



**THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE**

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

50 North Park Avenue, Rockville Centre, NY 11570

Tel: 516-678-5800, ext. 221 • Fax: 516-594-0984 • [www.drvc.org](http://www.drvc.org)

**STATEMENT**

**DATE: March 7, 2020**

**RE: Capuchin Franciscan Friars at the Parish of Saint Joseph the Worker,  
East Patchogue**

**FROM: Most Reverend John O. Barres, Bishop of Rockville Centre**

---

For many years, the People of God of the Parish of Saint Joseph the Worker have been blessed by the many graces and faithful ministry of the Capuchin Franciscan Friars of the Province of Saint Mary. Father Michael Greco, OFM. Cap, Provincial Minister of the Province of Mary of the Capuchin Order, recently wrote to the parishioners of Saint Joseph's explaining in the bulletin the reasons why that community is no longer able to continue their mission in East Patchogue.

The Diocese of Rockville Centre is deeply grateful for the contribution of the Capuchins and regrets the loss of their presence. But we remain committed to the parish and hope to build upon the foundations laid by the Capuchins by assigning a new pastor from among the priests of the Diocese.

This parish community will always be a part of the heart and soul of the Capuchin Franciscans, especially the heart and soul of those who have ministered here. And that Franciscan charism will live on in the community of Saint Joseph the Worker as we continue to listen to the voice of the Lord and do His work.