



With our Diocesan Bishop, the Most Reverend John O. Barres and help from his first Pastoral Letter, the Church on Long Island is joyfully awaiting the arrival of 13 May 2017. That date marks the 100th Anniversary of the Blessed Mother's first of six appearances in Fatima, Portugal. At Our Holy Redeemer in Freeport we will solemnly celebrate that visitation at our regularly scheduled 5:00 P.M. Mass, which will be a multilingual celebration offered by Rockville Centre Auxiliary Bishop the Most Rev. Nelson J. Perez.

Within the exchange that took place between Heaven and earth in Fatima on 13 May 1917, was Mary's recipe for Peace in the world and an end to the war in Europe: "say the Rosary daily". That recipe (so simple that even three homeschooled shepherd children (Jacinta, Francisco, and Lucia) with no formal education could understand it) is as relevant today as it was when it was first delivered from Heaven to Portugal one hundred years ago. Relevant, simple to understand, and embraced 100 years later by Bishop Barres who in his Pastoral Letter (available at www.drvc.org) asks "every Catholic of every age in the Church of Rockville Centre to pray the Rosary daily during the month of May 2017 in honour of Our Lady of Fatima and for the promotion of **dramatic missionary growth** on Long Island."

On this *World Day of Prayer for Vocations*, why not commit yourself to answering the invitation of our Bishop and Our Lady? Why not *come home* for our weekly Rosary on Saturday mornings at 8:30 A.M. and our monthly Rosary on the third Friday of the month at 7:30 P.M.? Why not join the *Legion of Mary* and pray the Rosary every Wednesday at 7:30 P.M., or join the *Knights of Columbus* and pray the Rosary on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 P.M.? Why not pray the Rosary as a family after a Sunday-meal in your homes, or with your neighbours any day and time during the week at 175 Woodcleft Avenue; the site of Grover's Dock: home of *Mass on the Waterfront* (which will be returning to the Nautical Mile at 10:00 A.M. on 9 July)?

I ask you: "Why not?" and you in turn may ask: "Why?" Why: because that is what Our Holy Redeemer did, and that is what He told us to do. "In those days" when faced with declining missionary growth in vocations, "He departed to the mountain to pray, and He spent the night in prayer to God. When day came, He called His disciples to Himself, and from them He chose Twelve, ..." (Saint Luke VI:12-13). Yes, "pray" is what He did, and "pray" is what He told us to do in order to bring about an increase – or in the words of Bishop Barres – to bring about "dramatic missionary growth" in vocations when He said to His disciples, "ask the Master of the harvest to send out labourers for His harvest" (Saint Matthew IX:37-38). And so it happened in Freeport last century: the Church prayed and He sent:

Rev. Rian John Carson, O.F.M., Brian Patrick Dunkle, S.J., Rev. William Fisher, Rev. Thomas Fisher, Rev. Flaherty, Msgr. Thomas S. Forker, Rev. Francis Glover, S.J., Msgr. Leo J. Goggin, Rev. James Hahn, O.P., Rev. Rene Hashey, S.J., Rev. Donald Hopkins (Society of African Mission), Rev. Peter Neary, S.J., Rev. Basil M. Pennington, O.C.S.O., Rev. Gustave A. Sigivart, S.D.B., Rev. Brian Smith, S.J., Rev. Robert J. Sweeney, and Msgr. Charles Swiger, Sister Mary Alice Barbato, Sister Patrick Theresa Brady, O.P., Sister Jude Maria Coyle, O.P., Sister Barbara Coyle, C.S.J., Sister Loretta Marie Devoy, O.P., Sister Mary Joyce Ann Edelman, Sister Theresa Forker, O.P., Sister Rose Guercio, M.M., Sister Eva Maria Gillcrist, O.P., Sister Audrey Harsen, O.P., Mother Margaret of Saint Joan Keegan, S.M.R., Sister M. Jane Gertrude Kell, O.P., **Sister Dorothy Lynch, C.I.J.**, Sister Margaret Mayce, O.P., Sister Virginia Miller, O.P., Sister Marie Celine Miranda, O.S.U., Sister Mary Lawrence O'Keefe, C.I.J., Sister Allison Marie O'Sullivan, O.P., Sister Claire Cecilia Rapp, C.S.J., Sister Joan Reis, O.C., Sister Eucaria Rogers, O.P., Sister Mary Ross, C.S.J., Sister Joan Ryan, C.S.J., Sister Maristello Staubach, O.P., Sister Mary Ethel Staubach, O.P., Sister Joseph Marian Snipas, O.P., Sister Frances Stockberger, R.C.D., Sister Karen Marie Tietjen, O.P., Sister Eugenia Travers, O.P., and Sister Mary Allison Wiley, O.P.



Our Lady of Fatima's recipe worked in the past and it is working in the present. Take a look at our own Brother Pierre Toussaint Guiteau and Meaghan Baldwin on the following Page! **Dramatic missionary growth** in vocations is relevant and simple: **pray the Rosary daily.**