



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

POPE NAMES BISHOP ROBERT BRENNAN AS BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS (OHIO)

- ***Catholic Faith Network Special – “Sending Forth a Shepherd: Bishop Robert J. Brennan” to air on CFN, website, Facebook, Twitter at 10 AM EST.***
- ***Bishop-designate Brennan to celebrate Mass in St. Agnes Cathedral on 2/1/19 at 7:45 AM; Mass to air on Catholic Faith Network***
- ***Installation set for March 29, 2019***

ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NEW YORK – January 31, 2019 – The Vatican announced today that Pope



Francis has appointed an auxiliary bishop of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, Most Reverend Robert J. Brennan, as the 12th Bishop of the Diocese of Columbus (Ohio). The appointment was publicized in Washington, January 31, 2019 by Archbishop Christophe Pierre, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States. Bishop-designate Brennan will be introduced to the Diocese of Columbus at a news conference at the Diocese of Columbus Catholic Center, 197 E. Gay Street, Columbus, Ohio today at 10 AM EST.

“Bishop-designate Robert Brennan has a blend of holiness, missionary fire, humility, intelligence and pastoral experience that will serve the mission of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Columbus in an extraordinary way,” said Bishop John Barres, Bishop, Diocese of Rockville Centre. “The Church of the Diocese of Rockville Centre expresses its solidarity and prayers with Bishop Brennan and the Diocese of Columbus as we rejoice together and give thanks to the Holy Spirit and to Pope Francis for this historic appointment.”

“I am honored and humbled that the Holy Father extended this call to serve the Lord in a new way,” said Bishop-designate Brennan. “I will always love Long Island and its people. I have been blessed to minister to the people of the Diocese of Rockville Centre for 30 years and am thankful for the opportunities that has presented. But the Holy Father has asked me to serve as Bishop of Columbus and I look forward to getting to know the Diocese of Columbus and the people there.”



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The Catholic Faith Network has produced a special program – “*Sending Forth a Shepherd: Bishop Robert J. Brennan.*” This program will air on CFN, as well drvc.org and all Diocesan social media platforms beginning at 10:00 AM EST.

“My respect for him and my confidence in him is boundless, said Bishop William Murphy, Bishop Emeritus, Diocese of Rockville Centre. “Always humble, always attentive, he is a model priest and a bishop who comes to one and all ‘as one who serves’.”

Bishop-designate Brennan was born on June 7, 1962 in the Bronx, New York. The oldest of five children, Bishop Brennan was raised in Lindenhurst, New York where his parents still reside. Bishop Brennan attended Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic School, Lindenhurst and Saint John the Baptist Diocesan High School, West Islip, New York. He went on to earn a bachelor’s degree in mathematics and computer science from Saint John’s University, Queens, New York. Bishop-designate Brennan studied for the priesthood at the Seminary of the Immaculate Conception, Huntington, New York, where he holds a Master’s of Divinity degree.

He was ordained on May 27, 1989 by Bishop John McGann at Saint Agnes Cathedral, Rockville Centre, New York. His priestly assignments include associate pastor of the Church of Saint Patrick in Smithtown, New York (1989-1994); Secretary to the Bishop (1994-2002). Bishop Brennan worked in that capacity for three bishops: the late Bishop John McGann, the late Bishop James McHugh and Bishop William Murphy. On May 27, 1996, then Father Brennan was named Honorary Prelate to His Holiness Pope Saint John Paul II with the title of monsignor. In 2002, then Rev. Msgr. Brennan was named vicar general and moderator of the curia for the Diocese of Rockville Centre. In June 2010, then Msgr. Brennan was appointed pastor of the Church of Saint Mary of the Isle, Long Beach, New York. On July 25, 2012, he was ordained as auxiliary bishop for the Diocese of Rockville Centre. Bishop Brennan is bi-lingual and works closely with the Spanish community.

Bishop Brennan has served on the Board of Directors for Catholic Health Services as well as various diocesan boards and committees. He has served as chaplain for the Catholic Lawyers Guild of Nassau County. He serves on the Board for the Institute for Catholic Schools at his alma mater, St. John’s University. He served in several capacities on the Catholic Faith Network including serving as one of the co-hosts of the award-winning program *Insight*.

At the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Bishop Brennan served as a member of the Committee for Catholic Education, the Administrative Committee, and the Priorities and Plans Committee.

Each month, Bishop Brennan celebrates Mass in English and in Spanish at the Nassau County Correctional Facility and periodically celebrates Mass at the other jails located on Long Island.



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He also celebrates Mass monthly for the Dominican Sisters of Amityville who taught him in Elementary School and in High School, along with the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany.

Until Bishop-designate Brennan's installation as Bishop of Columbus on March 29, 2019, Bishop Frederick F. Campbell will continue leading the Diocese. The Diocese of Columbus was established in 1868 and comprises 11,310 square miles that include 23 counties in the state of Ohio.

Bishop to Celebrate Mass in RVC on Friday, February 1 and Sunday, February 3, 2019

Bishop-designate Brennan will return to the Diocese of Rockville Centre where he will concelebrate Mass in the Cathedral of Saint Agnes with Bishop John Barres, Bishop, Diocese of Rockville Centre and Bishop William Murphy, Bishop Emeritus, Diocese of Rockville Centre on 2/1/19 at 7:45 AM. This Mass will be televised on the Catholic Faith Network 8:30 AM and 12:30 PM.

On Sunday, 2/3/19, Bishop Brennan will celebrate the 11:00 AM Mass in the Cathedral of Saint Agnes – the World Day for Consecrated Life. This Mass will also air on the Catholic Faith Network.

The Catholic Faith Network can be seen on Optimum Channel 29/137, Verizon FiOS channel 296, Charter Spectrum channel 162/471 and on www.cfntv.org.

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