20-12345-mg Doc 2590 Filed 10/19/23 Entered 10/19/23 10:51:22 Main Document Pg 1 of 10 $JONES\ DAY$

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October 19, 2023

BY CM / ECF

The Honorable Martin Glenn United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of New York One Bowling Green New York, NY 10004-1408

Re: In re The Roman Catholic Diocese of Rockville Centre, New York, Case No. 20-12345

Dear Chief Judge Glenn:

In advance of this Court's October 31, 2023 deadline to reach a consensual resolution, the Diocese writes to update the Court on the status of this case. With great disappointment, we report that the parties have failed to reach agreement. We thank the co-mediators, Judge Sarah Cave and Mr. Paul Van Osselaer, for their efforts in this regard.

It has long been the position of the Diocese that dismissal of this case is not in the interest of the Diocese, the parishes, faithful parishioners and all those on Long Island that are impacted by the charitable and religious missions of the debtor. The Diocese also strongly believes that dismissal of this case will be even worse for claimants. So that claimants may make an informed choice on that issue, the Diocese wishes to make clear, in plain terms, what it proposes for resolution of this case:

Term of Proposed Chapter 11 Plan

- The Diocese, parishes, and affiliated parties will pay \$200 million in cash to creditors, broken down as follows:
 - \$150 million paid on the effective date of a chapter 11 plan;
 - \$25 million on the first anniversary of the effective date;
 - \$12.5 million on the second anniversary of the effective date; and
 - \$12.5 million on the third anniversary of the effective date.
- Of the total \$200 million consideration, over \$150 million will be paid from non-debtor released parties through cash or loans to the Diocese.

JONES DAY

October 19, 2023 Page 2

- The non-debtor released parties are limited to the following entities:
 - Parishes;
 - Diocese of Rockville Centre Department of Education (including the two Diocesan high schools);
 - Catholic Charities of Long Island;
 - Catholic Youth Organization;
 - Catholic Cemeteries (and the related permanent maintenance trust);
 - The Seminary of the Immaculate Conception; and
 - Ecclesia Assurance Company, the Diocese's wholly-owned captive insurance company.
- The Debtor and the non-debtor released parties will also contribute their substantial third-party insurance assets to a settlement trust for the benefit of creditors.
- Upon consummation of the plan, the Diocese would immediately pay each claimant with a lawsuit against a non-debtor contributor a minimum consideration of \$100,000, and each claimant without such a lawsuit a minimum consideration of \$50,000.
- The balance of the distribution would be paid to a settlement trust and allocated to creditors based on trust distribution protocols similar to those set forth in the plan proposed by the official committee.

In terms of what this proposed plan means, there are approximately 500 non-duplicative proofs of claim currently on the claims register in this case. As such, claimants, on average, will recover \$400,000, in addition to all of the third-party insurance assets, which the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors values at hundreds of millions, if not billions, of dollars. While the Diocese believes that the Committee's views on insurance are exuberant, this cash offer, coupled with the significant insurance assets, reflects a substantially higher recovery for claimants than any other Diocesan bankruptcy case in history, and a fair resolution of the claims. The minimum consideration component will also put money into the hands of claimants immediately.

To those that say the Diocese and non-debtor released parties should do more, the financial information and monthly reporting filed in this case speaks for itself. The Diocese, and those contributing to this offer, have cut deep and to the bone and have reached the limit of what they can do. With these figures, the Diocese will have sold or encumbered all of its material assets, and the contributing entities will have dug as deep as possible and cut as much as they can in an effort to resolve this case. Parish churches cannot close their doors to parishioners. Schools cannot turn their students away. Cemeteries cannot allow the graves of those entrusted to them to fall into

JONES DAY

October 19, 2023 Page 3

disrepair. Food pantries and immigration services cannot cease operations. The offer outlined above is the best, good faith reach at what can be done.

Attached to this letter is a term sheet that sets forth the terms described above in greater detail.

This offer may not be enough to satisfy the demands of the Committee or those representing particular claimants. But if this fails to bring about a resolution, the Diocese will move forward knowing that in good faith, it made its best and final offer to claimants in mediation.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Corinne Ball

Corinne Ball

cc: All counsel (via electronic filing)

THIS TERM SHEET IS NOT AND SHALL NOT BE CONSTRUED AS A SOLICITATION OF ACCEPTANCES OF A CHAPTER 11 PLAN OR ANY OTHER RESTRUCTURING PLAN WITHIN THE MEANING OF SECTION 1125 OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE OR ANY OTHER LAW. ANY SUCH OFFER OR SOLICITATION WILL COMPLY WITH ALL APPLICABLE LAWS AND/OR PROVISIONS OF THE BANKRUPTCY CODE AND OTHER APPLICABLE LAW. EXCEPT AS EXPRESSLY PROVIDED HEREIN, NOTHING CONTAINED IN THIS TERM SHEET SHALL BE, OR BE CONSTRUED AS, AN ADMISSION OF FACT OR LIABILITY OR DEEMED BINDING ON ANY PARTIES.

IN RE THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NEW YORK PLAN TERM SHEET

Plan Contributions

- The Diocese, the Parishes, and Affiliated Entities listed on Exhibit A shall contribute \$200 million (the "Cash Contribution") for the benefit of all creditors in this chapter 11 case, including, for the avoidance of doubt, any Future Claimants (as defined in the Order Appointing a Legal Representative for Future Claimants [Docket No. 799]), and which amount includes ten percent of all fees paid to Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP in this chapter 11 case.
- The Cash Contribution shall be paid in accordance with the following milestones:
 - \$150 million contributed by January 31, 2023 (the "Effective Date");
 - \$25 million contributed within one year of the Effective Date;
 - \$12.5 million contributed within two years of the Effective Date; and
 - \$12.5 million contributed within three years of the Effective Date.

• Other assets contributed:

- Diocese, Parish, and Affiliated Entities' insurance rights, including any reimbursement rights,
- Proceeds of any loan secured by the claims of the Diocese, Parishes, and Affiliated Entities against the Property/Casualty Security Fund held by the New York Liquidation Bureau (the "<u>Property/Casualty Security Fund</u>"), and
- Recoveries from the Property/Casualty Security Fund, including, without limitation, reimbursement rights after repayment of the above described loan.

Sexual Abuse Claim Treatment

• \$50,000 shall be paid to each claimant that filed a non-duplicative sexual abuse proof of claim that has not been disallowed with prejudice, expunged, or withdrawn (each such claimant, a "Sexual Abuse Claimant") (such payment, the "Minimum POC Consideration").

- \$50,000 shall be paid for each plaintiff in a non-duplicative state court action that has not had its corresponding proof of claim disallowed under the fourth, tenth, or eleventh omnibus claims objections (each, a "State Court Action") pending against the Diocese, Parishes, or Affiliated Entities (the "Minimum Releasee Consideration").
- Claimants with claims alleging abuse within Arrowood-insured periods, including claims that straddle coverage years on a pro rata basis, may elect to pursue additional recoveries from the Arrowood Claimant Settlement Trust (the "Additional Arrowood Claimant Trust Recoveries").
- Claimants with claims alleging abuse that does not fall within Arrowood-insured periods may elect to pursue additional recoveries from the General Settlement Trust (the "Additional General Trust Recoveries").

Arrowood Claimant Settlement Trust

The Arrowood Claimant Settlement Trust shall include the following:

- All rights against Arrowood, including rights against the Property/Casualty Security Fund, for indemnity, expenses and reimbursements.
- The proceeds of any loan secured by the insurance rights of the Diocese, Parishes, and Affiliated Entities against Arrowood and the Property/Casualty Security Fund.
- Rights to reimbursement for the aggregate amount paid on account of the Minimum POC Consideration to claimants with claims alleging abuse within the Arrowoodinsured periods.
- Rights to reimbursement for the aggregate amount paid on account of the Minimum Releasee Contribution to Claimants allocated to Arrowood-insured periods.
- Approximately 50% of Excess Cash Contribution (as defined below), which corresponds to the proportionate share of Claimants allocated to Arrowood-insured periods.
 - The "Excess Cash Contribution" shall be the amount of Cash Contribution remaining after deducting the aggregate of (i) the Ecclesia insurance limits of \$15 million, (ii) the total Minimum POC Consideration, (iii) the total Minimum Releasee Consideration, (iv) amounts necessary for the payment of non-sexual abuse general unsecured claims, and (v) amounts necessary for the payment of administrative and priority expenses.

General Settlement Trust

The General Settlement Trust shall include the following:

- The Ecclesia insurance limits of \$15 million.
- All rights against third party insurers other than Ecclesia and Arrowood, including indemnity, expenses and reimbursements.

- Rights to reimbursement, if any, for the aggregate amount paid on account of the Minimum POC Consideration to claimants allocated to the insurance period in which Lloyd's, London and certain London Market Insurance Companies (collectively, "LMI") is the primary insurer.
- Rights to reimbursement, if any, for the aggregate amount paid on account of the Minimum Releasee Consideration paid to plaintiffs allocated to the insurance period in which LMI is the primary insurer.
- Approximately 50% of the Excess Cash Contribution, which corresponds to the proportionate share of Claimants allocated to the insurance period in which LMI is the primary insurer.

Conditions

- The releasees shall include the parties listed on Exhibit A.
- The Arrowood Claimant Settlement Trust distribution procedures and the General Settlement Trust distribution procedures shall not impose any expense or burden on the Diocese, the Parishes, or the Affiliated Parties without their consent, and no further contribution shall be required from the Diocese or the Releasees in any settlement with a third party insurer which requires the release of parties other than the Releasees.

EXHIBIT A

DIOCESE, PARISHES, AND AFFILIATED ENTITIES

DIOCESE

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Rockville Centre, New York

PARISHES

- 1. St. Christopher, Baldwin
- 2. Our Holy Redeemer, Freeport
- 3. St. Joseph, Garden City
- 4. Our Lady of Loretto, Hempstead
- 5. St. Ladislaus R.C. Church, Hempstead
- 6. St. Agnes, Rockville Centre
- 7. Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, Roosevelt
- 8. St. Martha, Uniondale
- 9. St. Thomas the Apostle, West Hempstead
- 10. St. Aloysius, Great Neck
- 11. St. Mary, Manhasset
- 12. Our Lady of Fatima, Manorhaven
- 13. Corpus Christi, Mineola
- 14. Holy Spirit, New Hyde Park
- 15. Notre Dame, New Hyde Park
- 16. St. Pater of Alcantara, Port Washington
- 17. St. Aidan, Williston Park
- 18. St. Gertrude, Bayville
- 19. St. Patrick, Glen Cove
- 20. St. Rocco, Glen Cove
- 21. St. Hyacinth, Glen Head
- 22. St. Paul the Apostle, Brookville
- 23. St. Dominic, Oyster Bay
- 24. St. Mary, Roslyn
- 25. St. Boniface Martyr, Sea Cliff
- 26. St. Edward the Confessor, Syosset
- 27. Holy Name of Jesus, Woodbury
- 28. St. Boniface, Elmont
- 29. St. Vincent de Paul, Elmont
- 30. Our Lady of Victory, Floral Park
- 31. St. Hedwig, Floral Park
- 32. St. Catherine of Sienna, Franklin Square

- 33. St. Anne, Garden City
- 34. Our Lady of Peace, Lynbrook
- 35. Our Lady of Lourdes, Malverne
- 36. Blessed Sacrament, Valley Stream
- 37. Holy Name of Mary, Valley Stream
- 38. St. Joachim, Cedarhurst
- 39. St. Raymond, East Rockaway
- 40. St. Joseph, Hewlett
- 41. Our Lady of Good Counsel, Inwood
- 42. Sacred Heart, Island Park
- 43. St. Ignatius Martyr, Long Beach
- 44. St. Mary of the Isle, Long Beach
- 45. St. Anthony, Oceanside
- 46. Our Lady Miraculous Medal, Point Lookout
- 47. St. Barnabas the Apostle, Bellmore
- 48. St. Rose of Lima, Massapequa
- 49. Our Lady of Lourdes, Massapequa Park
- 50. Cure' of Ars, Merrick
- 51. Sacred Heart, North Merrick
- 52. Maria Regina, Seaford
- 53. St. William the Abbot, Seaford
- 54. St. Frances de Chantal, Wantagh
- 55. St. Martin of Tours, Bethpage
- 56. Our Lady of Hope, Carle Place
- 57. St. Raphael, East Meadow
- 58. St. Kilian, Farmingdale
- 59. Holy Family, Hicksville
- 60. Our Lady of Mercy, Hicksville
- 61. St. Ignatius Loyola, Hicksville
- 62. St. Bernard, Levittown
- 63. St. Pius X, Plainview
- 64. St. James, Seaford
- 65. St. Brigid, Westbury
- 66. Our Lady of Queen of Martyr, Centerport
- 67. Christ the King, Commack
- 68. St. Matthew, Dix Hills
- 69. St. Anthony of Padua, East Northport
- 70. St. Francis of Assisi, Greenlawn
- 71. St. Patrick, Huntington
- 72. St. Hugh of Lincoln, Huntington Station

- 73. St. Joseph, Kings Park
- 74. St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Melville
- 75. St. Philip Neri, Northport
- 76. St. Martin of Tours, Amityville
- 77. St. Joseph, Babylon
- 78. Our Lady of the Assumption, Copiague
- 79. SS. Cyril & Methodius, Deer Park
- 80. Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Lindenhurst
- 81. Our Lady of Grace, West Babylon
- 82. Our Lady of Lourdes, West Islip
- 83. Our Lady of Miraculous Medal, Wyandanch
- 84. St. Patrick, Bay Shore
- 85. St. John Nepomucene, Bohemia
- 86. St. Anne, Brentwood
- 87. St. Luke, Brentwood
- 88. St. John of God, Central Islip
- 89. St. Mary, East Islip
- 90. St. Peter the Apostle, Islip Terrace
- 91. St. Lawrence the Martyr, Sayville
- 92. Assumption of the BVM, Centereach
- 93. St. Thomas More, Hauppauge
- 94. Holy Cross, Nesconset
- 95. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, L. Ronkonkoma
- 96. St. Joseph, Ronkonkoma
- 97. SS. Philip & James, St. James
- 98. St. James, Setauket
- 99. St. Patrick, Smithtown
- 100. St. Frances Cabrini, Coram
- 101. Infant Jesus, Port Jefferson
- 102. St. Gerard Majella, Port Jefferson Station
- 103. St. Anthony of Padua, Rocky Point
- 104. St. Margaret of Scotland, Selden
- 105. St. Mark, Shoreham
- 106. St. Louis de Montfort, Sound Beach
- 107. St. John the Baptist, Wading River
- 108. Mary Immaculate, Bellport
- 109. Our Lady of the Snow, Blue Point
- 110. St. John the Evangelist, Center Moriches
- 111. St. Joseph the Worker, East Patchogue
- 112. Resurrection, Farmingville
- 113. Good Shepherd, Holbrook
- 114. St. Jude, Mastic Beach
- 115. St. Sylvester, Medford
- 116. Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Patchogue
- 117. St. Francis de Sales, Patchogue
- 118. Queen Most Holy Rosary, Bridgehampton

- 119. Our Lady of Ostrabrama, Cutchogue
- 120. Sacred Heart, Cutchogue
- 121. Most Holy Trinity, East Hampton
- 122. St. Agnes, Greenport
- 123. St. Rosalie, Hampton Bays
- 124. SS. Peter & Paul, Manorville
- 125. St. Therese of Lisieux, Montauk
- 126. St. John the Evangelist, Riverhead
- 127. St. Isidore, Riverhead
- 128. St. Andrew, Sag Harbor
- 129. Our Lady of the Isle, Shelter Island Heights
- 130. Our Lady of Poland, Southampton
- 131. Sacred Hearts of Jesus & Mary, Southampton
- 132. St. Patrick, Southold
- 133. Immaculate Conception, Westhampton Beach
- 134. Our Lady of the Magnificent Catholic Church
- 135. Our Lady Star of the Sea
- 136. Church of the Most Precious Blood

AFFILIATED ENTITIES

- 1. Catholic Charities of Long Island
- 2. Catholic Youth Organization
- 3. Department of Education, Diocese of Rockville Centre
- 4. Holy Trinity Diocesan High School
- 5. St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School
- 6. The Seminary of the Immaculate Conception of the Diocese of Rockville Centre
- 7. Catholic Cemeteries of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Rockville Centre, Inc.
- 8. Diocese of Rockville Centre Catholic Cemetery Permanent Maintenance Trust
- 9. Ecclesia Assurance Company