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**April 25, 2020**

# **THE TABLE FOUNDATION HOSTS THE OLIVE MASS ON MONDAY APRIL 20 TO SUPPORT THE HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY**

## ***Virtual Live Celebration to Encourage, Inspire and Bless All Food, Beverage and Hospitality Professionals***

The Table Foundation, a nonprofit organization that works to harvest the power of food and bring people together around a common table, hosted The Olive Mass to support the hospitality industry on Monday, April 20th. The free event included a Mass led by Father Leo Patalinghug, followed by a live discussion with Master Chef Rich Rosendale, Food Network Personality James Briscione, Brian Berger of JBH Advisory Group and Chef Jonathan Hicklin.

The Olive Mass is a unique celebration, open to all in the hospitality industry, to unite in a spirit of goodwill to celebrate their passion. The event is an opportunity for communities around the nation to invite food, beverage and hospitality professionals, and the community members they serve, to a prayerful gathering celebrating food and blessing those who prepare and serve it.

The virtual Olive Mass brought together hospitality professionals from around the United States to provide encouragement, inspiration and hope while many are facing adversity. It also allowed TTF to donate over \$2,000 to charities working directly with hospitality workers affected by the pandemic.

Originally, the April 20th Mass was set to be celebrated in New York City with His Eminence, Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of New York. "While it is unfortunate that our original plan had to be postponed this year, this virtual Olive Mass allowed us to reach more hospitality workers who are facing many challenges right now," said Patalinghug. "It was important for us to continue The Olive Mass' mission of celebrating food and its power of building community."

Father Leo Patalinghug is a renowned chef, cookbook author and international speaker. He is also the creator of "Plating Grace," a movement centered around strengthening relationships through the power of food. The creation of The Table Foundation was inspired by Father Leo's vision and is a 501 (c)(3) charitable organization aiming to broaden the outreach of feeding people's bodies, minds, and souls.

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