



THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

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

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DATE: June 6, 2020

RE: DRVC Coronavirus Update: Reopening Public Worship

FROM: Sean P. Dolan, Director of Communications

Bishop Barres and the Diocese of Rockville Centre have been in close contact with County Executives Steven Bellone and Laura Curran over the past several weeks. Both County Executives have been tremendously supportive and understanding of our deep desire to return to the celebration of public worship, for which we are grateful.

This past week, Bishop Barres informed our civil officials that the Diocese of Rockville Centre had decided to move forward with a date for reopening public worship with a percentage of our church's capacities, while observing reasonable and proper safety precautions.

On Saturday, June 6, Governor Cuomo announced that Houses of Worship in State Regions that have reached Phase 2 of his reopening plan may begin to host worship in churches at 25 percent of their capacity. Long Island will begin Phase 2 on Wednesday, June 10, 2020.

We are most grateful to Bishop Barres for taking the lead in promoting the right of the faithful to gather for public worship, and we deeply appreciate the support of our Long Island County Executives.

Directives are being distributed to all parishes throughout the Diocese along with supplies, in order to assist them in safely welcoming the faithful back to public Masses.