



# St. William the Abbot

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

January 11, 2026  
The Baptism of the Lord



## 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 - 8:20am

Saturday: 3:45pm - 4:50pm

### Adoration

Monday - Saturday: 7:15am - 8:20am

First Friday of the Month: 9am - 5pm

### Private Prayer

Monday - Friday: 7:15am - 6pm

Jesus came to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. John tried to prevent him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?" Jesus said to him in reply, "Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Matthew 3:13-15

## Mass Intentions

### Sunday, January 11th

7:30am: Esther Faircloth (liv)

9am: People of St. William's, Sue & Ed Boden, Thomas Hickey, Joseph & Katherine DelVecchio

10:30am: Daniel Watt

12n: Virginia D'Epiro

### Monday, January 12th

8:30am: Joan Carty

### Tuesday, January 13th

8:30am: Kenneth Hettler

### Wednesday, January 14th

8:30am: Christine Cordaro

### Thursday, January 15th

4:00pm: Edward J. Tarrant, John Laddomada, Laurel Fisk, Michael Nason (liv)

### Friday, January 16th

8:30am: Eneo & Antoinette Pregno

### Saturday, January 17th

8:30am: Purgatorial Society

5pm: People of St. William's, Jack Healy, Harry Haas, David Nardiello

## Pray for the Sick

Richard Fedyk - Rosemary Averill - Barbara Geraghty - Charlie Herbert  
Frances Speidell - Thomas Stolfi - Loretta Rederscheld - Livia Murray

## Pray for the Deceased

Donald Casamassina - Grace Dalila Ouellette - Eugene R. Romano - Rita Marie Curran - Rosemarie Arnold

### The Altar Candles

have been donated in honor of the  
Parishioners of St. William the Abbot

### The Wine and Hosts

have been donated in honor of the  
Parishioners of St. William the Abbot

## **Baptism, a Sacred and Extraordinary Moment**

The debate continues to rage on: when do the decorations come down? When is Christmas over? Liturgically and officially? In the old days, we would see evidence of the Christmas bundles at the curb in front of the houses on the block with wrapping paper, wreaths, and really dried out trees! Another indication came from ladders and brave dads scurrying up on the roof of households to remove the strings of lights until next year. But the Church wisely gives us seasons and feast days to mark the beginning and end of these precious times of the year.

This weekend, as the Church celebrates the Baptism of the Lord, it is important to know that Jesus did not need baptism for purification from sin. From early on the Church taught that it was Christ who actually sanctifies the waters for all of us. When Jesus humbly stepped into the Jordan and allowed John to baptize Him, He revealed the pathway of salvation and begins His public ministry. In Matthew's Gospel, the heavens open, the Spirit descends, and the Father's voice proclaims, "This is my beloved Son." That same declaration is proclaimed over every one of us at our baptism, it is where our faith journey with God begins.

For me, September 17, 1971 remains the most important day of my life. It was the day my parents carried me to St. Patrick's Church in Bay Ridge, and my uncle, Fr. Robert Emmett Hearn, baptized me. That moment began a relationship that will last for eternity. Years ago, a wise and faithful Catholic woman challenged me to know my baptismal date as deliberately as my birthday (August 30) or my priestly ordination anniversary (June 9). Do you know your baptismal date? Perhaps this week you might sit together as a family, open that folder or filing cabinet, search through old papers, or scroll through your phone to find it and write it down. Your baptismal day is the day you were claimed for Christ - named, loved, and forever marked as God's own.

Our baptism reveals our deepest identity. Before anything we do, we belong. We are beloved sons and daughters of God, marked with a dignity that nothing can erase - no sin, no failure, no season of uncertainty. Yet the world constantly measures us by usefulness and productivity: what we do, what we produce, what we contribute. Even within the Church, we can fall into the temptation of defining ourselves by ministries, contributions, and roles. These works are beautiful and necessary, but they are not who we are. As Isaiah reminds us, the Servant of the Lord is chosen and upheld by God, gentle and faithful, bringing justice not by force but by love. Our worth is rooted not in function, with achievement or effort, but in relationship.

I am continually inspired by those parishioners who quietly witness to this truth each day - those who come to daily Mass or sit faithfully in Eucharistic Adoration. To the world, it may look like they are "doing nothing." But they know otherwise. As many have shared with me, "Father, I look at Him, and He looks at me." In that sacred gaze, they place their joys and wounds, their families and fears, the parish and the world. They leave knowing, deep in their hearts, that they are seen, cared for, and loved. This is baptismal faith lived simply and profoundly.

As we enter what the Catholic Church identifies as Ordinary Time in 2026, I invite you to slow down and rediscover what is truly "ordinary" in the life of faith. Inspired by Isaiah 42 and the Baptism of Jesus in Matthew, let us embrace a life of humble service that flows from knowing we are "BELOVED" and then permit ourselves to 'BE LOVED' by God. Make room for more Jesus time - time in prayer, silence, Scripture, and His presence. Let this new year and season be less about what we do for God and more about allowing ourselves to be tenderly loved by Him. And just maybe, when we live from the core of our baptismal identity; the ordinary moments of our lives become, by God's grace, truly extraordinary.

Thank you for your presence and generosity.



## Year-End Tax Statement

Please note that year-end tax statements for your taxes will not be automatically mailed out. They may be obtained by request from the Rectory.

Please call 516-785-1266 or email  
information@stwilliam.org

## Pillar of Formation

In today's Gospel, John baptizes Jesus.

When we were baptized, we were born again in Christ. Live your life as a baptized Christian should, by spreading the Gospel and bringing others to Christ.

## Pray for Those in the Military

Lt. Ian Bayer (USN) - Lt. Rebecca Bayer (USN) - Lt. Ryan Bayer (USN) - Sgt. Craig Bianco (USA) - PFC Jake Cilento (USA) - PFC Ryan Daly (USMC) - Lt. Col. Michael DiPietro (USA) - LCpl Daniel Dugan (USMC) - Capt. Dana Duggan (USMC) - Lt. Joseph Fitzgerald (USN) - Capt. Michael Fitzgerald (USA) - Capt. Christopher J. Frasse (USA) - Capt. Matthew B. Frasse (USAF) - Lt. Col. John Kallo (USA) - STSC (SS) Thomas Kerley (USN) - CW2 Brian Kirby (USA) - Lt. Commander James Knudsen (USCG) - Capt. Caitlin Lee (USA) - Lt. Col Logan Lee (USA) - Major Philip Lettieri, MD (USA) - Lt. Cpl. Kevin Marshall (USMC) - Major Eamon G. McArdle (USA) - Tech. Sgt. Eric Meyers (USAF) - Pvt. Juliana Miller (USA) - Col. Sean Morrow (USA) - Lt. Michael Napolitano (USN) - Lt. Michael O'Hara (USN) - MMN2 Emily Partridge (USN) - Spc. Brian Reip (USA) - Sgt. Donald Rogers (USA) - Airman Carlos Rosado (USAF) - Lt. Col. Thomas F. Shields (USAF) - Lt. Col. Michelle Simpson (USAF) - Commander Michael S. Slatley (USN) - SR Ella Tietz (USCG) - Daniel Timpanaro (USCG) - Lt. Col. Christopher J. Ustler (USA) - Cdr. Katherine Ustler-Lodispoto (USCG) - Michael Vietri (USN) - 2nd Lt. John Whidden (USMC) - Lt. Joseph Yahner (USA) - Pvt. Philip Zanardi (USAR)

## December Offertory

	2015	2019	2020	2024	2025
Attendance	8735	4183	3545	9787	7456
Total \$	\$92,281.00	\$132,872.00	\$109,639.00	\$139,614.00	\$108,489.00
Per Person	\$11.25	\$31.76	\$30.93	\$14.27	\$14.55
# Sundays	4	5	4	5	4
Avg/Sunday	\$24,570.25	\$26,574.40	\$27,409.75	\$27,922.80	\$21,697.80
Avg/Attendance	2184	837	886	1957	1491

*Please note the Christmas Offertory is not included in these totals*

## Catholic Ministries Appeal - Parish Totals

	2015	2019	2020	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
Goal	\$135,600.00	\$136,700.00	\$146,700.00	\$162,000.00	\$162,000.00
Pledged	\$173,412.00	\$142,360.00	\$121,048.00	\$82,727.88	\$94,493.88
# Donors	899	550	480	314	328
Avg Donation	\$192.89	\$258.84	\$252.18	\$263.46	\$285.04
Rebate to SWA	\$52,010.00	\$31,368.00	\$2,934.00	-	-

*The years listed were chosen to represent an overall sample and include 10 years ago, the year before Covid/pastor transition, the year of the Covid shutdown, last year, and the current year*

# BEHOLD

## THE SEVEN SACRAMENTS

This weekend, we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus. In baptism, a permanent spiritual mark is placed on us and we become a member of the Church, making a promise to share in her mission. Baptism is the gateway to all of the other sacraments.

### Baptism



Baptism takes away original sin, personal sins, and removes any punishments due to sin. It gives our souls a new life of grace and makes us children of God.

The Holy Eucharist is the Body and Blood of Jesus. When we receive the Eucharist we are united more closely to Him and grow in love for God and others.



### First Holy Communion

Going to Confession restores our relationship with God and allows for our spiritual growth. In it, we receive divine forgiveness for sins.

### Confession



### Confirmation



In Confirmation, the Holy Spirit gives us His gifts - wisdom, knowledge, counsel, fortitude, piety, understanding, and wonder & awe - to help us grow to be strong Catholics.

Matrimony is a sacred covenant where a man and woman are united by God, receiving His grace to love each other, raise children, and build a family.



### Matrimony

### Holy Orders



When receiving Holy Orders, a man is ordained to serve the Church as a deacon, priest, or bishop. These ordained men guide and feed the faithful.



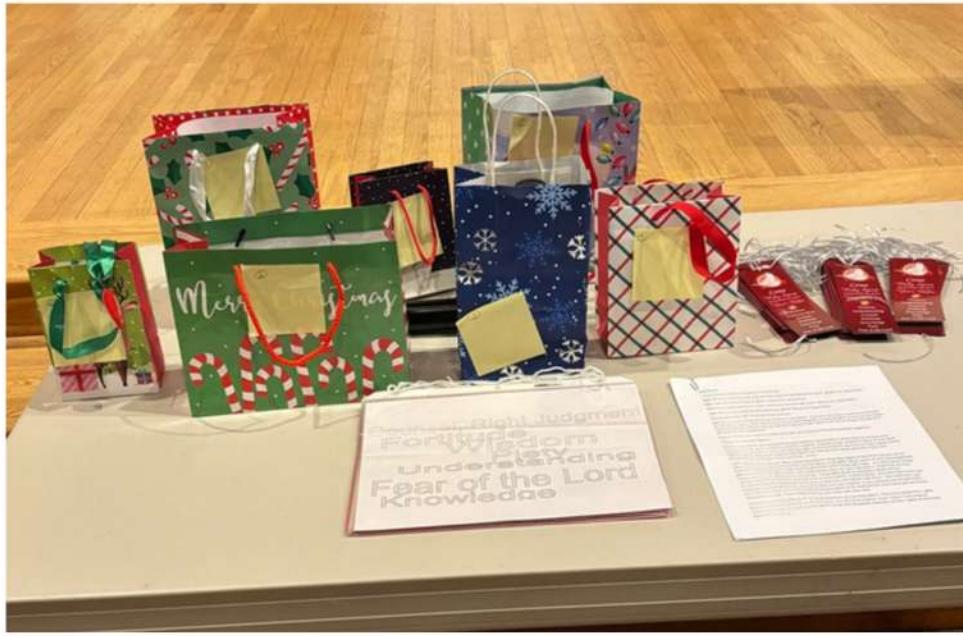
The Anointing of the Sick offers a special grace and forgiveness of sins for those who are seriously ill, elderly, or facing death.

### Anointing of the Sick



## Faith Formation

Classes were back in session after Christmas break this week! Our Level 2 students started their in-person classes to get ready for their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion and our Level 8 students learned more about the Gifts of the Holy Spirit as part of their Confirmation preparation.



ST. WILLIAM THE ABBOT

## Children's Choir

We invite all parish children in Kindergarten through 8th Grade to join us in the Children's Choir to sing the Communion Meditation at the 10:30am Mass on March 8<sup>th</sup>, April 26<sup>th</sup>, and May 3<sup>rd</sup>

Please visit [stwilliam.org/music-ministry](http://stwilliam.org/music-ministry) for rehearsal requirements and dates and to register your child(ren).

High School Students & Adults are invited to join our Adult Choir by visiting rehearsal on Thursdays from 6pm-7pm in the Choir Loft!

# **NIGHT WATCH**

monthly holy hour | confessions | social

**DOORS AT 7 | STARTS AT 7:30**

January 16th  
February 27th  
March 20th  
April 17  
May 15th



Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church  
Point Lookout

[drvvcocations.com](http://drvvcocations.com)



**REGISTER**



**NOW!**

**HelpOurMarriage.org**  
**RETRouveille**  
A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES  
**JAN. 23-25TH • HUNTINGTON, NY**  
Register by: Jan. 9th • [www.HelpOurMarriage.org](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.org)

• Is your marriage tearing you apart? • Do you feel hurt and angry? • Does talking make it worse?  
• Thought of leaving or divorce? • Is your marriage heading in the wrong direction?

**No Marriage is Beyond Hope.**

The Diocese of Rockville Centre  
**GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASSES**  
Honoring Couples Married Fifty Years

The Diocese of Rockville Centre would like to honor those couples who celebrated Fifty Years of Marriage in 2026 by inviting them to attend one of the Masses below for a special blessing.

**Sunday, April 19, 2026, at 3:00 p.m.**

Church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Patchogue

Celebrant: Most Reverend Robert J. Coyle

Registration Deadline: Thursday, April 9, 2026

**Sunday, April 26, 2026, at 3:00 p.m.**

The Cathedral of St. Agnes, Rockville Centre

Celebrant: Most Reverend Andrzej Zglejszewski

Registration Deadline: Thursday, April 16, 2026

Register online at [drvvcocations.com](http://drvvcocations.com)

For questions, please contact Lisette Robustelli, Associate Director at (516)678-5800 ext. 200 or via email at [lrobustelli@drvvcocations.com](mailto:lrobustelli@drvvcocations.com)

# JOIN US FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EVENING

**THURSDAY, JAN. 15, 2026  
AT 6:30 PM**

Nursery, Pre-K, and Kindergarten  
Classroom Visits and Presentations

## CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK OPEN HOUSE

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2026  
12PM MASS  
1PM - 3PM OPEN HOUSE**



**ST. WILLIAM  
THE ABBOT**  
ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL



**APPLY TODAY** 

 [stwilliamtheabbot.net](http://stwilliamtheabbot.net)  
 516-785-6784

## ***This Weekend's Music Selections***

We invite you to participate by using the song numbers below and the missals found in the pews.

Entrance Hymn: "River of Glory" (#649)  
Offertory Hymn: "Baptized in Water" (#643)  
Communion Hymn: "Come to the Water" (#592)  
Communion Meditation: "Goodness of God"  
Recessional Hymn: "City of God" (#382)

Our Children's and Adult Choirs are back in session - visit [stwilliam.org/music-ministry](http://stwilliam.org/music-ministry) for more information on joining!

*"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness: come before his presence with singing." Psalm 100:1-2*

## ***Parish Social Ministry***

### ***Pantry Needs***

Coffee - Canned Spinach - Canned Beets - Lunchbox Snacks

### ***Senior Care Through the Office for the Aging***

The Nassau County Office for the Aging offers a case management program for seniors. Their program provides support for older adults to remain in their homes for as long as possible. They assist in providing in-home services for seniors through the Expanded In-home Services for the Elderly Program (EISEP). There are two types of in-home services offered, Level 1 which is housekeeping and chore services, and Level II which adds on personal care assistance such as bathing, dressing, toileting, grooming and feeding. For more information about services and eligibility, call NY Connects at 516-227-8900 or visit the website <https://www.nassaucountyny.gov/1438/Aging>.



### ***Did You Know?***

 **Catholic Health Physician Partners** Catholic Health sponsors a primary care center for adults without health insurance. The Bishop McHugh Health Center is located at 750 South Broadway in Hicksville. They provide full health assessments, lab work, X-rays, flu shots and other health services. For more information or an appointment call them on 516-827-2727.

### ***Prayer Shawl Ministry***

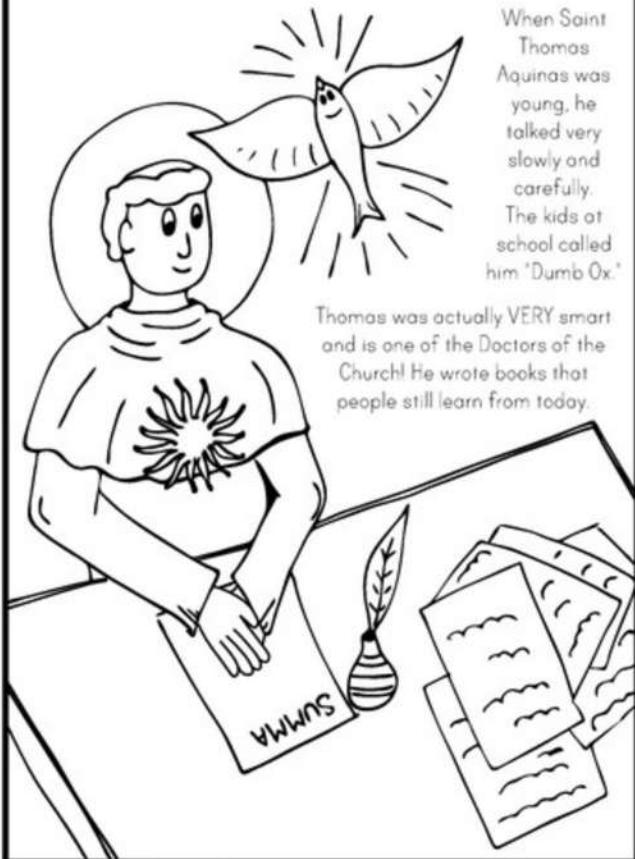
The next meeting of the Prayer Shawl Ministry will be on Tuesday January 20 at 10am in the Abbey. This ministry knits and crochets lap robes, blankets, hats, scarves, and other items for the sick and needy of our community. Yarn is provided, and new members at any skill level are always welcome!



### ***Home Heating Assistance Available***

Applications for obtaining HEAP benefits are currently being accepted! HEAP is the Home Energy Assistance Program, which helps low-income individuals and families pay for the cost of heating their homes. Eligibility and benefits are based on multiple criteria such as income, household size and heating source. If you are eligible, you may receive one regular HEAP benefit per program year. You could also be eligible for emergency HEAP benefits if you are in danger of running out of fuel or having your utility service shut off. For more information or to apply, visit <https://www.otda.ny.gov/programs/heap/>

# Saint Thomas Aquinas



Year A: Feast of the Baptism of the Lord



WE0IJTHTHEOWLORDPWILLPBJI

The Lord will  
bless his  
people with  
peace.

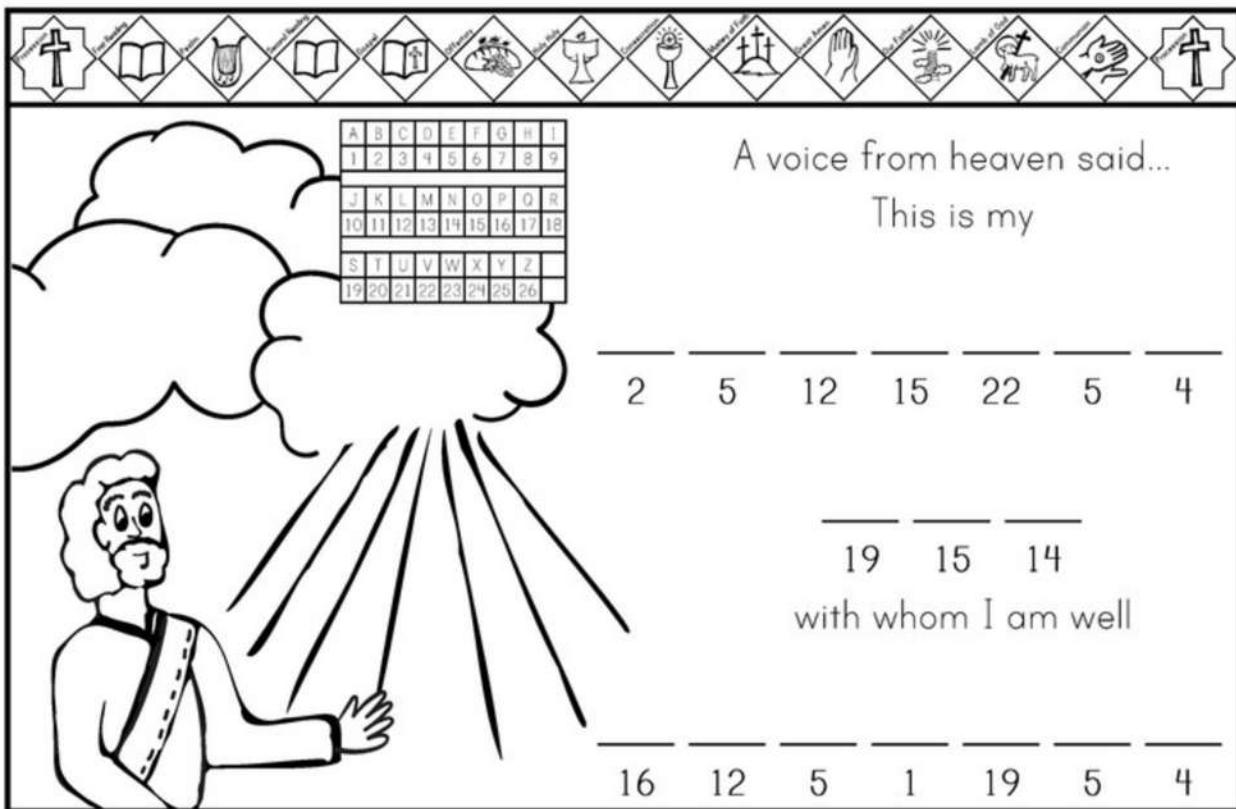
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Today we remember Jesus' baptism. Ask your family to tell you about your own baptism.

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Jesus was baptized by His cousin, John the Baptist. When He was baptized, God appeared as the Holy Spirit and said that Jesus is His Son.

Year A: Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

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

**Rev. Michael Edathil**  
**Associate Pastor**

[priests@stwilliam.org](mailto:priests@stwilliam.org)

**Deacons**

Dcn. John Lynch      Dcn. Michael Metzdorff  
Dcn. Anthony Cedrone (Retired)  
[information@stwilliam.org](mailto:information@stwilliam.org)

**Rectory Staff**

Judy Goldman  
*Business Manager*  
[jgoldman@stwilliam.org](mailto:jgoldman@stwilliam.org)

Sue McCormick  
*Office Manager*  
[information@stwilliam.org](mailto:information@stwilliam.org)

Kate Walsh  
*Development & Operations*  
[kwalsh@stwilliam.org](mailto:kwalsh@stwilliam.org)

**Office of Childhood Faith Formation**

Laura Walsh  
*Director*  
[faithformation@stwilliam.org](mailto:faithformation@stwilliam.org) | 516-783-2528  
[stwilliam.org/faith-formation](http://stwilliam.org/faith-formation)

**Parish Social Ministry**

Allison Marro  
*Director*  
[socialministry@stwilliam.org](mailto:socialministry@stwilliam.org) | 516-679-8532  
[stwilliam.org/social-ministry](http://stwilliam.org/social-ministry)

**Music Ministry**

Jennifer Hegmann-Palminteri  
*Director*  
[information@stwilliam.org](mailto:information@stwilliam.org)

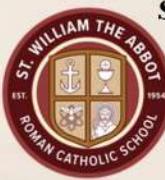
**Rectory Information**

2000 Jackson Avenue  
Seaford, NY 11783  
516-785-1266

**Office Hours**

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

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      Kasey Grasso  
*Principal*      *Assistant Principal*  
516-785-6784  
[stwilliamtheabbot.net](http://stwilliamtheabbot.net)

*A Legacy of Excellence for Over 70 Years - Nursery through 8th Grade*

**Our Seminarian**

Dcn. 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

**Finance Council**

Rita Defendini - Debra Eannel - Robert Gerhard - John Kaley\*  
Tom Kiley - Ed Lettieri\* - Michael Turturro  
\*Parish Trustee

**Resources**

Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA)  
[ocia@stwilliam.org](mailto:ocia@stwilliam.org) | [stwilliam.org/ocia](http://stwilliam.org/ocia)

Baptisms & Weddings at St. William the Abbot  
[stwilliam.org/sacraments](http://stwilliam.org/sacraments)

Register as a St. William the Abbot Parishioner  
[stwilliam.org/i-am-new](http://stwilliam.org/i-am-new)

Catholic High Schools of Long Island  
[chsee.org](http://chsee.org)

Diocese of Rockville Centre  
[drv.org](http://drv.org)

Formed: The Catholic Faith. On Demand  
[formed.org](http://formed.org)

Tomorrow's Hope Foundation: Financial Aid for Catholic Schools  
[tomorrowhopefoundation.org](http://tomorrowhopefoundation.org)

**The Diocese of Rockville Centre**

Fifth Bishop of Rockville Centre  
Most Reverend John O. Barres

Auxiliary Bishops  
Most Rev. Robert J. Coyle  
Most Rev. Luis Miguel Romero Fernandez, M.I.D  
Most Rev. Andrzej Zglejszewski  
Most Rev. John C. Dunne (Retired)

Bishop Emeritus  
Most Reverend William Murphy  
[drv.org](http://drv.org)