



**Letter to the Catholic Faithful of the Diocese of Rockville Centre
From Bishop John O. Barres
Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 10, 2020**



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

In Saint John's Gospel this weekend, the Fifth Sunday of Easter, (14:1-12), the Blessed Trinity is revealed to the disciples. Jesus said: "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, then you will also know my Father."

This weekend, I want you to know that in addition to our parishes and the many vital ministries of the Diocese of Rockville Centre, the COVID-19 pandemic is greatly testing Catholic education and the Tomorrow's Hope Foundation.

I am so grateful to each and every one of our dedicated teachers working from home and teaching their students remotely. I am heartened to see the creativity of our principals, who are creating new ways to acknowledge the accomplishments of our graduating elementary and high school seniors.

Since its inception in 2005, Tomorrow's Hope Foundation has raised millions of dollars for needs-based partial tuition scholarships to thousands of deserving students. Each year, most of the scholarship funds are raised through several annual events including the annual Stars for Students Gala. Yet, the Gala that would usually take place this month, will instead become a virtual fundraising event. You will hear more details in the near future.

This year, due to the financial and economic effects of the pandemic, Tomorrow's Hope anticipates a large increase in the number of families who will apply for tuition scholarships. Therefore, if your means allow, please consider making a donation to Tomorrow's Hope Foundation. Your gift will help fund a vitally important Catholic elementary school education for a student with financial need. Visit www.tomorrowshopefoundation.org and click on the "Donate Now" button to make a secure online donation or call Tomorrow's Hope Foundation at (516) 745-7639.

Please know that you and your family are remembered in my daily prayers and Masses.

Sincerely in Christ,

Most Reverend John O. Barres
Bishop of Rockville Centre