



THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF PARMA

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Prot. No. 76/2025 P

Decree

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Amen.

I received a letter dated June 19, 2025, in which Fr. Mykhailo Solianyk, Administrator of St. Nicholas, Clinton Township, MI and St. Basil, Sterling Heights, MI, explains the current pastoral situation:

The parishes of St. Nicholas, Clinton Township, MI and St. Basil, Sterling Heights, MI are in close proximity and the members of one often live in the territory of the other;

They have a common history with St. Basil being formed from the parishioner of St. Nicholas;

The two parishes currently see between fifty and sixty attendees at Sunday Liturgies, which poses a challenge to their individual financial stability;

Fr. Mykhailo explains that beginning in the Fall of 2024, he initiated meetings at each parish as well as joint meetings, where sincere discussions took place about their past, current situation, and future opportunities;

The parishes had a day of prayer and reflection together.

The parishes understand that their vocation is more than survival or the maintenance of their properties but is for evangelization;

The parish and finance councils of each parish have been consulted.

Fr. Mykhailo Solianyk requests that the parishes of St. Nicholas, Clinton Township, MI and St. Basil, Sterling Heights, MI be merged, with St. Nicholas of Myra as their patron, and the church to be located at 4700 Metropolitan Parkway, Sterling Heights, MI, 48310,

Having presented all pertinent and necessary information to the Eparchial Presbyteral Council of the Eparchy of Parma in August, having heard the same council in accord with canon *CCEO* canon 280, §2, and having heard from the Eparchial Pastoral Council in accord with article 155.3 of the *Statutes of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma*, with careful consideration of the pastoral needs of the people of the two parishes, the mission of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma, and convinced of the just and serious reasons for merging the aforementioned parishes,

I hereby decree the merger of St. Nicholas, Clinton Township, MI and St. Basil, Sterling Heights, MI, under the patronage of Nicholas of Myra as its patron and decree the parish church to be located at 4700 Metropolitan Parkway, Sterling Heights, MI, 48310.

I further decree that:

The canonical registers of the parishes St. Nicholas, Clinton Township, MI and St. Basil, Sterling Heights, MI, are to be kept at the parish, the Parish of St. Nicholas in Sterling Heights, MI.

The territories of St. Nicholas, Clinton Township, MI and St. Basil, Sterling Heights, MI, become the territory of the Parish of St. Nicholas in Sterling Heights, MI.

The temporal goods and obligations of St. Nicholas, Clinton Township, MI and St. Basil, Sterling Heights, MI, become the temporal goods and obligations of the Parish of St. Nicholas in Sterling Heights, MI.

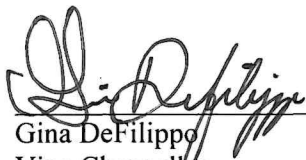
This decree is to be notified to the Clergy and to the Faithful of the new parish. The means of publication is the posting of this decree on the eparchial website. Posting on the eparchial website is to be considered official publication of the decree.

A petition for revocation or emendation of this decree is subject to the applicable canons (canons 996-1004, CCEO).

This decree shall be effective on October 26, 2025. Given at the Chancery of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma for the Ruthenians, Independence, Ohio, on this 26th day of September 2025.



Most Reverend Robert M. Pipta
Bishop of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma for the Ruthenians



Gina DeFilippo
Vice-Chancellor

