



# St. William the Abbot

Roman Catholic Church

**December 3, 2023**  
**First Sunday of Advent**

## Weekly Schedule

### Daily Mass

Monday - Saturday: 8:30am

### Weekend Masses

Saturday: 5pm

Sunday: 7:30am, 9am, 10:30am, 12n

### Live-Streamed Masses

Monday - Friday: 8:30am

Saturday: 5pm

Sunday: 12n

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday - Saturday: 7:15am - 8:30am

Saturday: 3:45pm - 5pm

### Adoration

Monday - Saturday: 7:15am - 8:30am

First Friday of the Month: 9am - 5pm

### Private Prayer

Monday - Friday: 7:15am - 6pm

Be on guard!

Be alert!

You do not know  
when that time will  
come.

Mark 13:33

## Mass Intentions

### Sunday, Dec. 3, 2023

Alec Anthony Cassillo

#### Collective Intentions

People of St. William's

Bridget Sullivan

James F. Garcia

Maureen McDonough

Bridget & James Sullivan

Grace & Antonio Deperino

### Monday, Dec. 4, 2023

Dagmar Baldino

### Tuesday, Dec. 5, 2023

Jeanine Kelly

### Wed., Dec. 6, 2023

Ernst DeGraff

### Thursday, Dec. 7, 2023

Nancy & Frank Lamb

Stephen Mullen

Winifred Romano

### Friday, Dec. 8, 2023

#### Immaculate Conception

John Stolfi

#### Collective Intentions

People of St. William's

Anna Poplarski

Joseph Astarita

Mark A. Ries

### Saturday, Dec. 9, 2023

Purgatorial Society

Candida & Antonio Fernandes

## Pray for the Sick

Richard Fedyk

Keith Gorton

Anna Clark

## Pray for the Deceased

Kathleen Ann Lee

Adrienne Cox

## Wine and Hosts

The Wine and Hosts used at Mass this week  
have been donated in loving memory of  
Stephen Mullen  
from the Mullen Family

## Altar Candles

The Altar Candles used at Mass this week have  
been donated in loving memory of  
Anna Poplarski  
from Dr. Jeff and Lynn Petry

## Sanctuary Candle

The Sanctuary Candle used at Mass this week has  
been donated in thanksgiving for  
the Blessed Virgin Mary's intercessions  
from Susan LeGoff



## Be Alert and Watchful of the Signs

I remember back in the 90's there was a music album called "Jock Jams", and the first song on the album began with this high energy music, and an announcer shouting out: "Let's get ready to rumble!!!" It makes me think of the time we are entering, the season of Advent, and St. William the Abbot – we are in "full preparation mode" for the birthday of Jesus Christ, the Son of God and the Savior of the world. Are we ready? Not necessarily 'to rumble', but for the coming of the Lord this Advent 2023? Hopefully certain things have caught your eye as soon as you entered the Church today – maybe even a shock to your senses - the music, the sights, and colors, and most importantly a spirit of hopeful anticipation and welcome. The Church, in her wisdom, desires that each one of us, her children, be ready in a spirit of prayer and wonder for the coming of the Son of God to dwell among us and IN us. Jesus challenges us in the Gospel "Be watchful! Be Alert!" We are encouraged to enter this time of grace, this season of waiting, with a spirit of hope in God's promise of the Messiah. Are you filled with that hope? Are you willing to bring that hope to others?



On Tuesday night so many of us were able to hear the encouraging words of Dr. Carolyn Yeager reminding us to stay rooted in Christ and be watchful of the signs God may be communicating to us. The Lord can be both loud and subtle in reaching out to us. Are we being attentive, watchful, and alert? We know that the word "advent" means coming, and the focus is on the coming of the Son of God into the world – but remember, Jesus came to seek and save the lost, and sometimes those most lost and disconnected are right in front of us. I had once heard that the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem was a search and rescue mission, and that the Lord was quietly placed behind enemy lines. No fanfare, no pomp, just quiet and discretion on that 'silent night'. How may the Lord be desiring to connect with you and your family this Advent? In the past I have listed spiritual tools and exercises that have served well. Some have been longstanding traditions like home Advent wreath lightings and prayer to more modern-day podcasts, virtual conferences and retreat talks, and iPhone apps to assist in preparing our hearts and homes. Let's get ready to spiritually rumble!

Advent Week One – this weekend we light the first candle of the wreath. I know you have noticed that it is getting a little colder and the days are getting shorter, and yet, as Christians we are called to add warmth and light into the world. How can you and I be intentional this week to not only be watchful and on the lookout for the signs of Jesus' presence, but to be that light and warmth for others? Maybe a little less time in front of a screen and a little more time around the table as family and friends celebrating our memories and hopes. Perhaps we add a few 'faith things' individually or together, reading an Advent book or devotional, praying a decade of the rosary, or attending one of the parish Advent events. This first week of Advent begins by calling out – "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" – but what are we inviting Him to? A distracted and overwhelming rush that takes our eyes off the real reason for the season? If that is the case, there will be "no room at the inn!"

Let us do our best to create a landing strip in our hearts, our homes, and the parish throughout Advent 2023. Jesus is calling us to be attentive to the signs, to be watchful and alert, and to keep HIM as the priority. So often we can use the excuse that Christmas snuck up on us, but the beauty of these four weeks is they allow us to gently and attentively Prepare the Way of the Lord! We do that by decorating, by baking, by prayer and worship, and by listening to the music – can you hear that high energy boom, and the voice of the announcer? "Let's get ready to... bring Jesus into the world!!!" On behalf of the clergy and the SWA pastoral team, I want to wish you a blessed and happy Advent season!

*Fr. Joe*

### *November Offertory*

|            | 2014          | 2019         | 2020          | 2021          | 2022          | 2023          |
|------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Attendance | 13072         | 7919         | 4647          | 5795          | 5836          | 7207          |
| Total \$   | \$ 111,625.00 | \$ 98,418.00 | \$ 111,663.00 | \$ 105,933.00 | \$ 104,470.00 | \$ 104,134.00 |
| #Sundays   | 5             | 4            | 5             | 4             | 4             | 4             |
| Avg/Sunday | \$ 22,325.00  | \$ 22,176.75 | \$ 19,710.20  | \$ 22,717.25  | \$ 22,052.50  | \$ 26,033.50  |
| AvgAtt/Sun | 2614          | 1980         | 929           | 1449          | 1459          | 1802          |

### *Diocese of Rockville Centre Catholic Ministries Appeal - Parish Totals*

|         | 2014          | 2019          | 2020          | 2021          | Current       |
|---------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Goal    | \$ 132,700.00 | \$ 136,700.00 | \$ 146,700.00 | \$ 151,400.00 | \$ 162,000.00 |
| Pledged | \$ 182,158.00 | \$ 142,360.00 | \$ 121,048.00 | \$ 114,461.00 | \$ 98,790.00  |
| Rebate  | \$ 57,682.00  | \$ 31,368.00  | \$ 2,934.00   | \$ -          | -             |

## *Pray for Those in the Military*

### **US Air Force -**

Capt. Matthew B. Frasse  
Tech. Sgt. Eric Meyers  
Airman Carlos Rosado  
Major Thomas F.  
Shields

### **USMC -**

First Lt. Dana Duggan  
L.Cpl. John Mosier

### **US Coast Guard -**

LT Commander James  
Knudsen  
Daniel Timpanaro  
LT Commander Katherine  
Ustler

### **US Army -**

Capt. Caitlin M. Lee  
CW2 Brian Kirby  
Major Eamon G. McArdle  
Spc. Brian Reip  
Sgt. Donald Rogers  
Major Christopher James  
Ustler

### **US Navy -**

Lt. Joseph Fitzgerald  
Jr. Lt. Ryan Bayer  
Jr. Lt. Rebecca Bayer  
Jr. Lt. Ian Bayer  
STSC (SS) Thomas Kerley  
Lt. Michael O'Hara  
MMN2 Emily Partridge  
Commander Michael Sean Slatley  
Lt. Michael Napolitano  
Michael Vietri

### **US Army -**

Sgt. Craig Bianco  
SPC Anthony Caputo  
Capt. Michael DiPietro  
Capt. Michael Fitzgerald  
Capt. Christopher J.  
Frasse  
Capt. Logan Lee  
Lt. Col. John Kallo  
Capt. Caitlin M. Lee

## ***Banns of Marriage***

### **Banns III**

Kelly Amarante, St. William the Abbot  
& Matthew Dubray, St. Augustine, Ossining, NY

## ***St. Peregrine Prayer Hour***

The Peregrine Prayer Hour will be held on **Monday, Dec. 4th** from 2:00 - 3:00 PM in the Church. St. Peregrine is the patron saint of those suffering from cancer. Future prayer hours will be held on the first Monday of each month. Cancer victims, families, and their care-givers are all are invited to come and pray.

## ***Religious Retirement Collection***

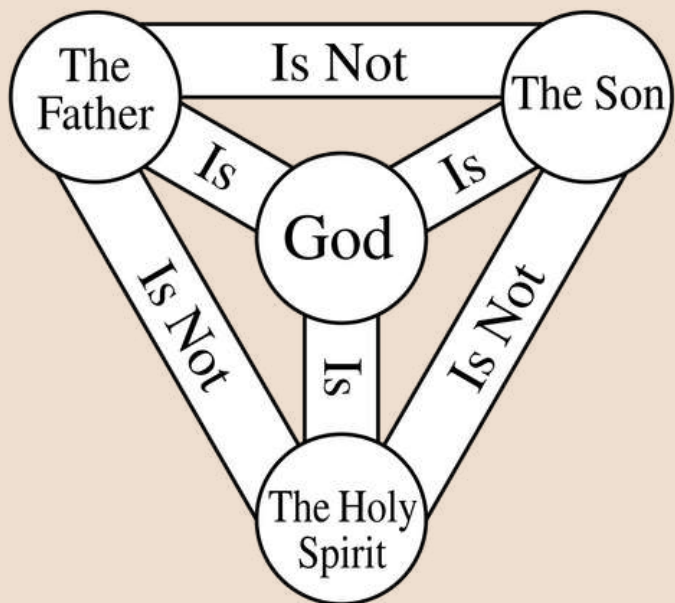


The Religious Retirement Collection will take place next weekend, Dec. 9/10. "Religious are blessed to serve," says Dominican Father Bertrand Ebben, age 90. Please donate to the Retirement Fund for Religious next week. Your gift will provide essential care for nearly

25,000 senior sisters, brothers and religious order priests who have dedicated their lives to serving others. Let us show our gratitude to these selfless individuals by giving generously.



**Ever wonder what those “churchy” words mean? Fr. Michael explains “consubstantial”.**



This triangle shows that the Trinity is One God in Three Distinct Persons.

The Father is God. The Son is God. The Holy Spirit is God.

The Father is not the Son. The Son is not the Father and the Holy Spirit is not the Father nor the Son.

So, all three are one essence or substance. During the Nicene Creed which we proclaim at Sunday Mass, we hear that the Son (Jesus) is consubstantial (homoousius) with the Father.

Consubstantial comes from Latin (consubstantialem).  
Homoousius comes from the Greek.

That means that the Son, Jesus (as well as the Holy Spirit) is the same substance (whatness) of the Father, but each person of the Trinity is a distinct Person (who-ness)

What is the Trinity? The Trinity is God. Who is the Trinity? The Trinity is the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

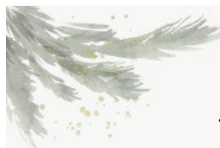
Consubstantial with the Father means that the Son (Jesus) is fully God just as the Father (as well as the Holy Spirit) is fully God. However the Father is distinct (different) from the Son (as well as the Holy Spirit).

For further explanation please refer to Tim Staples 2014 article in the Catholic Answers website:

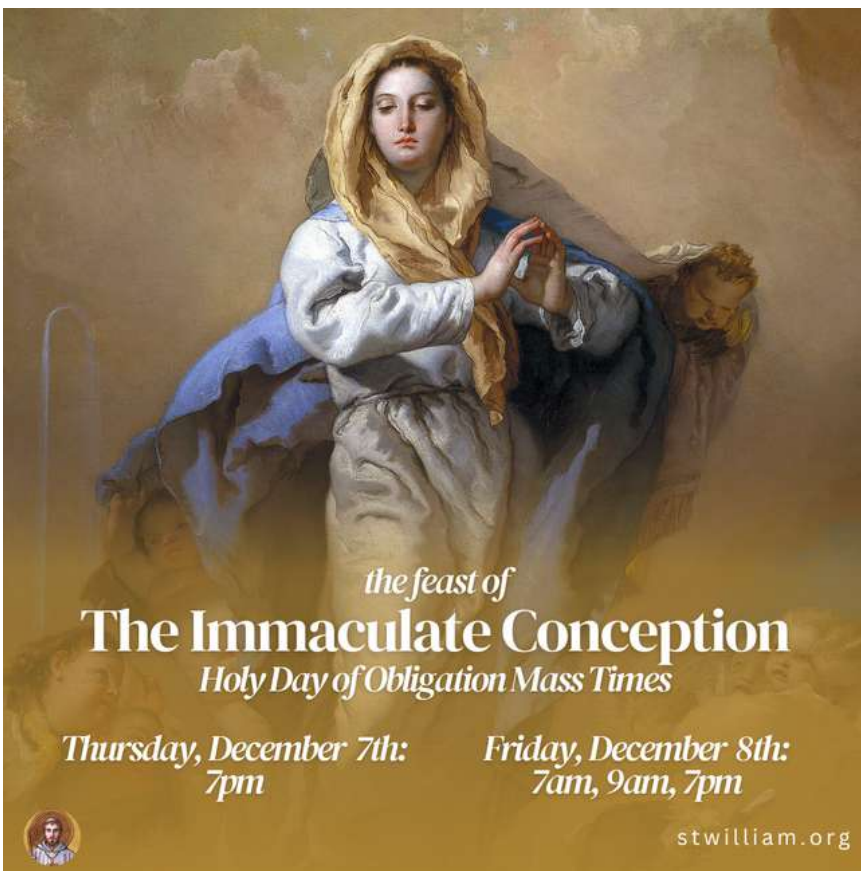
<https://www.catholic.com/magazine/online-edition/explaining-the-trinity>

*Throughout this Advent season, Fr. Michael will be providing insight into some words or practices we encounter within the liturgy. If you have a question for him, please email [priests@stwilliam.org](mailto:priests@stwilliam.org).*

*We invite our parish families to assist us in lighting the Advent Wreath before all weekend masses. Please email [kwalsb@stwilliam.org](mailto:kwalsb@stwilliam.org) if you are interested in signing up.*



Visit  
[stwilliam.org/advent2023](http://stwilliam.org/advent2023)  
for our full Advent schedule!



*the feast of*  
**The Immaculate Conception**  
*Holy Day of Obligation Mass Times*

**Thursday, December 7th:**  
7pm


**Friday, December 8th:**  
7am, 9am, 7pm

[stwilliam.org](http://stwilliam.org)

*All-powerful God, increase our strength of will for doing good that Christ may find an eager welcome at His coming and call us to His side in the kingdom of heaven, where He lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, forever and ever.*

*Amen.*

**HOPE**





*St. William the Abbot*

# NEW YEAR BALL DROP 50/50 RAFFLE

**SINGLE ENTRY: \$35 / FIVE ENTRIES: \$135**

**WINNER WILL BE ANNOUNCED ONLINE ON  
JANUARY 1ST, 2024**



**PURCHASE ENTRIES BY VISITING [STWILLIAM.ORG/NEWYEARRAFFLE](http://STWILLIAM.ORG/NEWYEARRAFFLE)  
OR RETURNING BELOW TO THE RECTORY OR WELCOME DESK**

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO ST. WILLIAM THE ABBOT

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF ENTRIES: \_\_\_\_\_ / TOTAL ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

ENTRANCE DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 23RD



# Christmas Memorializations

| <i>Item</i>                          | <i>Needed</i> | <i>Cost</i> | <i>Qty</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
| 13-16' Christmas Tree - Rectory Lawn | 1             | \$575       |            | \$           |
| 7-9' Christmas Trees - Altar         | 1             | \$500       |            | \$           |
| 60" Balsam Wreaths - Main Entrance   | 2             | \$275       |            | \$           |
| 48" Balsam Wreaths - Choir Loft      | 3             | \$235       |            | \$           |
| Various Greenery & Straw             | 1             | \$150       |            | \$           |
| 32" Balsam Wreaths - Church Interior | 3             | \$115       |            | \$           |
| 12" Balsam Wreaths - Church Exterior | 8             | \$60        |            | \$           |
| Red Poinsettias                      | 48            | \$35        |            | \$           |
| White Poinsettias                    | 27            | \$35        |            | \$           |
| White Cyclamen                       | 47            | \$30        |            | \$           |
| <i>Grand Total</i>                   |               |             |            | \$           |



*Please return to the Rectory or visit  
[stwilliam.org/advent2023](http://stwilliam.org/advent2023)*

*All Memorializations are Available on a First-Come, First-Served Basis*

*Please make checks payable to St. William the Abbot*

Contact Name:

Email Address:

Phone Number:

Name for Listing:

Choose One: In Honor Of ☐ In Memory Of ☐





# St. William the Abbot School

Ms. Laurendi and Ms. Abate's classes had so much fun making a Rosary craft. We also prayed together! We love our 7th grade buddies!





# Parish Social Ministry

## Thank You St. William's Kindergarteners

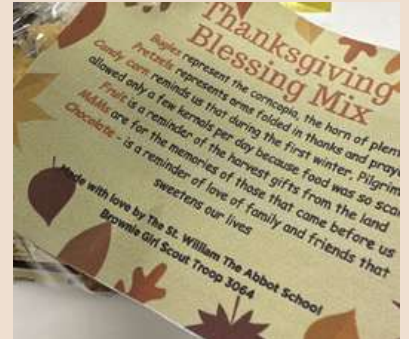
A special thank you to the kindergarten classes of St. William the Abbot school for their Thanksgiving food donations to the Social Ministry's pantry. Your generosity and kindness are very much appreciated!

## Pantry Needs

|                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| Canned Chicken | Tomato Puree |
| Canned Beets   | Crackers     |
| Salad Dressing | Pretzels     |

## Donation Spotlight - St. William's Brownie Troop 3064

Brownie Troop 3064 got creative for Thanksgiving and made over 20 'blessing bags' for homebound parishioners. The bags contained a variety of snacks, and a colorful tag attached that explained the thoughtful Thanksgiving sentiment behind each one. Recipients were thrilled with the gift, and even more so with the effort and thought that went into each package. Thank you, Troop 3064!



## HSA Bake Sale - 80 Pie Donations Received

Thank you to everyone that donated pies to the Social Ministry as part of the HSA's Thanksgiving Pie and Bread Fundraiser. A grand total of 80 pies were donated to us, just in time to distribute for Thanksgiving dinner! We are so grateful to the St. William the Abbot Home School Association for including us again this year as part of their fundraiser. Thank you, pie donors, for your very delicious donations!

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

The next meeting of the Prayer Shawl Ministry will be Tuesday December 5 at 10am in the Abbey. Interested in joining? This ministry knits and crochets lap robes, blankets, hats, scarves, and other items for the sick and needy of our community. Yarn is provided, and new members at any skill level are always welcome!



## Christmas Adopt-A-Family Program

The Parish Social Ministry is happy to offer a Christmas Adopt-A-Family Program! Each year we help local families with Christmas gifts as an act of being Christ to others, in the true meaning of the Advent season.

All gifts should be delivered unwrapped to the Social Ministry office by December 13 to allow enough time for distribution. Drop off is at St. William the Abbot Parish Social Ministry, 2020 Jackson Avenue. We are open weekdays between 9:30am and 4pm, or by appointment. For security reasons please do not leave gifts in the food bin.

Simply log on via the below website and browse for the item(s) that you would like to donate!



Go to website: [www.signupgenius.com](http://www.signupgenius.com)

Click the magnifying glass (upper right corner) to search.

Select "search for signup by creator email" and enter [socialministry@stwilliam.org](mailto:socialministry@stwilliam.org)

Click on "2023 Christmas Adopt a Family" and then select the items you would like to donate!

Questions? Contact the Social Ministry at 679-8532.

Thank you!

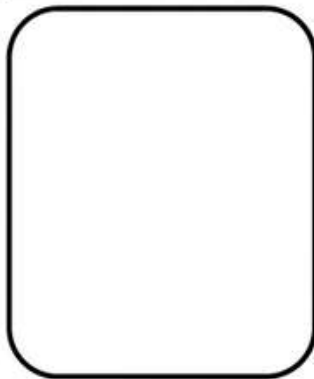


# Saint Nicholas



Saint Nicholas knew that a family needed help so he dropped gifts into the window of their home! We can celebrate his feast day by putting treats and gifts in people's shoes on December 6th.

Draw a picture of a gift that you would like to give to your family.



Year B: First Sunday of Advent

## Catholic Kids Bulletin

December 3, 2023  
Advent  
Color: Purple

LORD MAKE PUSOW TURN TO YOU

JSHALLOEBE SAVED

Lord, make us  
turn to you; let us  
see your face  
and we shall be  
saved.

WKYOU LWE TO WUS

PWLESEELF YOURKFACE OANDLWE



Find the advent  
wreath in your  
church.



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Color the  
Advent  
Wreath.

1: Purple  
2: Pink  
3: Green  
4: Yellow

Countdown  
to Jesus'  
Birthday...

4

Sundays!

Advent Wreath

## Gospel

Jesus told the disciples that He will come back to earth!  
We should always be ready for Jesus to come back. We practice waiting  
during Advent while we wait for Christmas.

Year B: First Sunday of Advent

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stwilliam.org

f @stwilliamabbot

**Rev. Joseph H. Fitzgerald**  
*Pastor*

Rev. Michael Edathil  
*Associate Pastor*

Rev. John Crozier  
*In Residence*

priests@stwilliam.org

**Deacons**

Dcn. Anthony Cedrone

Dcn. John Lynch

Dcn. Michael Metzdorff

information@stwilliam.org

**Rectory Staff**

Judy Goldman  
*Business Manager*  
jgoldman@stwilliam.org

Sue McCormick  
*Office Manager*  
information@stwilliam.org

Kate Walsh  
*Development & Operations*  
kwalsh@stwilliam.org

**Office of Faith Formation**

Sr. Joan Klimski, OP  
*Director*

faithformation@stwilliam.org | 516-783-2528  
stwilliam.org/faith-formation

**Parish Social Ministry**

Allison Marro  
*Director*

socialministry@stwilliam.org | 516-679-8532  
stwilliam.org/social-ministry

**Music Ministry**

Jennifer Lynde  
*Director*

information@stwilliam.org

**Rectory Information**

2000 Jackson Avenue  
Seaford, NY 11783

516-785-1266

**Office Hours**

Monday - Thursday: 9am - 12:30pm, 1pm - 4pm

Friday: 9am - 12n

Saturday: 9am - 12:30pm, 1pm - 3pm

*If there is an emergency where someone is critically ill or injured and needs a priest outside of office hours, please call 516-312-7361*

**St. William the Abbot School**



Elizabeth Bricker  
*Principal*

Ryan Fedak  
*Assistant Principal*

516-785-6784

stwilliamtheabbot.net

*A Legacy of Excellence - Nursery through 8th Grade*

**Our Seminarians**

Dcn. Joseph Lettieri  
*SWA Parishioner*

Herley Mendez  
*SWA Parishioner*

*Please pray for our Seminarians and all those discerning the priesthood and religious life*

**Pastoral Council**

Chris Blankley - Fred Duemig - Barbara Geraghty  
Lara Klein - Kelly Koster - Peter Tietz - Thomas Ward

**Finance Council**

Rita Defendini\* - Robert Gerbard - John Kaley\*  
Tom Kiley - Ed Lettieri

\*Parish Trustees

**Resources**

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)  
rcia@stwilliam.org | stwilliam.org/rcia

Baptisms & Weddings at St. William the Abbot  
stwilliam.org/sacraments

Register as a St. William the Abbot Parishioner  
stwilliam.org/i-am-new

Catholic High Schools of Long Island  
chsee.org

Diocese of Rockville Centre  
drvc.org

Formed: The Catholic Faith. On Demand  
formed.org

Tomorrow's Hope Foundation: Financial Aid for Catholic Schools  
tomorrowshopefoundation.org

**The Diocese of Rockville Centre**

Most Reverend John O. Barres  
*Fifth Bishop of Rockville Centre*

Most Rev. Robert J. Coyle  
Most Rev. Luis Miguel Romero Fernandez, M.Id  
Most Rev. Andrzej Zglejszewski  
Most Rev. John C. Dunne (Retired)  
*Auxiliary Bishops of Rockville Centre*

Most Reverend William Murphy  
*Bishop Emeritus*

drvc.org