



Inspired by our *past*.
Focused on our *future*.

The Logo of Saint Mary School

In designing a new logo for Saint Mary School, a visual identity was created that reflects the history of our school and also communicates the mission of Catholic education that Saint Mary School provides. As the oldest Catholic parish elementary school on Long Island, we take great pride in our legacy of educating students from East Islip and beyond for over a century. Building upon our strong foundations, Saint Mary School looks to the future with enthusiasm as we educate our students in an environment that is robustly Catholic and academically excellent.

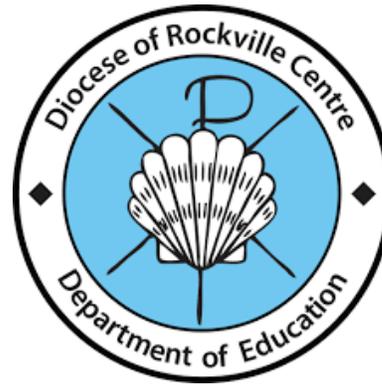
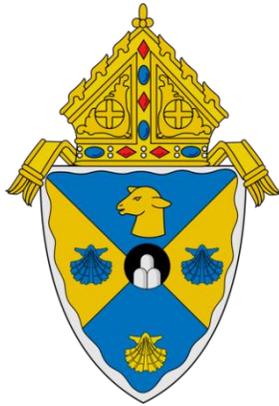
Shield



At the center of our logo is a blue shield with the letters “SMS.” This feature evokes the original shield which was worn on our school uniforms for decades. Restoring this shield to our visual identity pays homage to our vibrant history of educating young students on Long Island for over a century. In the new depiction of the shield, a crown has been added to symbolize Mary – Assumed into Heaven, crowned Queen of heaven and earth, and whose patronage our school is under.

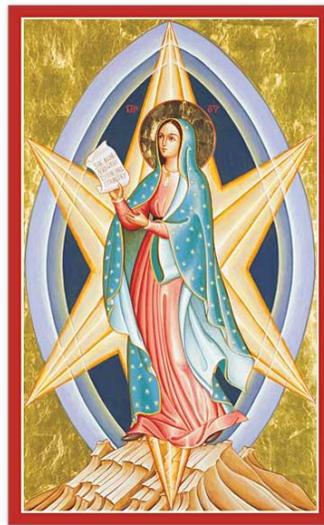
A crown with the word “humilitas” beneath was also depicted in the coat of arms of Bishop Charles McDonnell, Second Bishop of Brooklyn and the bishop in office when Saint Mary School was founded in 1914.

Scallop Shell



To the left of the shield is a scallop shell taken from the coat of arms of the Diocese of Rockville Centre. The shell is also featured on the logo for the Diocesan Department of Education. This pays particular honor to the heritage of the thirteen tribes of Algonquin Indians that originally inhabited the area that is now Long Island and who employed the shells of the region in so many ways. The scallop shell is also used in heraldic achievements to signify the flowing waters of baptism.

The Morning Star

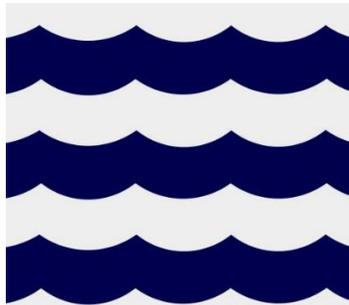


To the right of the shield is the Morning Star. From the earliest days of the Church, Christians have invoked the aid of the Blessed Virgin as the “Morning Star.” Mary is

the bright and shining star of humanity who reflects the light of the Creator and redeemer and exalts His glory.¹

In 2020, the Diocese of Rockville Centre launched the Morning Star Initiative (MSI) to help foster and promote academic excellence, a robustly Catholic culture, safe and supportive communities, and fiscally sustainable schools.² The inclusion of the Morning Star in our school logo recognizes this diocesan initiative in addition to paying homage to Mary our school patroness.

Waves of Water



The lower half of our logo depicts waves of water which evoke a number of symbolic meanings. Water has always borne a significant role in the life of faith. As the Rite of Baptism reminds us: “O God whose Spirit in the first moments of the world’s creation hovered over the waters, so that the very substance of water would even then take to itself the power to sanctify.”³

The symbolic inclusion of water unifies the shell and the Morning Star, thus communicating the fundamental aim of Saint Mary School’s mission: to enable our students to live out their baptismal dignity as God’s beloved sons and daughters, and doing so guided by Mary, the “Star of the New Evangelization,”⁴ who “appeared on the horizon of salvation history before Christ,” and points to Him as the “radiant dawn and sure guide for our steps.”⁵

¹ Diocese of Rockville Centre, Morning Star Initiative

² *Impact Report, Morning Star Initiative*. October 5, 2022.

³ *Order of Baptism of Children*, 44.

⁴ Pope John Paul II Encyclical Letter *Redemptoris Mater*, 3. March 25, 1987.

⁵ Pope John Paul II Encyclical Letter *Novo Millennio Inuente*, 59. January 6, 2001.