



DECREE OF EXTINGTIVE UNION
FOR
ST. PATRICK PARISH IN SEATTLE

To Our Brothers and Sisters of the Archdiocese of Seattle:

Whereas, St. Patrick Parish in Seattle was established in 1918 to provide for the needs of the Catholic faithful in the area; and

Whereas, the South Seattle Deanery initiated a planning process in 2015 to ensure that parish structures are oriented toward mission and “capable of transforming everything, so that the Church’s customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channeled for the evangelization of today’s world rather than for her self-preservation.” (*Evangelii gaudium*, 27); and

Whereas, the results of a review concerning the condition of the parish, the vitality of its ministries, the efficacy of its outreach and evangelization efforts, and the pastoral needs of its people demonstrated that:

- a general downward trend exists in the reception of the sacraments;
- the community is decreasing in membership, both in registered households and total number of active parishioners;
- few registered and active parishioners live within the geographical boundaries of St. Patrick Parish;
- the parish has been without a resident pastor for some time, with participation in the pastoral care entrusted to a deacon, and previously a lay person, according to c. 517 §2;
- there are nearby parish churches in Seattle in close proximity to St. Patrick parish church;
- the nearby parish of St. Joseph has the capacity to offer pastoral care to the people of St. Patrick Parish, including ministry to the Deaf & Deaf/Blind Community.

Therefore, having considered the necessary information and proofs; having heard, in accordance with canon 50, all those whose rights might be injured, in particular through several meetings with parish leadership, including a personal meeting with me on April 25, 2022, and a listening session with parishioners on May 10, 2021; having heard the Presbyteral Council, in accordance with canon 515 §2, on

March 10, 2022; and with due consideration for the good of souls; I, the undersigned Archbishop of Seattle do hereby decree the following:

1. By means of an extinctive union, St. Patrick Parish in Seattle shall be subsumed into St. Joseph Parish in Seattle so that only St. Joseph Parish remains, in accordance with canon 121.
2. St. Joseph Parish obtains the goods and patrimonial rights proper to the extinct St. Patrick Parish and assumes its obligations. With regard to the allocation of goods in particular and to the fulfillment of obligations, the intention of the founders and donors as well as acquired rights must be respected in accordance with the norm of law. (cc. 121, 1267 §3)
3. All sacramental registers of the extinct St. Patrick Parish are to be properly preserved and safeguarded by St. Joseph Parish in accordance with the norm of law.
4. Henceforth, the boundaries of St. Joseph Parish shall be as follows:
 - **North:** Beginning in the center of the Ship Canal Bridge (on Interstate 5) as it crosses Portage Bay.
 - thence south along the shore of Portage Bay (including the houseboats on the western shore of the Bay)
 - thence east along the shoreline of Portage Bay, through the Montlake Cut to the western border of East Montlake Park.
 - **East:** South on the western border of E Montlake Park and under Hwy 520 to Lake Washington Blvd E. where it intersects 24th Ave E,
 - thence east along Lake Washington Blvd E to the western border of the Lake Washington Arboretum,
 - thence south along the western border of Washington Park Arboretum to the point where its southern border meets E Madison St.
 - **South:** Southeast on E Madison St. to E Denny Way at 22nd Ave,
 - thence west on E Denny Way to 15th Ave E,
 - thence north on 15th Ave E to E Mercer St,
 - thence west on E Mercer St to 10th Ave E,
 - thence north on 10th Ave E to E Roy St,
 - thence west on E Roy St to Fairview Ave N.
 - **West:** Thence north on Fairview Ave N to Lake Union,
 - thence north on the eastern shoreline of Lake Union (including the boats, docks and houseboats) to the point of beginning at the Ship Canal Bridge.
5. This decree becomes effective on September 1, 2022.

6. A separate decree for St. Joseph Parish has also been issued this day to provide a summary of facts particular to that parish's condition.
7. This decree is to be communicated to the pastoral leader of St. Patrick Parish, who will notify the parishioners as soon as possible upon receipt. It may be challenged within the peremptory time limit of ten useful days from the legitimate notification of the decree and in accordance with the norm of law (c. 1734 §2). Any initial recourse is to be sent to the Archbishop of Seattle at 710 9th Avenue Seattle, Washington, 98104.

All things to the contrary notwithstanding.

Given at the chancery
of the Archdiocese of Seattle
this 8th day of July
in the year of our Lord 2022.



Most Reverend Paul D. Etienne, DD, STL
Archbishop of Seattle



Benjamin Altenhofen
Chancellor

