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Coming to Long Island this Spring:

THE DOMINICAN SISTERS OF MARY, MOTHER OF THE EUCHARIST

Order from Ann Arbor, MI will begin teaching in St. Mary's Parish
Elementary and High School beginning in the Fall 2021

Greeting St. Mary School students —
Sr. Joseph Andrew Bogdanowicz,
O.P., one of the original foundresses
of the Dominican Sisters Mary,
Mother of the Eucharist, currently
serving as Vocations Director and Sr.
Mary Magdalene Quinn, O.P., of the
Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother
of the Eucharist and soon to be
Superior of the Convent of Sisters at
St. Hyacinth parish, Glen Head who
will teach at St. Mary's Schools in the
2021-2022 school year.



INSIDE

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From left: Mrs. Theresa Kemp, acting principal, St. Mary's Elementary School, providing a tour of the school to Sr. Mary Magdalene (slightly behind) Sr. Joseph Andrew (center), Fr. John J. McCartney, secretary to the bishop and co-chancellor, Diocese of Rockville Centre. Slightly obscured in back from left: Rose Sullivan, executive director, National Conference of Diocesan Vocations Directors and mother of partially obscured priest in the back center: Fr. Christopher Sullivan, associate pastor, St. Rose of Lima Parish, Massapequa.

Teaching and Spreading Christ's Love:

THE DOMINICAN SISTERS OF MARY, MOTHER OF THE EUCHARIST

The Diocese of Rockville Centre has gained a new religious order in its boundaries. The Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist are sending four religious sisters to live and teach on Long Island. The incredible influence they will have on our communities is certain, by witnessing the tremendous nature of their conviction, intelligence and faith.

BY
THOMAS
GRIFFIN

Founded in 1997 with only four co-foundresses, this Dominican order now has over 150 sisters with an average age of 32. Over 6,000 young women have attended their vocation discernment retreats and their impact on the national and global Church has been both amazing and profound.

The order's mission is derived from the personal faith of each sister who is consecrated to Jesus through Mary and allows the presence of Christ in the Eucharist to act as the driving agent that illuminates the minds and hearts of those they teach.

"As Dominicans, our apostolate is preaching and teaching, with prayer and contemplation at the very center of all we do," according to the order. Their personal and communal encounter with God pushes them forth and provides the fuel to bring the saving message and dynamic love of Christ to everyone they meet.

Although their Motherhouse is located in Ann Arbor, Mich., the first sisters were consecrated at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City. The order has 24 missions spreading the gospel all over the United States and some sisters work as librarians at the Pontifical North American College in Rome.

From pre-k through 12th grade, as well as on college and seminary campuses, these consecrated women are preaching the faith and leading young people to the side of Christ through a powerful Marian witness and Eucharistic focus.

Bishop Barres met with Sister Joseph Andrew and Sister Mary Magdalene in March to announce the amazing news that the sisters will form a new foundation in the diocese.

"We have 29 religious orders of women, and 16 religious orders of brothers or priests. And today, I am delighted to tell you that that number is about to increase by one!" said Bishop Barres.

He also urged all Catholics, lay and religious, to see this mission as a way for the entire community to come "together, and do something beautiful for God," as Mother Teresa often exclaimed.

Four sisters will live at St. Hyacinth in Glen Head and they will teach at the schools of St. Mary's in Manhasset.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
NICK CASTELLI



Two sisters will teach in the elementary school and two will teach in the high school.

Father Robert Romeo, pastor of St. Mary's parish in Manhasset, gave high praise to both the bishop and the sisters as the parish awaits their arrival in July to aid the mission of the schools of St. Mary.

"They are a young, vibrant, and joyful community who will bring the joy for the faith and academic excellence to our schools," he said. "Their mission is very much aligned with that of St. Mary's and I look forward to a wonderful partnership."

Mother Assumpta Long, Prioress General of the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist released a statement of great expectation and possibility regarding the collaboration between the sisters and the Diocese of Rockville Centre: "We greatly look forward to working with the bishop, his priests, religious and wonderful lay people for the greater building up of the Church in this beautiful New York diocese."

Sister Mary Magdalene will serve as the superior of the foundation on Long Island and her story personifies the strength of her entire religious community. She entered the Dominican Sisters in 1999 and said that she "was drawn to a life dedicated to the love for Jesus in the Eucharist and consecration to Jesus through Mary."

The intentional spotlight the community placed on a life of prayer also made the Dominican Sisters stand out for her. She believes, "to contemplate and give to others the fruits of your contemplation" is a Dominican model and one that the sisters aim to live out in abundance.

Spending extended periods of time each day with Christ in the Eucharist allows her, and the other sisters, to bring the face of Jesus to a world that longs to see him. The beauty of their mission is the authenticity these young



1. Mr. Gerard Buckley, Principal, St. Mary's High School 2. Rev. Robert Romeo, Pastor of St. Mary's Church, Manhasset 3. Sr. Mary Magdalene Quinn, O.P., of the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, soon to be the Superior of the Convent of Sisters at St. Hyacinth's in Glen Head who will teach at St. Mary's Schools. 4. Sr. Joseph Andrew Bogdanowicz, O.P., one of the original foundresses of the Dominican Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, currently serving as Vocations Director for the community. 5. Dr. Joseph R. McCleary, President of the St. Mary's Schools

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women bring to students in the classroom.

In a world that more often than not, disqualifies religion and views God as irrelevant, these sisters stand in the gap between who our children are and the bright future we desire for them.

As the diocese awaits their arrival this summer and anticipates the great fruits of their labors in the next school year, let us heed the call of Bishop Barres to pray for the work of this great community while allowing their stunning witness to inspire us to spend more time with God so we, like the sisters, can bring his heart and message to the ends of the earth. ✝

Bishop John Barres conducting an interview of Sr. Joseph Andrew and Sr. Mary Magdalene which aired on the diocesan television station, Catholic Faith Network.

