

DAVID ALLEN ZUBIK



By the Grace of God and the Authority of the Apostolic See  
BISHOP OF PITTSBURGH

## DECREE

### THE EXTINGTIVE UNION OF PRINCE OF PEACE PARISH AND SAINT MARY OF THE MOUNT PARISH INTO MARY, QUEEN OF PEACE PARISH

Whereas, Prince of Peace Parish was established in 1992 as part of the diocesan reorganization and revitalization program. It was formed by the merger of the seven parishes in the South Side: Saint Adalbert, Saint Josaphat, Saint Matthew, Saint Peter, Saint Michael, Saint Casimir, and Saint John the Evangelist.

Whereas, Saint Mary of the Mount was established in 1873 as a mission of Saint Malachy Parish. Before the parish was founded, Catholics living on Mount Washington had to travel to Saint Malachy Parish to attend Mass. The church remained a mission until October 1877 when a resident pastor was assigned to the parish.

Whereas, information regarding the future of the parishes has been consistently communicated to the parishioners in the weekly, combined parish bulletin, on the parish website, and at announcements during weekend Masses.

Whereas, because in-person assemblies could not be held due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a virtual parish assembly was posted on the parish website on September 1, 2020, to provide information to the people of the parishes and to receive parishioner input regarding the possible merger of the parishes.

Whereas on October 9, 2020, two (2) petitions were presented to the diocesan bishop, each signed by the one priest who serves as Administrator of Prince of Peace Parish and Saint Mary of the Mount Parish, along with the signatures of the respective Parish Pastoral and Finance Councils requesting that Prince of Peace Parish and Saint Mary of the Mount Parish be merged into Mary, Queen of Peace Parish forming an extinctive union.

Whereas merging these parishes will provide more vibrant and effective ministries to the faithful and, because of the fewer number of priests in the diocese and faithful in the territory, forming one parish will facilitate a stronger community of the faithful for liturgical worship, ministry, and outreach.

Whereas, merging these parishes will better facilitate the ability of the assigned clergy to work together, building upon one another's individual talents, in order to better serve the People of God entrusted to their pastoral care.

Whereas, merging these parishes will provide greater and more accessible resources for parochial administration and the employment of effective staff members.

Whereas, the need for evangelization is pressing in the territories concerned and merging these parishes will make resources available for the effective proclamation of the Gospel so as to enliven the Faith, bring the people closer to the Lord, and win souls for Christ.

Therefore, having received the petition of the two (2) parishes and having heard the Presbyteral Council on October 19, 2020 and the Vicars General on the same day, and with no harm coming to the good of souls and indeed for the spiritual benefit of the faithful, and all of the requirements of canons 50, 51, 127, 166, and 515 having been fulfilled, we do hereby decree the following:

1. By means of an extinctive union Prince of Peace Parish and Saint Mary of the Mount Parish are merged and subsumed into the newly formed Mary, Queen of Peace Parish, which is erected by this decree according to the prescriptions of canon 515§ 2 of the *Code of Canon Law*.
2. In accordance with the norms of law (cf. canon 121), all assets, responsibilities and liabilities of Prince of Peace Parish and Saint Mary of the Mount Parish are transferred into the newly erected Mary, Queen of Peace Parish. The intention of donors is to be respected.
3. Furthermore, the voluntary offerings of the faithful and all other grants that have been made and will be made to Mary, Queen of Peace Parish constitute its revenue.

4. All sacramental records from Prince of Peace Parish and Saint Mary of the Mount Parish will be housed at the Archives and Records Center of the Diocese of Pittsburgh.
5. All churches are to remain open to the faithful for at least occasional sacred worship, whether public or private (cf. can. 1214). If a church is not used for regular public worship, the holy Mass is to be celebrated there at least every year on the solemnity of the anniversary of the church's dedication and on the solemnity of the church's title, in accord with current liturgical norms (cf. can. 1167 §2 and 1168 of the former Code of Canon Law, and can. 2 of the present Code). If such an observance is impeded by another date of higher rank according to the Roman calendar, the impeded solemnity is to be transferred to the first available date thereafter.
6. All present members of Prince of Peace Parish and Saint Mary of the Mount Parish are entitled to be parishioners of Mary, Queen of Peace Parish according to the universal law and legitimate custom within the Diocese of Pittsburgh.
7. The boundaries of Mary, Queen of Peace Parish shall be as follows:

Beginning at the point of beginning at the intersection of Minotte Square/Shaler Street and the southern lanes of Saw Mill Run Boulevard (PA Route 51/US Route 19), proceed northeast along the centerline of Shaler Street to its endpoint at Grandview Avenue; proceed northeast via airline route to the CSX Railroad Tracks; proceed southeast along the CSX Railroad tracks to the Fort Pitt Bridge (Interstate 376); proceed northeast along the centerline of the Fort Pitt Bridge (Interstate 376) to the middle of the Monongahela River; proceed east and south along the middle of the Monongahela River to the northernmost point of Baldwin Borough; proceed southwest via airline route to the endpoint of Susquehanna Street; proceed southwest via airline route to the intersection of Penn Street and Orchard Drive; proceed northwest via airline route to the intersection of Wagner Street and Becks Run Road; proceed northeast via airline route to the intersection of Parkwood Road and Bajo Street; proceed west along the centerline of Parkwood Road (between the address of 920 and 923 there is no vehicular traffic) which becomes Penn Avenue at Otilia Street; proceed west along the centerline of Penn Avenue to the intersection with Hays Avenue; proceed north along the centerline of Hays Avenue to the intersection with Brownsville Road; proceed south along the centerline of Brownsville Road to the intersection with Bausman Street; proceed west along the centerline of Bausman Street to the intersection with the southern lanes of Saw Mill Run Boulevard (PA Route 51/US Route 19); proceed northwest along the centerline of the southern lanes of Saw Mill Run Boulevard (PA Route 51/US Route 19) to the point of beginning.

This decree becomes effective at 12:01 AM on January 4, 2021, anything to the contrary notwithstanding.

Finally, those who have the right may appeal this decree in accordance with the prescriptions of the law.

Given at Pittsburgh, PA, this 19<sup>th</sup> day of November, in the Year of Our Lord 2020.



Most Reverend David A. Zubik  
Bishop of Pittsburgh

  
Ellen M. Mady  
Chancellor

