike & Pat

**Monday, February 3 St. Blaise /Blessing of the Throats**

9:00—Sandra Campos  
r/b St. William the Abbot  
7:00—People of the Parish

**Tuesday, February 4**

9:00—Michael Cheselka  
r/b M/M George Weis

**Wednesday, February 5 St. Agatha**

9:00—Thomas Planson  
r/b M/M Roy Draggotta  
7:00—Scott Haldane  
r/b Dawn Cappelto

**Thursday, February 6 St. Paul Miki & Companions**

9:00—Harold Turner  
r/b M/M John Puglisi

**Friday, February 7 First Friday**

9:00—Steven Cier  
r/b M/M George Weis

**Saturday, February 8 Sts. Jerome Emiliani & Josephine Bakhita**

9:00—Sandra Campos  
r/b Felix Guillermo  
4:00—Alice Rebelo  
r/b Trudy & Ernie Rubelo

**Sunday, February 9 World Marriage Day**

8:00—John K. Lloyd  
r/b Dr. Joe Mannion  
10:15—People of the Parish  
11:45—Mary Cleary  
r/b The Deering Family



The Sanctuary Lamp is lit in memory of Edward & Patrick Truax r/b Their loving family

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, Nicola Schirripa & Dr. Fiore. 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 Arway—Coast Guard; Mitchell McKenney—Coast Guard; Katie Austin Underhill—Army; Jeremy Ramos—Air Force; Eddie Roszkowski—Navy; Aaron MacDonald—Marines



This weekend, Candlemas, Father Tom will be blessing all candles during all Masses for your personal at home use. There is a table set up where you can place your candles to be blessed.



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: Malachi 3: 1-4

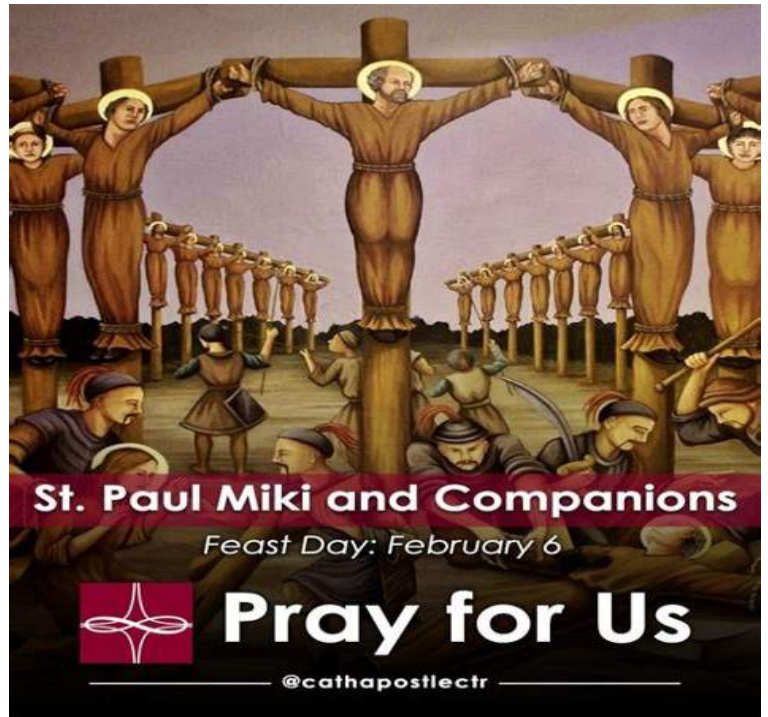
The Lord's messenger (Elijah) will make Israel ready for the Lord's coming by returning the people to covenant obedience.

### Reading II: Hebrews 2: 14-18

Jesus was like us in all things but sin. He took on our nature in order to die so that He could "rob" Satan of his claim over our lives.

### The Gospel: Luke 2: 22-40, or 22-32

Mary and Joseph fulfill the Law of Purification for all new mothers, not because they needed to be cleansed, but because they wanted to avoid giving others scandal. The elderly Simeon calls the Child "the Light to all nations."



### Saint Blaise, Feast day February 3

*Patron of Throat Ailments, animals, wool combers & wool trading*

The blessing of throats, invoking the intercession of St. Blaise, has become a very popular devotion. This Bishop and Martyr, devoted the early years of his life to the study of philosophy and afterward became a physician. St. Blaise was ordained to the priesthood and made Bishop in Amenia (which is now Turkey) where he was seized and carried off to prison by the Governor's officials. On his way to prison, a distracted mother whose child was suffering from a disease of the throat begged for his aid. At his intercession the child was cured and since that time his aid has been solicited in cases of a similar disease. After cruel tortures, St. Blaise was beheaded. Through his intercession many have been cured of throat diseases or protected from evil.

Today the priest gives the blessing of St. Blaise by holding two candles in the form of a cross touching the throat, and prays that through the merits and intercession of St. Blaise the person blessed may be delivered from throat ailments.

**Requirements to Obtain a Sponsor Certificate/  
Letter of Eligibility**

The godparents, together with the parents, must be willing to help the baptized grow in love for Christ and neighbor. By word and example, the godparents will encourage the candidate to live the Christian life and fulfill faithfully the obligations connected with it. (cf. Code of Canon Law, c. 872-874)

- A sponsor must have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Eucharist, Confirmation, and if married, married in the Catholic Church.
- A sponsor must be at least 16 years old.
- A sponsor attends Mass faithfully participating in the life and support of the Church, receiving the Eucharist, and leading a life according to the teachings of the Church.
- A sponsor must be registered here at St. William. If he/she received all his/her sacraments here at St. William, but does not live here, they are not a member of this parish but a member of the parish whose territory he/she now resides in. That parish is the one to go to, to receive a sponsor certificate.

**We need your cooperation!**

In an effort to keep our files current, please notify us if:

- You have a new phone number or address
- You no longer have a land line that we may have on file
- Your children are out of school and need to register on their own
- You have an email address you would like on file or if you have a new email address
- You no longer want to be registered
- You donate electronically and no longer need envelopes

Please email the parish office your updates. Thank you!

There will be a **Bilingual Faith Formation and Parish Ministry Conference on March 29, 2025.**

Registration has begun. This Conference is perfect for everyone involved in passing on the Catholic faith—Parish Catechists, School Teachers, Youth Ministers, and more. Attendees will enjoy enriching workshops, keynote speakers, Mass with the Bishop, and excellent networking. It will be held at St. John Vianney High School in Holmdel 9:30am-3:00pm.

Our keynote speakers will be Chris Padgett (English) and Fr. Agostino Torres, CFR (Spanish). There will be over 30 workshop speakers in both English and Spanish.

Bishop David M. O'Connell will be our celebrant for Mass.

There will be something for everyone!

Registration Fee: \$35/person with an early registration discount of \$25 through 1/31/25. Questions: Contact Michelle Angelo Santoro at 609-403-7174 or email her at mangelo@dioceseoftrenton.org



**ST. WILLIAM THE ABBOT IS ON FACEBOOK!** Please check out our Facebook page. Our page just reached 600 followers! Thanks to all our FB fans. Tune in for our daily message and other announcements.

**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.

*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 with Fr. Tom. You'll be so glad you did!

**CATHOLIC WOMEN OF ZION CHAPTER 1**  
***A Ministry to Catholic Women Young and Older Alike***  
***at The Church of St. William the Abbot***  
***36th Year Anniversary Retreat Day***



Ana Maria invites us to join her as she shares:  
 "Behold, I Make All Things New" Rev 21:5

Date: Saturday, February 8, 2025  
 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Mass-9:00am. will be celebrated by Fr. Thomas Maher

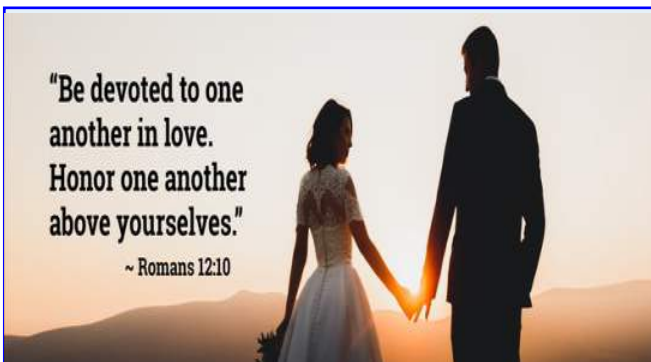
Place: St. William the Abbot Church  
 2740 Lakewood Allenwood Rd  
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Admission: \$25.00 includes Box lunch - pay at the door  
 Come and bring a friend!

Reservations: are necessary-must select a Box Lunch from  
 Selections listed on CWOZ Website [www.cwoz.org](http://www.cwoz.org)  
 You can also register by phone-please leave your phone number,  
 spell your last name and selection of Box Lunch  
 at 732-475-7113 no later than Tuesday, February 4, 2025

Mary Ann Collett, Co-founder/Director of Catholic Women of Zion [cwoz@cwoz.org](mailto:cwoz@cwoz.org)

**RETROUVAILLE: REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE:** Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program will be held **February 14 - 16, 2025** at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org) or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.



In observance of World Marriage Day (Sunday, February 9, 2025) and National Marriage Week (February 7-14, 2025), the Diocese of Trenton honors all Catholic married couples with a special web resource to enhance their marriage in three important ways: 1) *Reconnect with Your Spouse*, 2) *Make Your Marriage Even Better*, and 3) *Serve Others in Your Marriage*. Find all this and more at [www.dioceseoftrenton.org/world-marriage-day-for-couples](http://www.dioceseoftrenton.org/world-marriage-day-for-couples)

and for newly married couples, be sure to visit [www.dioceseoftrenton.org/newly-married-resource-page](http://www.dioceseoftrenton.org/newly-married-resource-page) - what every couple needs to make their marriage extraordinary! (Part of the *BuildingStrongMarriages.org* initiative of the Diocese of Trenton).

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church: 1601 "The matrimonial covenant, by which a man and a woman establish between themselves a partnership of the whole life, is by its nature ordered toward the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of offspring; this covenant between baptized persons has been raised by Christ the Lord to the dignity of a sacrament."

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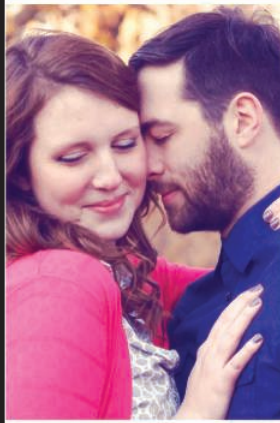


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