



# DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

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## OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

### STATEMENT

**DATE:** February 20, 2018  
**RE:** Appointment Statement  
**FROM:** Bishop Robert J. Coyle

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Today I humbly accept the appointment to serve the people of God on Long Island as an auxiliary bishop in the Diocese of Rockville Centre.

I was originally ordained a priest here in 1991. I served in St. Dominic's Oyster Bay, St. Patrick, Glen Cove and Corpus Christi in Mineola. Over my 26 years as a priest, I have also served ten years as a Navy Chaplain and almost five years as an auxiliary bishop with the Archdiocese of the Military Services.

I thank God for all of these experiences. I especially thank the religious, priests, teachers and parishes that formed me over my lifetime. I am very grateful to the Holy Father, Pope Francis for appointing me to serve the Church on Long Island. I look forward to assisting Bishop John Barres, Bishop of Rockville Centre, in our pursuit of *Dramatic Missionary Growth* on Long Island.

Years back there was a spirit campaign with the expression, "I'm a Long Islander and proud of it!" I again can say that here as a native son.

I especially ask for the prayers of my fellow Long Islanders.

God bless you!

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