



THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

Office of Communications

P.O. Box 9023, Rockville Centre, NY 11571-9023

Tel: 516-678-5800, ext. 221 • Fax: 516-594-0984 • www.drvc.org

MEDIA RELEASE

December 20, 2023

Contact:

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CHRISTMAS 2023

ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NY – December 20, 2023 –

The Most Reverend John O. Barres, Bishop of Rockville Centre, will celebrate the following Christmas Masses:

Dec. 24 -- Christmas Eve — Pontifical Midnight Mass in the Cathedral of Saint Agnes - Mass airs live on Catholic Faith Network (CFN) beginning at 11:30 p.m. This Mass will air on Optimum channel 29/137, Verizon FiOS channel 296 and Charter Spectrum 162/471. Viewers can also watch the Mass online at www.cfntv.org.

Dec. 25 -- Christmas Day—Cathedral of Saint Agnes, 11:00 a.m. – This Mass airs live on CFN and then repeats at 11:00 p.m.

Media wishing to cover Christmas Masses should call or text Sean Dolan at (516) 510-0473 or sdolan@drvc.org.

For a complete list of parishes and web addresses, visit www.drvc.org.

PROPER MEDIA ETIQUETTE AND CONDUCT IN THE CATHEDRAL

In trying to balance the solemnity of the service with the needs of the press, we ask that you follow instructions of the representatives of the Diocese of Rockville Centre.

Photography is permitted inside the Cathedral during the service, though we ask that photographers do not stand in the space between the sanctuary and the congregation, and that they honor the privacy of individuals receiving the sacrament of Communion. They should photograph using a camera that makes minimal shutter noise.

Also, please do NOT take photographs from the center aisle or block it in any way.

- Please refrain from broadcasting from the lobby of the church during services because it can disturb the people in the Cathedral.



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- There are times when the choir loft will be closed to the press because of the musical needs of the service and the choir.
- If the choir loft is open, please be aware that the CFN cameras are there, and they are broadcasting live. Please avoid that area and any movements that would impede their line of sight or shake the camera.
- At all times we ask that you be mindful that the Cathedral is a House of Worship and ask that you always act in a respectful manner.

About the Diocese of Rockville Centre

The Diocese of Rockville Centre (www.drvc.org) was formed in 1957 and covers 1,198 square miles in Nassau and Suffolk Counties. The diocese serves approximately 1.2 million baptized Catholics* (total population in both counties is approximately 2.9 million). There are 132 parishes plus 1 campus parish in 115 towns. The diocese is blessed with 329 priests (175 active diocesan priests), 637 religious women, 52 Brothers and 259 permanent deacons. In 2022, 8,568 infant baptisms, 10,152 confirmations, 9,904 First Holy Communions and 2,382 Catholic marriages took place in the diocese. There are 10,776 students enrolled in 35 Catholic elementary schools (31 parish or regional and 5 private); 9,857 students are enrolled in nine Catholic high schools (2 diocesan, 2 parish and 5 private) and 3,401 students enrolled one Catholic college (Molloy University, Rockville Centre). In 2022, there were 75,988 elementary and high school students in parish Faith Formation programs. In 2022, Catholic clergy and community provided consolation to families and loved ones of 9,272 deceased Catholics at 4 diocesan and 20 parish cemeteries. Catholic Health (CH) is an integrated system encompassing some of the region's finest health and human service agencies. With approximately 17,000 employees, CH consists of a network of six acute-care hospitals, three nursing homes, a home health service, hospice, a multiservice, community-based agency for persons with special needs and a network of physician practices. Catholic Charities of Long Island shares the love of Jesus by offering dignified and compassionate care to poor and over 1.3 million, face-to-face services to an average of 58,000 neighbors from 53 sites in Nassau and Suffolk counties. Catholic Faith Network (CFN), based in Uniondale broadcasts 24/7/365. The Office of Communications maintains robust Facebook, X and Instagram social media platforms and produces a weekly E-Newsletter. The diocesan website drvc.org averages approximately 18,000 unique visitors each month.

**Source – 2022 Official Catholic Directory.*

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