

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
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
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.



March 2, 2025

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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.



The Knights of Columbus are asking any parishioners with used eye glasses to donate them to the Joe Mazzarella 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.



STEWARDSHIP
A Way of Life

Weekly Collection for February 23, 2025

Number of registered families. . .1209
 Number of weekly envelopes returned. . .131
 Envelope contributions. . .\$5,851.00
 Loose contributions. . .\$608.00
 Capital Contribution . . . \$55.00
 WeShare. . . \$2,591.00

Total. . . \$9,105.00

Catholic Church in Central & Eastern Europe: \$460.00

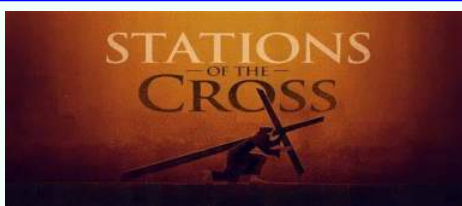
Thank you! We are so grateful to all those who financially sacrifice each week to support our parish and its ministries! We would especially like to thank all those who faithfully use their weekly parish contribution envelopes and those who give online through WeShare.



Local Babies Need Your Help
We are having a diaper drive starting March 16th. We once again have teamed up with Child Care Resources for Monmouth County in helping families in need of diapers. The greatest need is for larger sized diapers: sizes 4,5,6,7 and pullups. Any donation is greatly appreciated. Baby wipes are needed also. Please bring in your donation by March 24th. Thank you!



OUR EASTER CANDY SALE HAS BEGUN! ORDER FORMS ARE LOCATED ON A TABLE NEAR THE PARISH OFFICE.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS IS HELD EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT AT 7:00PM.

Weekly **MASS** Intentions ©PPCC

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

Saturday, March 1

4:00—People of the Parish

Sunday, March 2

8:00—Sandy Campos

r/b The Dougherty Family

10:15—Mary Cleary

r/b M/M Kevin Moroney

11:45—Maureen Mulligan

r/b Deacon Mike & Pat Abatemarco

Monday, March 3, St. Katherine Drexel

9:00—Danny Vasollo

r/b The Medina Family

Tuesday, March 4

9:00—Anna Wehrhahn

r/b M/M Jack Teirnan

Wednesday, March 5, Ash Wednesday

9:00—Ron Neal, Sr.

r/b M/M Ron Neal

Noon—Thomas Knych

r/b The Dougherty Family

7:00—Helen Mary Miller

r/b The Terracciano Family

Thursday, March 6

9:00—Michael Cheselka

r/b Ellen Cerreta

Friday, March 7, First Friday

9:00—Joe Szatkowski

r/b The O'Sullivan Family

Saturday, March 8

9:00—Alfred Gomez

r/b The Cappetto Family

4:00—Elizabeth Luciano

r/b M/M John Messina

Sunday, March 9

8:00—People of the Parish

10:15—Jack Benigno

r/o Deacon Mike & Pat Abatemarco

11:45—Madeline Mielce

r/o Judith Virga

The power of prayer!
PRAY FOR HEALING ©PPCC

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, Mary Ann Carissimo & Dr. Fiore, Joseph Yehle. 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



The Sanctuary Lamp is lit in loving memory of Philip Macrino, requested by the Gilbert 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.



**Reading I: Sirach 27: 4-7**

A person's reasoning and conversations will reflect his or her true values. Their quality will come through mostly when they experience tribulation.

Reading II: I Corinthians 15: 54-58

St. Paul calls upon us to glorify God through our bodies. Death will be robbed of both its sting and victory over us by our efforts to resist sin.

The Gospel: Luke 6: 39-45

It is foolish to correct others for their faults when we have the same or worse. Contrasting "splinter" with "beam" dramatizes the point. Our hearts are really the place where our moral decisions are made.



February 11, 2025

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

During the days and weeks of penance that lie ahead --- from **Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2025, until Holy Thursday morning, April 17, 2025**--- the Catholic Church throughout the world commemorates the penitential season of Lent ending with the Sacred Triduum of Holy Week. The model Jesus gave us for "these forty days" was his own experience in the desert and the temptations that followed him there where he encountered Satan face to face. And yet, Jesus, there in the desert --- alone, fasting and in intense prayer --- beat back the devil and triumphed over temptation, as strong and as unrelenting as it was throughout those forty days.

We enter the desert of Lent like Jesus, led by the Holy Spirit, to face our devils, our temptations head on. But we are not alone. The Lord Jesus Christ is with us. And so, too, is the Church, the entire community of faith observing Lent. Here is what the Catholic Church in the United States requires of us as baptized Catholics:

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

1. The days of FAST (only one full meal) and ABSTINENCE (no meat) are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. No dispensations are granted on these solemn days except for reason of sickness or those provided in canon law below. The pastor of a parish has the authority to give a dispensation to individual parishioners in his parish. The Bishop alone has the authority to dispense groups of Catholics but only for a serious reason.

2. Those who are automatically dispensed from fast and abstinence regulations outside the age limits noted below include: the physically or mentally ill, especially individuals suffering from chronic illnesses such as diabetes. Also included in the dispensation are women who are pregnant or nursing. In all cases, common sense should prevail and ill persons should not further jeopardize their health by fasting.

3. Those between the ages of 18 and 59 are obliged to FAST (only one full meal) as above. From the age of 14, people are also obliged to ABSTAIN (no meat: this obligation prohibits the eating of meat, but not eggs, milk products or condiments of any kind, even though made from animal fat).

4. The obligation to observe the laws of fast and abstinence is a serious one for Catholics. Failure to observe one penitential day in itself is not considered a serious sin. It is the intentional failure to observe any penitential days at all, or a substantial number of penitential days, that must be considered a serious matter.

5. The obligation, the privilege really, of receiving the Eucharist at least once a year --- often called "**Easter duty**" --- for those in the state of grace should still be fulfilled during the period from the **First Sunday of Lent, March 8,-9, 2025 to Trinity Sunday, June 14-15, 2025**. However, the Church's law does permit this precept to be fulfilled at another time during the year when there is a just cause.

I want to encourage all Catholics, especially those conscious of serious sin, to go to confession and to make use of the sacrifices and traditions that have always been part of our Lenten practices in the Church.

We do, indeed, fast and pray with the Lord Jesus and with our fellow Catholics. May this Lent be a time of penance leading to grace and joy for us all at Easter.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend David M. O'Connell, C.M.
Bishop of Trenton

**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.



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.

CATHOLIC WOMEN OF ZION CHAPTER 1

Retreat on Saturday, March 15, 2025

at The Church of St. William the Abbot

Including a GIFT BASKET RAFFLE

To Support an April 12th Women's Conference & Workshops

YOU ARE INVITED TO CWOZ CHAPTER 1: Saturday, March 15, 2025. The day consists of Mass, Adoration, Music by Joyful Praise, speaker, sharing, networking and prayers for healing. This month's speaker: Maureen Baletti, a cradle Catholic, indebted to her mother, Claire, who shared her faith by teaching, nurturing and showing by actions, how Jesus Christ, is Lord and Savior. Maureen is a parishioner at St. Martha's Church in Point Pleasant for over 20 years, a Eucharistic Minister and Religious Education instructor. She and her husband, Ole have been blessed with two children and recently became grandparents. A pivotal point in her faith journey took place in 2013. While being prayed over during the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, during a Life in the Spirit Seminar, Our Lord invited her to come and follow Him. *'Our Lord does not call the qualified, He qualifies the called.'* This calling has led to a deeper, more intimate relationship with Our Lord. Maureen is a member of 'The Light of Life Prayer Group' and 'Totus Tuus,' a women's faith sharing group at St. Joseph's Church in Toms River. Additionally, she is a core member of the N.J. Women's Emmaus, coordinating and helping at their spring and fall retreats. She attended the 'Eucharistic Congress' in Indianapolis this summer, a blessed opportunity to share His true presence in the Blessed Sacrament with thousands of faith-filled pilgrims. But it is not what she does, it is how He makes her feel, filled with joy, peace and love. **In Galatians 2:20, 'I have been crucified with Christ and no longer live, but Christ lives in me.'**

Maureen invites us to join her, as she shares:

'The Devotion to the Holy Face of Jesus'

Date: Saturday, March 15th, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Mass-9:00am. will be celebrated by Fr. Thomas Maher

Admission: \$25.00 includes Box lunch - pay at the door

Extra: Purchase Raffle Tickets - **Cash or Checks only**

Reservations are necessary, **Seating is limited**, must select a

Box Lunch from Selections listed on CWOZ Website

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, March 11, 2025

Mary Ann Collett, Co-founder/Director of Catholic Women of Zion cwoz@cwoz.org



- ◆ 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.



We are going to be following the Howell Public Schools when we decide to close due to weather. If the schools are closed, then the Church and the parish office will also be closed. No Mass will be celebrated.

Fr. Tom will satisfy the Mass intention for that day at a private Mass.



THE '2025 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL HAS BEGUN! LOOK FOR CARDS AND ENVELOPES NEAR THE BULLETINS. THANK YOU!



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!

*May friends be abundant
and your faith burn bright.
May you count your many blessings
every day and every night!*



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.

SUPPORT GROUP FOR ANYONE SEPARATED OR DIVORCED

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” *Matthew 11:28*

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We have many offerings for anyone experiencing the pain and hurt of losing a marriage relationship. It doesn't matter if you are contemplating divorce, newly separated, going through the divorce process, recently divorced or divorced many years. You could have been married 4 years or 40 years, it doesn't matter, this program has help for everyone that attends!

**We are currently offering a 12-Week Program
Beginning Thursday, March 6, 2025
From 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
St. Leo The Great, Parish Center Meeting Room
Located at 50 Hurleys Lane, Lincroft, NJ**

Our programs are run by trained and certified Facilitators who are divorced and who have completed our 12-week Program and now would like to bring the healing they received to you!

To register or to have one of the Facilitators give you a call to find out more information, please email: healingheartsfromdivorce@gmail.com.

For more information to help you decide if this program is right for you, please visit: <https://www.mylifechangecoach.com/divorceministry>.

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