



The Mission

Care With Dignity ... Life With Hope

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Sing a New Song Unto the Lord

On January 31, 2017, along with four cardinals, four archbishops, 57 bishops, 260 priests, and thousands of faithful, the Catholic Charities family welcomed our new Bishop, John O. Barres to Long Island.

Bishop Barres assumed leadership of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, the spiritual home for more than 1.5 million Catholics, in a moving liturgy at St. Agnes Cathedral that overflowed with tradition and symbolism. His installation also attracted the attention of numerous media outlets as they came to learn more about the priest who now shepherds the eighth largest diocese in the United States with 133 parishes, 57 Catholic schools attended by 29,000 students, six hospitals and more than 19,000 employees.

Yet rather than focus on the magnitude of the diocese as it already stands, the 56-year young Bishop used the notable opportunity to offer a heartfelt plea to those who may have grown apart from the Church.

"I appeal on this day of my installation as the fifth bishop of the Diocese of Rockville Centre to every inactive Catholic in the diocese to gently come back...to the power of the word of God, the power of the sacrament of penance, the power of the Catholic Mass," he said. "I am so very sorry if you have been hurt or disappointed by the Church in any way and we stand here today to support you, to listen to you and to love you." He then challenged the faithful to actively reach out to their family, friends and neighbors who may be waiting for such an invitation.

"You are in my heart and prayers already. I can't wait to serve you, to sacrifice for you and to lay down my life for you."



Our retiring Bishop, William Murphy, who has served the diocese since 2001, called Bishop Barres "above all a man of prayer" who has a deep love for the poor and who will "build up Long Island for future generations." Catholic Charities of Rockville Centre looks forward to working with him and in the words of Saint Teresa of Calcutta, "to love without getting tired."

Follow Bishop Barres at Diocese of Rockville Centre

on or @BishopBarres on



Photo courtesy of Gregory A. Shemitz, The Long Island Catholic

Meet Bishop Barres

Bishop Barres is a native New Yorker, born and raised in Larchmont and baptized by Bishop Fulton J. Sheen in 1960. He is a graduate of Princeton University where he played three years of junior varsity basketball and then obtained his MBA from the New York University Graduate School of Business Administration. His theological education took place at Catholic University of America and the Pontifical University of the Holy Cross in Rome. In 1989, he was ordained a priest in Wilmington, Delaware, in 2000 was bestowed the title of "Monsignor" by Pope St. John Paul II, and in 2005 was named a "Prelate of Honor" by Pope Benedict. He was ordained Bishop of Allentown by His Eminence, Justin Cardinal Rigali of Philadelphia in 2009 where he served until coming to us now. Bishop Barres believes that "vibrant parishes make for a vibrant diocese" and has called for each parish to form a functioning parish pastoral council. He loves to play basketball and values social media as a tool of evangelization, especially when reaching out to young people. His message to all of us: "You are in my heart and prayers already. I can't wait to serve you, to sacrifice for you and to lay down my life for you."



The Wheels on the Bus Go Round and Round...

For members of the Catholic Charities Franklin Square Senior Community Center, the wheels on the bus have gone round and round for many years, thanks to the dedication and enthusiasm of Josefina "Josie" Rosas. Having celebrated her 31st anniversary as a bus driver for the center, she's played a central role in the lives of literally thousands of seniors.

The first to greet them in the morning and the last to bid them farewell each evening, Josie knows getting them to the center each day means they can continue living independently and safely at home while taking advantage of the many activities that maintain their physical and emotional well-being. She explains, "They built these communities but so many of them can't drive anymore. Staying home alone all day is not good for them. We have to get them out, so they stay healthy and happy and a part of our community." Her love for them is matched only by the love her seniors have for her. "I think the world of her," says Marie Sanseverino. "She's not just a bus driver, she's like a daughter to me." Mary Lou Ratto adds, "She looks out for us, and she's always ready to jump in and help. I can depend on her and I trust her with my life." The words bring tears to Josie's eyes. "I love my seniors, and we have so many laughs together. We made so many beautiful memories these 31 years." With any luck, Josie will stick around to make many more.



"...even when your hair is gray I will carry you; I have done this, and I will lift you up, I will carry you to safety." Isaiah 46:3-4



"I prefer a church which is bruised, hurting and dirty because it has been out on the streets..."
 —Pope Francis



Catholic Charities proudly joined Feed the Children and 4 Kids for Kids in lending a hand to more than 400 Hempstead-area families in need. A semi-tractor trailer filled to capacity with 25-pound food and 10-pound "essentials" boxes were distributed to these vulnerable neighbors thanks to the dedicated efforts of four young Babylon Village friends: **Emmet Chapey** of Chaminade High School and **Andrew Szuchy, Jack Hartigan** and **Matt McGaley** of Babylon High School. The fantastic four set the wheels in motion for the initiative by raising an incredible \$15,770 during a 30-mile bike ride, traveling from East Hampton to Montauk.



SAVE the DATE

CATHOLIC CHARITIES
2017 Caritas Award Dinner

Thursday, May 18, 2017 • 6:00 p.m.



Honoring
BRIAN & BETH CRIMMINS
 Chief Executive Officer, Changing Our World, Inc.
 Managing Partner, ONE HUNDRED

Join us at

CARLYLE ON THE GREEN
 Bethpage State Park, Farmingdale

RESERVE NOW!
(516) 733-7042

Support Catholic Charities, Diocese of Rockville Centre.

When you shop at **smile.amazon.com**,
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Go to smile.amazon.com



Dear Friend,

This is a banner year! Not only do we welcome our new bishop, it's also the 60th anniversary of Catholic Charities here on Long Island! I've worked here for 29 years with 17 of them as Chief Executive Officer and during that time, without fail, one particular task remains the most daunting:

to convey to YOU what a difference your donations make.

In that light, here's a letter I received from Gina, an average working mom, born and raised on Long Island, who through a series of heartbreaking events actually found herself homeless. Her comeback is one of the thousands that you make possible every year.

Gratefully yours,

Laura A. Cassell

Laura A. Cassell
 CEO, Catholic Charities,
 Diocese of Rockville Centre



Her Own Words: Gina's Story

I didn't know who I was in the summer of 2015. Two years prior I had been laid off from my position with the Town of Brookhaven, my job cut because of an \$11 million-dollar budget deficit. I had been forced to withdraw from my 401k to keep a roof over our heads while I searched for jobs morning, noon, and night. I was an "older" candidate, in my 50's, starting over and my funds were now depleted.

I wore my best suits, tweaked my resume, and applied everywhere. I had many interviews but never got the job. I had a master's degree and over 30 years of experience as an administrator, a teacher, and a writer. I wasn't an addict of any kind, nor had any baggage. I was just a mom who wanted to be a good role model to my daughter. SO WHAT WAS WRONG WITH ME?

I started suffering from depression that worsened with each rejection and I prayed desperately that I'd be hired. But I wasn't. How was I going to pay rent, buy food, and most important, support my daughter?

The dreaded moment came when I could no longer pay rent and was officially "homeless." Our car became our new home. In desperation I called Catholic Charities and there was suddenly hope. They helped me pay rent through their Project Independence and soon after I was hired as a cashier at Marshall's. I then landed another part-time clerical job at a local college. It wasn't a lot to live off of but enough to lift my spirits and help me feel productive again.

Now I finally have a full-time job at a university and make enough to support my family. I no longer need Project Independence but I am grateful beyond words. Homelessness comes in all ages, races, religions and socioeconomic status. I learned that we're all human and fragile at times.

That's why I am eternally grateful and blessed to have been a recipient of Catholic Charities' help. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

**Will you continue
 making stories like this possible?
 Use the enclosed envelope to give today.**

Responding...

Our special thanks to these friends for helping us provide
Care With Dignity...Life With Hope.



Our 14th Annual Golf Classic honoree, **Oceanside Christopher, The Catholic Credit Union** and the 114 golfers who joined us at the Huntington Crescent Club, raising more than \$184,000 for our programs.

The **anonymous couple** who continue their inspirational generosity in 2017 with a \$250,000 gift.

Porticus North America for their \$150,000 grant to Regina Maternity Services.

The **humble family** who gifted \$100,000 but also wish to remain anonymous.

Newsday Charities, a McCormick Foundation Fund for \$60,000 in support of Project Independence, Project Veterans Independence, and Special Needs Housing.

The **Health & Welfare Council** who on behalf of the **Long Island Community Foundation** awarded \$50,000 to our Long Island Immigrant Children Defense Project.

Our friends at **Catholic Charities USA**, whose \$25,000 grant will aid our various nutrition assistance programs.

Catholic Health Services Caregivers Fund of the Employees for boosting Regina Maternity Services with a \$15,000 grant.

The **Diocese of Rockville Centre, Exercise for Others** for raising nearly \$13,000 for our ministries.

The **NYCB Foundation** for \$8,000 in support of immigrant services.

Ridgewood Savings Bank for their \$6,000 in operating support.

The **Gary J. & Susan O. Ferrentino Foundation** and the **Allen E. & Patricia M. Murray Foundation** for their respective gifts of \$5,000 each.

The **Huntington Crescent Club Ladies Golf Group** for their \$2,000 gift and the **Stuart S. Applebaum Giving Foundation** for their gift of \$1,000.

The **Molloy College Women's Basketball Team** for visiting our Massapequa Park Senior Community Center to call bingo, serve lunch and spend quality time with local seniors.

The **confirmation class of St. Mary's in Manhasset** for planning a Valentine's Day party, dinner and arts & crafts for our Neumann Residence for the Developmentally Disabled.



Memorial Cards Now Available

The passing of a loved one is a difficult time but also one of reflection and prayer. The bereaved may take comfort in knowing that a gift on the loved one's behalf to Catholic Charities will assist their neediest neighbors. Call (516)-733-7028 to learn more about receiving memorial cards.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES



Now you can donate your car, truck, boat or motorcycle to Catholic Charities and help us help your Long Island neighbors. It's quick and easy to do. We're standing by to schedule a convenient pickup and provide confirmation of your donation.

Call (877) 507-GIVE (4483) Or visit us on the web at www.catholiccharities.cc and we'll take care of the rest. The unused car in your driveway can bring nutritious meals to countless seniors, provide teen moms and their babies with a home, and bring Christ's love in so many other ways.

Around and About

2017 is the 100th Anniversary of Catholic Charities in New York State and Governor Cuomo has proclaimed April 24th as Catholic Charities Day. It's also the 60th anniversary of Catholic Charities on Long Island so be on the lookout for future communications on how we plan to celebrate our ministries.

Our **Women Infants and Children (WIC)** program offers food and nutrition services to low-income pregnant, postpartum or breastfeeding women and children up to age five. Our new office at **St. Hugh of Lincoln Parish** is open Wednesdays from 9am to 3pm. Our office at **Mercy Medical Center** has expanded hours to Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays, from 8:30am to 4:30pm. Call (516) 377-0157 for information.

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