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## DECREE

Having received the recommendation of the Episcopal Vicar for Kent, and having consulted with the Council of Priests for the Diocese of London on March 12, 2019, in accordance with canon 515, §2, I, Ronald P. Fabbro, C.S.B., Bishop of London, do hereby decree the restoration of St. Paul Parish in the village of Thamesville in the county of Kent in the province of Ontario (hereinafter referred to as *St. Paul Parish*) as a distinct parish effective July 1, 2019. I further decree that the said St. Paul Parish, in accordance with canon 518, be given territorial boundaries, to be drawn from the territorial boundaries of North American Martyrs Parish in the county of Kent in the province of Ontario (hereinafter referred to as *North American Martyrs Parish*).

The reasons for this action are:

- St. Paul Parish was canonically established in May 1920. In May 2007 the parishes of St. Michael in the town of Dresden in the county of Kent in the province of Ontario (hereinafter referred to as *St. Michael Parish*) and St. Ignatius in the village of Bothwell in the county of Kent in the province of Ontario (hereinafter referred to as *St. Ignatius Parish*) were canonically suppressed and amalgamated into St. Paul Parish. This new canonical entity was given the title of North American Martyrs Parish on January 31, 2008. However, while a new title of North American Martyrs Parish was given to the newly-amalgamated parish, St. Paul Parish was not canonically suppressed and became the nucleus of the newly-merged parishes in this portion of the county of Kent.
- The Deanery of Kent, in response to the diocesan initiative to group individual, canonically-established parishes together under the designation of “Families of Parishes”, recommended the elimination of the designation of North American Martyrs Parish and the “restoration” of St. Paul Parish as a distinct parish, encompassing its former territorial boundaries and those of St. Ignatius Parish, in order that it might be a full and equal partner in the “Family of Parishes” composed of St. Mary Parish in Blenheim and St. Michael Parish in Ridgetown.

- In determining the number and composition of the "Families of Parishes" in the Diocese of London, this recommendation was accepted by me as Bishop of London. Hence the cause of the present canonical action.

I direct that this decree be published in St. Paul Church in the village of Thamesville in the county of Kent in the province of Ontario and by a suitable means throughout the Diocese of London, with the understanding that any who wish to make recourse against it, in accordance with canon 1734, §1-2, must do so in writing within ten (10) canonical days from the time this decree was lawfully notified.

Given at London in the province of Ontario this seventh day of June in the year two thousand and nineteen.

  
Bishop of London



  
Chancellor of the Diocese of London