



**THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE**

**Office of Communications • *The Long Island Catholic* • *Fe Fuerza Vida***

50 North Park Avenue, Rockville Centre, NY 11570

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**11 JUNE 2021**

**BISHOP JOHN BARRES TO ORDAIN THREE MEN  
TO THE PRIESTHOOD ON JUNE 19, 2021**



From left: Rev. Mr. Joseph Catafago, Rev. Mr. Michael Lombardi and Rev. Mr. Dominik Wegiel

**ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NEW YORK – June 11, 2021** – On June 19, 2021, the Most Reverend John O. Barres, Bishop of Rockville Centre, will ordain three men to the priesthood for the Diocese of Rockville Centre. The Mass of Priestly Ordination will take place at Saint Agnes Cathedral, Rockville Centre, at 11:00 a.m. on that day.

The ordination will air live on Catholic Faith Network (CFN) at 11:00 a.m. It will be replayed later that evening at 8:00 p.m. Catholic Faith Network can be viewed on Optimum channel 29/137, Verizon FiOS TV channel 296, and Spectrum channel 162/471. CFN is also available on selected cable and satellite systems and through live stream on [CFNTV.org](http://CFNTV.org). You may also view CFN on Roku, Apple TV, Amazon Fire TV, Android, or by downloading the CFN iOS mobile app at the app store by searching “Catholic Faith Network” or “CFN”.

**Mass of Ordination  
Saturday, June 19, 2021  
11:00 a.m.  
Saint Agnes Cathedral  
29 Quealy Place  
Rockville Centre, New York 11571**

Those being ordained are Rev. Mr. Joseph Catafago, Rev. Mr. Michael Lombardi and the



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Rev. Mr. Dominik Wegiel. The newly ordained priests will be assigned to parishes in the Diocese of Rockville Centre where each will serve in the role of associate pastor.

These men will stand in Christ's place and offer the Sacrifice of the Mass, Confession, and the other Sacraments. "By the anointing of the Holy Spirit, they are signed with a special character and are so configured to Christ the Priest that they have the power to act in the person of Christ the Head" (*Presbyterorum Ordinis*, no. 2). It is this special character and powerful configuration to Christ that sets them apart to do as Christ did.

### **Deacon Joseph Catafago**

**First Mass: Sunday June 20, 2021, at 5 p.m. at Holy Family Church, Hicksville**

Rev. Mr. Joseph Catafago grew up in the Parish of Holy Family in Hicksville and attended Holy Trinity High School. Following high school, Deacon Catafago applied to Cathedral Seminary in Douglaston, Queens as he attended St. John's University in Jamaica, Queens. Upon the completion of his studies and formation at Cathedral and St. John's, Joseph began his studies at St. Joseph's Seminary in Dunwoodie, Yonkers. After two years at the major seminary, Joseph was assigned to the Parish of St. John the Evangelist in Center Moriches for his pastoral year. Previously, he served at the Parish of Infant Jesus in Port Jefferson for a pastoral summer experience.

Throughout his years of discernment and seminary formation, Deacon Joe referenced "countless moments where I've been inspired by priests who have shown me the role of ordained ministers in the Church: to teach, preach, and sanctify." These are witnesses that he desires to emulate in his own priesthood.

### **Deacon Michael Lombardi**

**First Mass: Sunday June 20, 2021, at Noon at Saint Barnabas the Apostle Church, Bellmore**

Rev. Mr. Michael Lombardi is originally from Syracuse, New York. Michael attended high school at Christian Brothers Academy in Syracuse, New York and then went on to earn a B.A. from Syracuse University. He then went on to pursue a degree in architecture from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. Upon graduation, he moved to Seattle, Washington where he worked professionally in architecture for over 16 years. In 2012, he returned east to Long Island, where he made the decision to enter the seminary. Michael attended the Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary in Weston, Massachusetts. He served his pastoral year of formation at St. Patrick's Parish in Huntington and calls St. Patrick's his parish home on Long Island. Deacon Mike said that "among the things I'm most looking forward to is the grace of serving the Holy Sacrifice of the



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Mass every day, and being able to visit patients in the hospital, offer them the sacraments, and ensure them of God's mercy for them.”

### **Deacon Dominik Wegiel**

**First Mass: Sunday, June 20, 2:30PM, Holy Cross Parish Maspeth**

Rev. Mr. Dominik Wegiel grew up in the Parish of Holy Cross in Maspeth, Queens and his parents are immigrants from Poland. Dominik graduated from The High School of Applied Communication in Long Island City. Dominik then graduated from Stony Brook University with a degree in Applied Mathematics and Economics. Deacon Dominik then entered St. Joseph's Seminary in Yonkers. Deacon Dominik served his pastoral year at Infant Jesus Parish, Port Jefferson.

Deacon Dominik noted that “the priesthood is pure gift” and said he most desires for “others to know the love of God and the peace of the Resurrection.” He is humbled knowing that “Jesus has called me to share my experience, knowledge, and zeal with the Church on Long Island.”

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**For media inquiries, please contact:**

**Sean P. Dolan**

**516-510-0473**

**[sdolan@drvc.org](mailto:sdolan@drvc.org)**