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BISHOP JOHN O. BARRES' STATEMENT ON THE DECLARATION OF SAINT JOHN HENRY NEWMAN AS DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH AND PATRON OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION

I join our Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, in giving thanks for the announcement that Saint John Henry Newman will be declared a Doctor of the Church and named co-patron of Catholic education alongside Saint Thomas Aquinas. This joyful news invites us to renew our commitment to the sacred mission of Catholic education: forming future saints who think deeply, love generously, and live faithfully.

Saint John Henry Newman's life and writings remind us that faith and reason are not opposites but companions on the journey to truth. His example challenges all who teach and learn in our Catholic schools to see education as a pathway to holiness and mission.

Here on Long Island, Catholic education continues to be a vital instrument in shaping young hearts for Christ and preparing them to serve the world as public square Catholics. I am deeply grateful to our principals, teachers, parents, and students who live this mission daily.

In celebration of this good news, I am pleased

to share once again my pastoral letter on Saint John Henry Newman, *Heart Speaks to Heart*, so that we that we may draw fresh inspiration from his life, vision, and holiness.

May Saint John Henry Newman intercede for all who labor in the vineyard



To read the letter, visit: drvc.org/**newmanletter**

of Catholic education, that our schools may continue to form scholars, disciples, and saints for many generations to come.

> Most Reverend John O. Barres Bishop of Rockville Centre

In O. Banes



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE