

# St. William the Abbot

Roman Catholic Church



Welcome to St. William the Abbot

**Fifth Sunday of Easter**  
**May 2, 2021**



I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing.

- John 15:5

## PARISH INFORMATION

### RECTORY

Office: 516.785.1266  
2000 Jackson Avenue  
Seaford, NY 11783  
[stwilliam.org](http://stwilliam.org)

### RECTORY HOURS

**Monday - Friday**  
9 AM - 1 PM  
**Saturday**  
9 AM - 6 PM  
**Sunday**  
9 AM - 1 PM

## MASS TIMES

The presider schedule can be found on the parish website [stwilliam.org](http://stwilliam.org)

### DAILY MASS

**Monday - Friday**  
8:30 AM

### WEEKEND MASS

**Saturday**  
8:30 AM & 5 PM  
**Sunday**  
7:30 AM, 9 AM, 10:30 AM, & 12 PM

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Sunday, May 2, 2021

Collective Intentions  
Nicole Tedeschi,  
Peter Rapanaro,  
Richard E. Ford,  
Geraldine Cullinan  
People of St. William  
Theresa & William Cunneen  
Frank Pizzo

### Monday, May 3, 2021

Ernst DeGraaf

### Tuesday, May 4, 2021

Jim Witkowski

### Wednesday, May 5, 2021

Michelina Villano

### Thursday, May 6, 2021

Barbara Kline

### Friday, May 7, 2021

Collective Intentions  
Jack & Joan Tynan,  
Martin Staubach,  
Frank & Marie Ramunni,  
Robert DeBois,  
Lennon & Sander Families

### Saturday, May 8, 2021

Purgatorial Society  
Deceased Members of  
Kaley & Varvaro Families

## Baptism

Callen Ade  
Ryan M. Miller

Gabriella Gullo  
Addison R. Korrow

Let us welcome those children who were  
Baptized this past weekend.

The Altar Candles used at mass this week were  
donated in loving memory of

*John Patrick Kirk Sr.*

from your loving wife.

The Sanctuary Candles used at mass this week were  
donated in loving memory of

*John Patrick Kirk Sr.*

from your loving children and grandchildren .

The Wine and Host used at mass this week have  
donated in honor of the Baptismal Celebration of

*Callen Nicholas Ade*

from Aunt Kathy and Uncle Jim.

## Pray for the Deceased

Wilma F. Diehl

Janet R. Macchio

## Pray for the Sick

Walter King  
Joseph Tsomik  
Patricia Ruffino

Nancy Priola  
John Laddomada  
Ava Nilson  
Amanda Veldras

Tyler Donohue  
Robert Valerga  
Dorothy Meinke

## The Month of May: Mary - Mother's Day - Mercy

It's funny, May 2021 looks very different than May 2020, I don't need to remind you that St. William the Abbot church was only open for a few hours a day last year, and we were live-streaming Masses on Facebook, and celebrating confessions in the parking lot. 'Funerals' were prayer services on Jackson Ave., and our main focus was outreach to so many who were isolated and home bound. The experience of faith, community, and ministry shifted drastically because of the pandemic and certain safety protocols from the Diocese and government - we had to think and act differently. Most of it was horrible, but there were some things we were able to take from that experience and look into the future to make significant adjustments on how we evangelize and bring the Good News. It is really hard for anyone to say: "I don't do computers, or email" anymore, especially when updates on vaccines, health codes, school delays, and even parish news is communicated so quickly and easily. The world has changed.

For us as a community of faith, this is a reality too - we are journeying through a season of change. We are coming up on our 95th anniversary of existence as a parish, and St. William's has been a safe haven and center for the Sacraments, the formation/education of the faithful, and the "Outstretched Hand" of Jesus to the most vulnerable in our community and society. But the world is different today than when we began as a parish. Although those foundational values remain at the center of who we are as a parish community, they are not necessarily at the center of every "registered" parish family. The reality is there are many other Sunday options, distractions, and new priorities for many of our families. We are all aware of how sports have taken centerstage, the need to take on a second job over the weekend, and of course for others, schoolwork has been stressed. It can be somewhat disheartening to think that we are a community with close to 5000 families, and we are certainly not getting that many people coming to worship each Sunday.

But I am hopeful, especially in this month of May, the month of Mary, First Holy Communion's, Mother's Day, and even the celebrations of Confirmation and Pentecost coming up at the end of May. These become opportunities when some of the more regular parishioners will enter the church building. I believe that they will encounter a beautiful and powerful experience of worship, and welcome, reconnecting them to that original experience of faith. My hope is that not only will they want to return, but I also put the challenge out to all of you who are regularly here. I think this is the way that we can subtly, or not so subtly, encourage and invite back our kids and grandkids. What a gift to return for Mother's Day - not that we do not want our loved ones to get items for the garden, or a gift certificate to the spa or a delicious dinner, but just like Mary, the mother of God, it is important for us to lead our loved ones into a relationship with God. Or maybe it is coming to the May Crowning of Mary on Tuesday May 11th or praying the rosary with your children or grandchildren during the month.

There are so many traditional Catholic moments that bring us to a place of fond memories and joy. I have recently showed the First Holy Communicants and their families 'MY' First Holy Communion banner, dated May 5, 1979. The number of conversations I had with many of the parents as they too remembered religious education classes, certain apostolic service opportunities, their dress or suit from First Holy Communion, a set of rosaries, or a necklace and cross that was blessed by a previous pastor. The smile and glow on their faces was beautiful and powerful, even moving some to tears as they now looked at their own children taking another step on the family faith journey. The gift of our Catholic Faith is it allows us to return to those memories, and to look forward with great hope for our future and what is to come. But in order for the future to grow, it will take all of us to make an intentional effort to invite people back home, back into a deeper relationship with a GOD who has never left. The month of May is the month of Mary – of Mother's Day – of Mercy – and of Hope.

Blessings to all our First Holy Communicants and their families – we pray that the Mantle of Our Blessed Mother Mary's protection may be upon all of us and the parish.

Thank you for your presence and generosity. God Bless you.

Peace,





# Rectory News

## Wedding Banns II

Matthew Metzdorff  
St. William the Abbot

&

Erin McCormack  
St. Raphael, East Meadow NY

James Gambina  
Maria Regina, Seaford NY

&

Meaghan Haskell  
St. Rose of Lima, Massapequa NY



## Mother's Day Novena



Our Mother's Day Novena of Masses will begin on Mother's Day, May 9th. Cards and envelopes for the Mother's Day Novena of Masses are available at the doors of the Church and in the Rectory. If you would like to have your living mother remembered, kindly take a donation envelope and card. If you would like to have your deceased mother remembered, please use a donation envelope only. Please place all donation envelopes in the collection basket or return them to the Rectory.



## Lector's and Eucharistic Ministers

If you are currently serving as a Lector or an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, please email your contact information to [information@stwilliam.org](mailto:information@stwilliam.org) to receive future updates and schedules.



## Are you called to Serve?

We invite you to share and explore your gifts with us. All are welcome to become actively involved in the Mass. We are always looking for new faces among our Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers, if you are interested please email [information@stwilliam.org](mailto:information@stwilliam.org).

## Living Rosary and May Crowning May 11, at 7pm in the Church

It is a Catholic tradition to honor Mary, our Mother, during the month of May by placing on her statue a crown of flowers. This lovely devotional ceremony is a favorite tradition at St. Joseph. The May Crowning gives the children an opportunity to especially honor the Blessed Mother of Jesus, and to give thanks to her for bringing our Savior into the world.



The May Crowning service is led the children of Faith Formation. The crowning ceremony takes place in the church, with weather permitting the Living Rosary will take place outdoors.

Please join the children of Faith Formation is saying the Rosary on May 11, at 7pm in the Church.

## Emergency

If there is an emergency in which you need to contact a priest immediately, please call the Priest Emergency telephone - 516-312-7361.

## Low Gluten Hosts Available at Mass

For those who must avoid gluten in their diet, the parish has low-gluten hosts available for Holy Communion. If you wish to receive such a host, please arrive prior to Mass and inform the priest and he will place your host in a oyx.

## LIVE-STREAMED MASSES

Join us online to view our live-streamed masses on the parish website [stwilliam.org](http://stwilliam.org).

Monday - Friday 8:30 AM  
Saturday 5:00 PM  
Sunday 12:00 PM



## Have a question for the priests?

Stump the Priest questions can be emailed to [priests@stwilliam.org](mailto:priests@stwilliam.org).

## Memorials Available

We are pleased to announce that the Sanctuary Candle and the Altar Candles that are used at Mass throughout the week are now available as memorials.

Anyone wishing to donate the Sanctuary Candle or the Altar Candles in memory of a loved one or on the occasion of an anniversary, birthday, etc., can make this request at the Rectory. Please call 516-785-1266. The offering for the Sanctuary Candle is \$15 and the offering for the Altar Candles is \$30. The name of the person will be announced in the bulletin for each week the candles are donated.







# Faith Formation

Today is the Fifth Sunday of Easter. We hear in the Gospel - I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit. Jesus teaches us that we need to have him in our lives. We all should be caring, loving, kind, and understanding, especially to the ones who are not so nice to us. That is when you need to pray for people like that. Sometimes people could be having a bad day and take it out on someone, but then the person's conscience lets them know that it was not kind to do and says sorry. You see if we do not have Jesus in our lives, we become lifeless like an old branch on a vine, which then bears no fruit. Yes, we are human and become doubtful at times, but then we get that feeling deep down inside of the Holy Spirit and we want to be the good person that Jesus wants us to be.

May is the Blessed Mother's Month and the Faith Formation Office will be having a Living Rosary on May 11th at 7pm. We will send out more information to the Parents through email. Our 8th Grade Students had discussions with their parents for their Confirmation Interview. We heard from Parents of how they enjoyed speaking with their children and felt it brought them closer to God and a better understanding.

Here are some statements from our 8th Grade students who answered about why he/she wants to be confirmed:

- "First I would like to say thanks to God for leading me up to this moment in my life. Ever since I was young, I wanted to be confirmed."
- "Receiving the Holy Spirit in Confirmation will strengthen my faith and help me to make good decisions for my life."
- "I want to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation to get closer to God and learn more about all the good things that he does for us."
- I am looking forward to being sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, that was first received through my baptism and I am excited that this time I will be freely giving myself to the Lord and making my own commitment to follow Jesus."
- Receiving Confirmation I will be making my relationship with God stronger. With a strong relationship with God, I can be better at facing challenges because God is with me and loves me."

**ARE YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW CONSIDERING COMING INTO THE CATHOLIC CHURCH,  
OR ARE YOU ALREADY BAPTIZED AND WISH TO RECEIVE THE SACRAMENTS OF EUCHARIST AND CONFIRMATION?**

**BECOME CATHOLIC**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT: JO-ANN METZDORFF AT [RCIA@STWILLIAM.ORG](mailto:RCIA@STWILLIAM.ORG)**

## PRAYERS FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY

### **US Coast Guard -**

Lt. James Knudsen  
Daniel Timpanaro  
LT. Commander Katherine Ustler  
Frank Pristera

### **US Navy -**

Lt. Joseph Fitzgerald  
Ian Bayer, Ensign  
Rebecca Bayer, Ensign  
Ensign Michael Napolitano  
MMN2 Emily Partridge  
Commander Michael Sean Slatley

### **US Army -**

Capt. Caitlin M. Lee  
Sgt. Brian Kirby  
Major Eamon G. McArdle  
Sgt. Donald Rogers  
Major Christopher James Ustler  
Major Kurtis Unger

### **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

### **US Air Force -**

Capt. Matthew B. Frasse  
Tech. Sgt. Eric Meyers  
AIC William Hughes  
Tech. Sgt. Karl Muench  
Major Thomas F. Shields

### **USMC -**

Lt. Kevin J. Butler  
2nd Lt. Dana Duggan  
Corporal Frank A. Finocchio  
L.Cpl. John Mosier







# Safety

## Dispensation from Mass

As a reminder, the dispensation from the requirement to attend Sunday Mass remains in effect. Those who are most vulnerable and at a greater risk (due to age, preexisting health conditions or being in close proximity to vulnerable people) are encouraged to remain home at this time.

If a person shows any symptoms of illness, they are asked to please not come to church. We encourage you to join us for Mass online on the parish website [stwilliam.org](http://stwilliam.org)

## Overflow Space

We do have overflow space in the Abbey for Masses. Please follow the directions of our Ushers if the Church reaches capacity and you are asked to attend the Mass in the Abbey.

## While attending Mass during this difficult time

- Please sanitize your hands
- If you are a family please occupy a pew
- Be kind and considerate
- Please keep social distance
- Don't congregate in the Church or parking lot before or after Mass
- Touch a bulletin, please bring it home

**Love for our neighbors should be one of the primary considerations.**

## Safety Protocols

As more of you are returning back to in-person Mass, we want to re-emphasize that all of our safety protocols are still in place.

Please allow the ushers to seat you - they have been carefully trained in our seating arrangement that will enable us to get the maximum number of worshippers seated in the Sanctuary while maintaining social distancing.



## Communion by Car Line for High-Risk Individuals

Please consider virtual Mass if you are high risk of severe illness due to COVID-19.

Weather permitting, we will continue to offer outdoor Communion (via car line) on Sundays at 1 PM, following the live-streamed Mass at 12 PM.

## Holy Communion

Because of concerns regarding the coronavirus, we request that those who choose to receive on the tongue wait at the end of the line. Please present themselves to the priest only to receive Holy Communion, and are asked to open their mouth and extend their tongue so the host can be placed on it without the priest's hand making contact with the recipient.

If you choose to receive in the hand, please place your hand out very straight and flat to allow the priest or minister to place the Eucharist safely in order to avoid contact with your hand. We also kindly remind everyone to please remove your mask before receiving Holy Communion, whether you choose to receive on the tongue or in the hand. Please put it back on after you have consumed the host.

## Holy Communion



When it is time to receive Holy Communion, please practice social distancing as you walk in the communion line. On the way back to your pew please maintain spacing. Everyone will come down the center aisles to receive communion. Please do not rush back to your seats.

## Arrive Early & Wear Your Mask



We do ask that everyone arrive early so that we can seat everyone before the start of Mass. **We ask that all parishioners wear their mask covering their nose and mouth at all times while inside the church.**

## Sacristy



For the safety of our Priests, we ask that parishioners refrain from entering the Sacristy. Please do not hand offering envelopes, letters etc. to the Priests. Please drop them off in the Rectory Mail Slot.

We Pray for all who have contracted coronavirus, we pray for care and healing. For those who are particularly vulnerable, we pray for safety and protection. For all who experience fear or anxiety, we pray for peace of mind and spirit. For affected families who are facing difficult decisions between food on the table or public safety. For those who do not have adequate health insurance, we pray that no family will face financial burdens alone. Father, during this time may your Church be a sign of hope, comfort and love to all. Grant peace, comfort, and healing. Be with us, Lord. Amen.









# Youth!

ST. WILLIAM THE ABBOT RC CHURCH



**REQUIRED!**



**FRIDAY, MAY 7**

**6PM FIELD GAMES - (CHURCH FIELD)**

**&**

**7 PM ADORATION IN THE CHURCH**

**PARENT DROP OFF AT 5:45PM -**

**PARENT PICK UP AT 9PM**

## **Join us for ADORATION!**

Join the Priests in the Church for prayer time.

## **Stay for SOCIAL.**

Stay for social time after adoration. Meet some new friends or hang with old friends.

## **Who can ATTEND?**

If you are a student in middle school or high school.

**Please RSVP**  
**priests@stwilliam.org**

**\*STAYING FOR SOCIAL AFTER THE ADORATION? PLEASE RSVP, WE WILL BE SERVING CHICK-FIL-A .**



# Stump the Priest

## WHERE DO OUR PETS GO WHEN THEY DIE?



The Bible does not present any definitive clue about the fate of animals after death and consequently theological discourses on this subject have also been speculative.

We know animals are an integral part of the created order; God created them for diverse purposes and the Psalmist, in Psalm 8, makes us realize how they exist to manifest the greatness and glory of God.

We must also note that between animals and human beings there is something in common and something different. One common thing is the animating or life-giving principle in all of us. Hence animals also have souls just as human beings.

The difference lies in the fact that the souls of human beings have a rational aspect to it. This rational faculty added to the human soul makes us able to recognize or judge between right and wrong. We read from the creation account in Genesis that, of all created things, only human beings were created in the image and likeness of God and then were given the power of oversight responsibility over the rest of creation. (cf. Gen. 1:26-28; 2:15) With this responsibility would come therefore the accounting for our stewardship.

Again, human beings have a moral law to live with based on this same rational faculty of our souls; to recognize the good and follow it and then to stay away from the bad. From the moral law flow all the many commandments, decrees, rules, regulations, principles, norms, and guidelines for our human existence. All of these have been given to human beings to follow and we are judged, even on this earth, according to them. So we see human beings go to jail but not so in the case of animals.

Consequently we can say that there is nothing like hell or heaven for animals since we know that only creatures that face judgement go to either heaven or hell. It is best and safe however to be honest and say we don't know but also to think (albeit without certain knowledge) that when animals die they just cease to exist.

In answering this same question on May 29, 2017 Garrett Kell concluded, and rightly so, that: "If it will bring God more glory and help us to enjoy him forever, then God will reunite us with our pets. God knows what good gifts to give us both now and forever. We must guard our hearts not to allow love for pets or animals diminish or affection for God." In addition, Msgr. Charles Pope, Pastor of Holy Comforter-St Cyprian in Washington, D.C., also warns that: "We must not reduce heaven's joys to having earthly things. Heaven is far greater than anything we can imagine, be it pets or any earthly joy."



## Welcome Elizabeth Woods, to the Music Ministry Office!

Elizabeth Woods is a passionate Catholic musician who has been leading music ministry in several locations for over ten years, starting at Holy Trinity High School in Hicksville, where she graduated in 2011. Since Holy Trinity, Elizabeth has led music for Sunday Masses, holy hours, retreats, and more at many parishes throughout the diocese and beyond.

She graduated cum laude and with honors from Hofstra University in Hempstead with a B.S.Ed. in Music Education and NYS Initial Certification in Music K-12 in May of 2015. While attending Hofstra, Elizabeth was the music minister for the Catholic Campus Parish and was involved in leading the student-run Catholic Newman club. She was part of the select Hofstra Chorale, performed in several small Solos, Duos, and Trios, sang in the Hofstra Vocal Jazz Ensemble, played piano in the Jazz 20 Ensemble, and helped run her collegiate all-female a cappella group, where she acted as the primary beatboxer in addition to singing.

Following her college graduation, Elizabeth spent three years teaching 4th-8th Grade General Music and 5th-8th Grade Religion at Holy Family School in Hicksville. While in this position, she also ran the Senior Chorus of 6th-8th graders, planned and provided music for and directed the 4th-8th grade student choir at school Masses, and directed the school musicals. On Sundays, she directed the Children's Choir and the Youth Contemporary Ensemble weekly at their respective Masses at Holy Family Parish.

Elizabeth has spent the past three years serving as the Music Director at Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Massapequa Park. There, she dove more deeply into her passion for ministry through music, working to select, prepare, and provide music for all Sunday Masses, Holy Days, Weddings, Funerals, and Sacraments that would help to uplift people in prayer and further enrich and highlight the beauty of the liturgy. She revitalized the music program, working with the adult choir, cantors, organists, and clergy to create a musical environment at Mass that invites the congregation in and encourages participation.

Elizabeth has a heart for ministry, and is ecstatic to be joining the vibrant parish family at St. William the Abbot! She can't wait to get started in serving alongside the incredible parish staff and clergy, and to meet all of the wonderful parishioners.

## Staying Connected

With St. William the Abbot visit us at [stwilliam.org](http://stwilliam.org) to view our bulletin online, presider schedule, and see other parish information.



Facebook: Find us at:  
[stwilliamabbot](https://www.facebook.com/stwilliamabbot)



Instagram: Follow us:  
[@stwilliamabbot](https://www.instagram.com/stwilliamabbot)



YouTube: Find us at:  
[YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com) — St. William the Abbot Church

## Parish Contact Information

### CONTACT THE PRIESTS

Please send your email to [priests@stwilliam.org](mailto:priests@stwilliam.org) to contact Fr. Joe, Fr. James or Fr. Collins directly.

### CONTACT THE PASTORAL COUNCIL

Please send your email to [pastoralcouncil@stwilliam.org](mailto:pastoralcouncil@stwilliam.org).

### QUESTIONS FOR COMMUNICATIONS

Please send your email to [igomez@stwilliam.org](mailto:igomez@stwilliam.org).

### QUESTIONS FOR THE RECTORY

Please send your email to [information@stwilliam.org](mailto:information@stwilliam.org).

### CONTACT THE BUSINESS MANAGER

Please send your email to [jgoldman@stwilliam.org](mailto:jgoldman@stwilliam.org).

### CONTACT FAITH FORMATION

Please send your email to [faithformation@stwilliam.org](mailto:faithformation@stwilliam.org) or contact the office directly at (516) 783-2528.

### CONTACT SOCIAL MINISTRY

Please send your email to [socialministry@stwilliam.org](mailto:socialministry@stwilliam.org) or contact the office directly at (516) 679-8532.

### CONTACT THE SCHOOL

#### St. William the Abbot School



Office: 516.785.1266  
2001 Jackson Avenue  
Seaford, NY 11783  
[stwilliamtheabbot.net](http://stwilliamtheabbot.net)  
(516) 785-6784

## Parish Social Ministry

### Food Donations

The food donations bins will no longer be located in the Church. Please bring all donations directly to Parish Social Ministry Office, the church no longer has donation bins. The Social Ministry office is located South of the Church.

**Monday - Friday**

**9:30am - 4:00pm**

**Sunday**

**By Appointment Only**

### Food Pantry

Chicken broth

Deodorant

Raisins

Baby wipes

Mashed potatoes

Apple juice

Jelly

Sugar (sm bags/boxes)

### Medical Equipment Available

There is currently a hospital bed available for anyone that needs it, please contact the Social Ministry office if you are interested. In addition, we have medical equipment available for anyone in need such as walkers, wheelchairs, crutches, and canes.

### Whatsoever you do...

Recently, we were blessed to have a parish family provide trays of homemade food to a family in need. This simple act of kindness took some pressure off a working mom and allowed her to keep her family fed during an incredibly stressful time. Thank you to Melissa and Damon Kessler for being such great supporters of the Outreach office and taking time out of their busy weekend to do some cooking in support of our parish family!

### Comfort for the Bereaved

We are now taking names for future bereavement group sessions. If you have experienced the loss of a loved one and would be interested in attending a small group session for support, please call the Social Ministry office. Sessions have not yet been scheduled. We are evaluating demand to determine a safe way to proceed with this ministry.

### Help for COVID Vaccinations

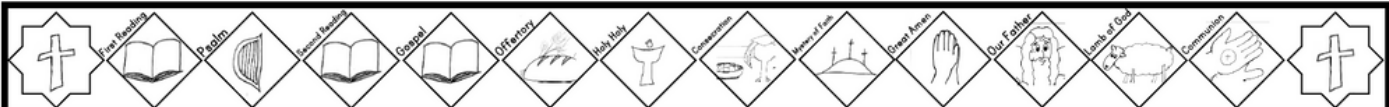
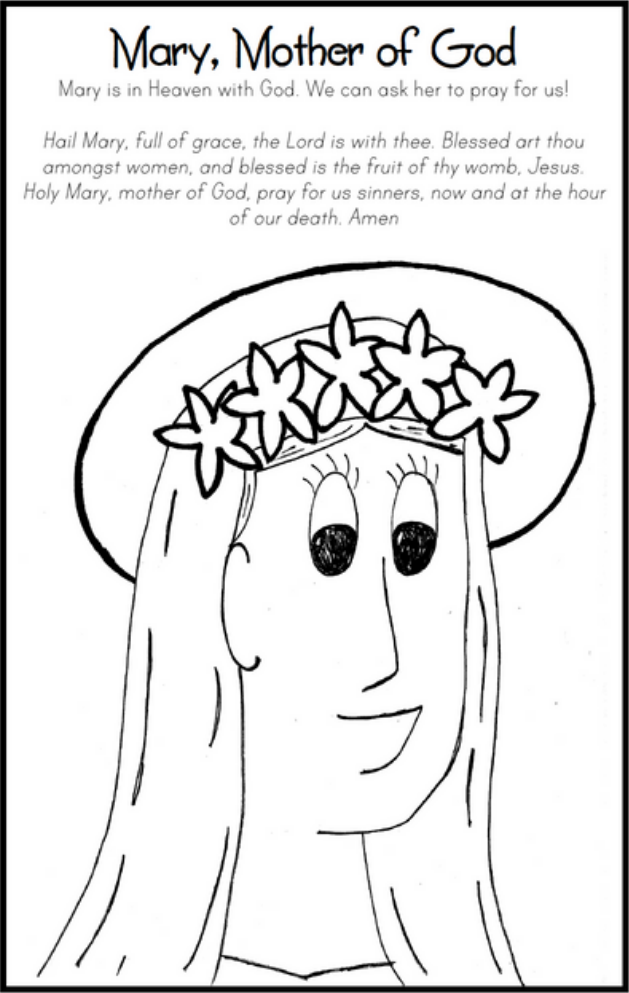
Do you or someone you know need help booking an appointment for your COVID vaccine? We have volunteers that are willing to help you navigate the online process, or even book your appointment for you! If interested, please call the Parish Outreach office at 516-679-8532.



PWEKISOWWILLPRAISEKWO  
 BEWOPEOPLEKWOAI I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people. BYOUPALORDPWKIN  
 BTHEPASSEMBLYPAOFKYOURASED



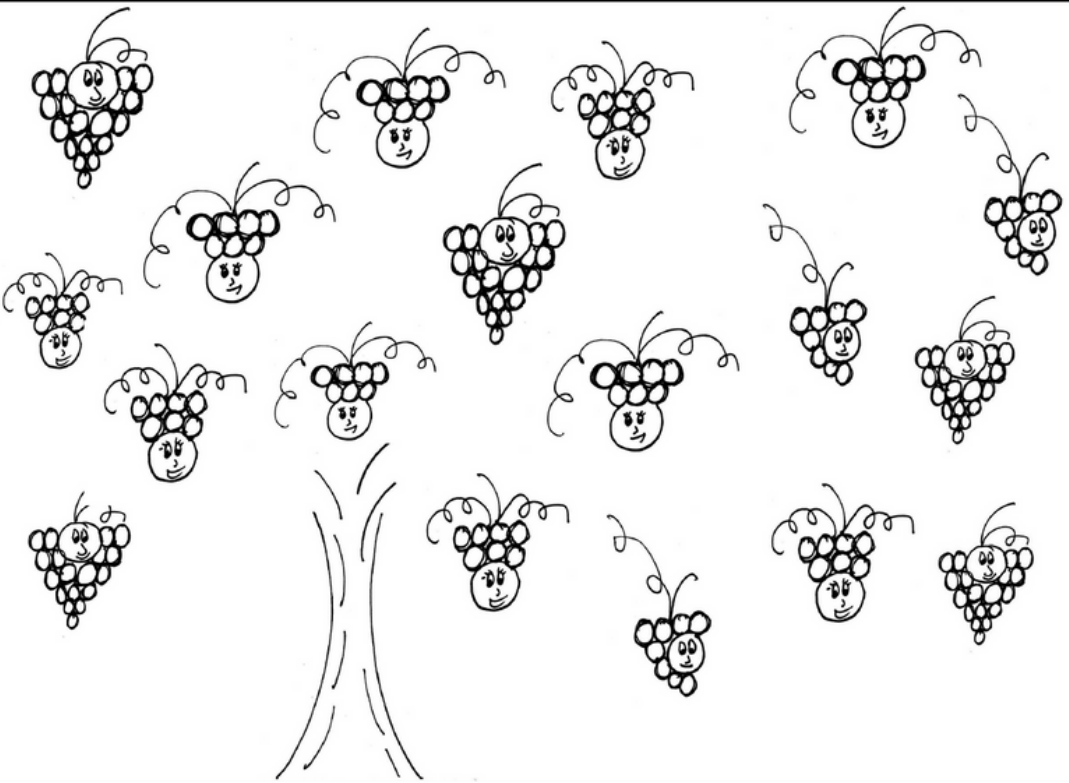
Look for symbols of Mary in your church.  
 Sun Moon Stars Snake Lily Rose Apple Globe



Count the grapes. How many of each style can you find?

 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Draw branches to connect all the bunches of grapes.



## Gospel

Jesus said, "I am the vine, you are the branches." He wants all of us to stay connected to him. How can we stay connected to Jesus?