



**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](http://www.drvc.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 31, 2023

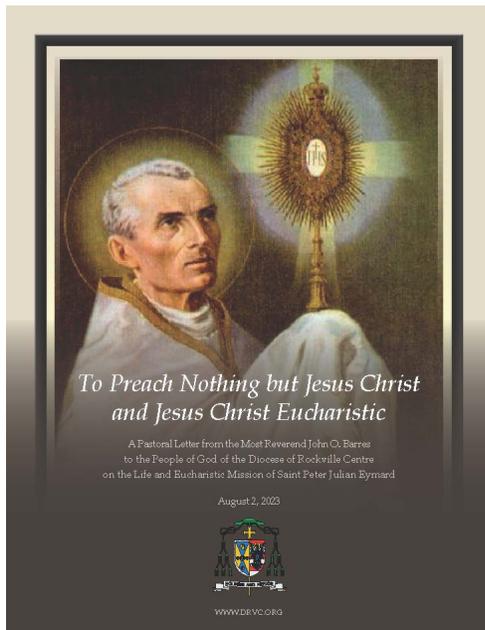
Contact:

Sean P. Dolan/516-510-0473/[sdolan@drvc.org](mailto:sdolan@drvc.org)

**BISHOP BARRES ISSUES PASTORAL LETTER ON SAINT PETER JULIAN EYMARD**

**ROCKVILLE CENTRE, N.Y. – July 31, 2023** – The Most Reverend John O. Barres, Bishop

of Rockville Centre today issued *“To Preach Nothing but Jesus Christ and Jesus Christ Eucharistic”* - a new pastoral letter to the People of God of the Diocese of Rockville Centre on the life and Eucharistic Mission of Saint Peter Julian Eymard.



Released during a time where the Church in the United States is immersed in a period of Eucharistic Revival, the pastoral letter commemorates the August 2 Memorial of Saint Eymard (1811-1868).

The easy-to-read, seven-page letter invites the reader into the story of Saint Peter Julian Eymard, who Bishop Barres said can be a “model and intercessor in this time of turning to the Eucharistic Lord.”

“Every saint is, by definition, a Eucharistic Revivalist, a Eucharistic Missionary,” said Bishop Barres. “In his charism of promoting the Catholic Mass and the Holy Eucharist, Saint Peter Julian Eymard was a Eucharistic Missionary par excellence.”

The pastoral letter offers the reader six clear lessons garnered from the life Saint Eymard, including:

1. how to be open to promptings of the Holy Spirit;
2. the centrality of the Eucharist in the Christian life;



**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](http://www.drvc.org)

3. courageous apostolic zeal that does not fear to do what others might call impossible or undesirable;
4. the merciful life of Jesus;
5. the fruitfulness of faithful adherence to the liturgy's norms and principles; and
6. Marian devotion is Eucharistic and Eucharistic devotion is Marian.

*To Preach Nothing but Jesus Christ and Jesus Christ Eucharistic – a Pastoral Letter on the Life and Eucharistic Mission of Saint Peter Julian Eymard* is now available on the website of the Diocese of Rockville Centre: [www.drvc.org](http://www.drvc.org).

-30-

**About the Diocese of Rockville Centre -2023**

The Diocese of Rockville Centre ([www.drvc.org](http://www.drvc.org)) was formed in 1957 and covers 1,198 square miles in Nassau and Suffolk Counties. The diocese serves approximately 1.3 million baptized Catholics\* (total population in both counties is approximately 2.5 million). There are 132 parishes plus 1 campus parish in 115 towns. The diocese is blessed with 328 total priests (160 active diocesan priests, 667 religious women, 54 Brothers and 273 permanent deacons. In 2021, 8,553 baptisms, 9,402 confirmations, 9,422 First Holy Communions and 1,052 Catholic marriages took place in the diocese. There are 11,054 students in Catholic elementary schools; 10,093 students in Catholic high schools and 4,883 students in higher institutions. There are 35 Catholic elementary schools (31 parish or regional and 4 private), 9 high schools (2 diocesan, 2 parish and 5 private) and one Catholic college (Molloy University, Rockville Centre) in the diocese. In 2021, there were 83,412 children in parish Faith Formation programs. In 2021, Catholic clergy and community provided consolation to families and loved ones of 12,544 deceased Catholics at 4 diocesan and 20 parish cemeteries. Catholic Health is an integrated system encompassing some of the region's finest health and human service agencies. The health system has nearly 17,000 employees, six acute care hospitals, three nursing homes, a home health service, hospice 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. The diocese maintains Facebook, Twitter and Instagram social media platforms. Catholic Faith Network, broadcasts 24/7/365. The diocesan website [drvc.org](http://drvc.org) averages approximately 18,000 unique visitors each month. \*As of 2021