March 2020 Volume 24 No. 1





**Our New Mission Statement:** 

## A New Name but the Same Aim

Catholic Charities of Long Island shares the love of Jesus by offering dignified and compassionate care to poor and vulnerable neighbors of every faith and background. As a ministry of the Roman Catholic Church, our work is inspired by the Gospel message that every human life is sacred.

Easter is finally upon us and it seems as if even the spring sunshine carries Christ's

promise of hope and new life. That's why I chose this moment to share some really big news. Effective immediately, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Rockville Centre will now be **Catholic Charities of Long Island**!

Our Diocese was founded in 1957 and Catholic Charities was born soon after. Since then, we've been known as Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, proudly serving Nassau and Suffolk Counties. But it wasn't always clear that our ministries went beyond the Village of Rockville Centre. In fact, people would often call and ask which Catholic Charities served their town. This rebranding will now make it easier for all Long Islanders in need to find us. It also brings us closer to the communities we serve, identifying us as Long Island's very own Catholic Charities.

A reimagined logo now embeds a cross and a heart in our new name. It conveys the faith foundation upon which we stand and the love of Jesus that is at the heart of all we do—pun intended! The punctuation mark on all this is a



CEO Laura A. Cassell displays the new Catholic Charities logo.

new mission statement which can be found above.

Rest assured that as Catholic Charities of Long Island, we remain the social service arm of our Diocese, as committed as ever to serving our most vulnerable neighbors. Our motto continues to be, *Care with Dignity...Life with Hope*, which represents how and why we share God's love with those who turn to us in their struggles. Most important, your hearts will continue to sustain and inspire us to fulfill Jesus' mission right here on Long Island.

I hope that this beautiful new packaging renews your spirits and

rejuvenates your enthusiasm for our mission together. Sincerely,

und Cassel

Laura A. Cassell CEO Catholic Charities of Long Island

The nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings your glory, and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. d Isaiah 62:2

Please know that EVERY donation to Catholic Charities of Long Island STAYS with Catholic Charities of Long Island and serves the needy in our programs and services. WE DO NOT SHARE FUNDS OR DONOR INFORMATION WITH ANY OTHER AGENCY OR ENTITY.

## Responding...

**The anonymous couple** whose gift of \$250,000 will support all of our ministries. Their love will impact thousands of lives across Long Island.



A tireless board member and the honoree of our 17th Annual Golf Classic, **Bill Ayers, Senior Vice President and Private Client Advisor with Bank of America Private Bank** in Melville. Together with 115 golfers more than \$215,000 was raised at the **Meadow Brook Club** in Jericho. A big thank you to all of our sponsors & donors for their tremendous support!

**The anonymous couple** whose very generous donation of \$110,000 will assist the mothers and children of Regina Maternity Services and those recovering through our Chemical Dependence Services.

Our long-time partners in care, **Newsday Charities** for their \$30,000 grant in support of our Housing & Supportive Services Program.

The Allen E. & Patricia M. Murray Foundation for \$30,000 that will bolster of all our programs in Nassau and Suffolk counties.

Another **anonymous couple** who kindly contributed \$15,000 in general support of all our work.

Bank of America Private Bank for leading the way with a \$15,000 Corporate Sponsorship for our 17th Annual Golf Classic. Our special thanks to these friends for helping us provide Care With Dignity...Life With Hope.

The always generous **Mr. & Mrs. Edward FitzGerald** for their \$10,000 gift toward our general operating expenses.

Our friends at the **Kevin & Mariann Simms Family Fund** for contributing \$10,000 to help build better lives in our communities. A special thank you to our friends at Ocean Financial, The Catholic Credit Union for their "Count Your Blessings" fundraising campaign that benefits our programs throughout Long Island.

Special thanks to the volunteers from **Girl Scout Troop 953.** We are grateful for their gifts of song and joy at our Regina Residence Christmas Party! They made Christmas merrier for every mother and child.

## Around and About



Thanks to all the **seniors at our Wantagh Senior Center's Valentine's Day Dance** for their infectious joy! They lunched, played games and as always, cut the rug! Nothing beats a party with our beloved seniors.

Kudos to **senior case manager**, Martha Romero, who was honored as

Advocate of the Year at the Community Legal Advocates of New York 2020 Gala! Martha is widely recognized for relentlessly advocating on behalf of her clients, helping them make social, educational and healthcare connections that enrich their lives. Our Meals On Wheels Program was recently visited by a caring group of young ladies from **Deer Park High School known as "The Girls That Give Back.**" They came to our St. Anne's Housing Facility in Brentwood to serve meals and to spend the afternoon with those we serve. This collaboration started over three years ago and we are thankful for their hearts of gold.

Farewell to our very own **Laura Montefusco**, who retired after dedicating 20 years to our Senior Service Program. **Nassau County's Office for the Aging** honored her at a special ceremony in appreciation for her many years of improving the lives of Nassau seniors. Laura made a huge impact on the lives of thousands and our Catholic Charities family will miss her dearly.

Our heartfelt appreciation for **our faithful volunteer, Sister Mary!** She just turned 96 and the pep in her step and upbeat outlook always puts a smile on the faces of everyone around her.



You can donate your car, truck, motorcycle or even boat to Catholic Charities in 2020.

Call (877) 507-GIVE (4483) or visit www.catholiccharities.cc and click on "Cars to Care" on the right.

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