



## A Message From Bishop John O. Barres

Dear Friends,

This year's CMA theme, Revitalizing Our Faith – Renewed by the Eucharist, is inspired by The National Eucharistic Revival which continues to be an important mission the Church is undertaking. Through this renewal of faith, we are restoring an understanding and fidelity to the great mystery of Jesus Christ really and truly present in the Eucharist. Jesus selflessly gives himself to us in the Eucharist as spiritual nourishment.

*“Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him.” (John 6:56)* This cherished encounter with Jesus Christ in the Most Holy Eucharist directs us and strengthens us to continue His mission of evangelizing the faith and caring for those in need.



We can accomplish this important mission here on Long Island by supporting the vital works of the Catholic Ministries Appeal. Gifts to the Catholic Ministries Appeal assist thousands of individuals on Long Island each year by supporting seminarians through their discernment and formation, evangelization programs to adults and our youth, and through Catholic Charities and parish outreach programs that provide food and shelter to seniors, veterans and people with disabilities.

Your gift to the Catholic Ministries Appeal truly brings the true presence of Jesus to more than 600,000 people each year. I personally invite you to continue on this mission by joining me in making a gift to the 2024 Catholic Ministries Appeal. We have much to look forward to because we are a people of hope.

I pray for God's blessings for you and your family

[CLICK HERE TO LISTEN TO A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP BARRES](#)

## Meet Father Steven McClernon

**Ordained in June of 2023, Fr. McClernon is the Associate Pastor of Beach Catholic (St. Mary of the Isle and St. Ignatius Martyr, Long Beach and Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, Point Lookout)**



“This year’s CMA theme, Revitalizing our Faith -- Renewed by the Eucharist, relates to my vocation as it was fostered through Eucharistic Adoration. I see the people of God revitalized and renewed in their faith when I celebrate Mass. I see how people really love receiving the Eucharist. During Covid when we were separated from receiving the Eucharist, it was a difficult time for many. Now seeing the people back to church, and receiving the Eucharist, I am

renewed in my faith and I know God’s people are revitalized by the true presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

The CMA has been greatly influential in my life. One of the ministries it supports is the Holy Hours for Vocations at the Seminary. We gather a lot of people across the island to hold Eucharistic Adoration. During my college years, this experience was a big part of my faith and my decision to become a priest. The Catholic Ministries Appeal has helped foster my vocation to the priesthood.”

[CLICK HERE FOR A VIDEO MESSAGE FROM FATHER MCCLERNON](#)

## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE



**Making the Most  
of Your  
Retirement in  
2024  
February 27, 2024  
1:00 PM**

*We wish to extend to you an invitation to our February 27th Webinar hosted by the Diocese of Rockville Centre.*

### **Topics covered:**

- **New Changes Affecting Retirement Planning for 2024**
- **Creative Estate Planning Strategies with Retirement Assets**

- **Beneficiary Designation Options**
- **Tax Saving Strategies with IRAs**

**Guest Speaker is Mark Henry, author of Finish Faithful.**  
*This is a free seminar and no solicitations will be made.*

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Learn more about how your gifts matter by going to our website: [catholicministriesappeal.org](http://catholicministriesappeal.org)



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