

CROOKSTON
Beatification and Canonization
of the Servant of God ANNELLA ZERVAS
Professed Religious
of the Order of Saint Benedict

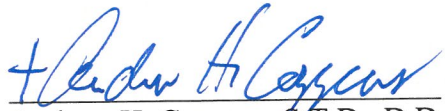
DECLARATION ON LACK OF FRAUD OR DECEIT

In the name of the “Sister Annella Zervas Guild,” Petitioner of the Cause of Beatification and Canonization of the Servant of God Annella Zervas, Professed Religious of the Order of Saint Benedict, who died on August 14, 1926, within the territory of this Diocese of Crookston, Miss Amanda Zurface, J.C.L., legitimately nominated as Diocesan Postulator of the Cause, presented to me, on November 1, 2024, the Written Petition (*Libellus*) requesting the initiation of the Cause of Beatification and Canonization of the Servant of God Annella Zervas.

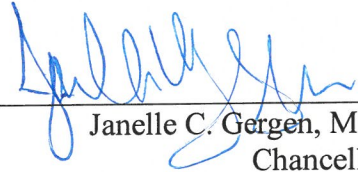
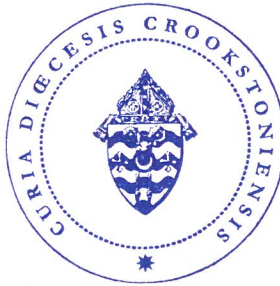
In that Petition, Miss Zurface presented the following reasons for the delay of more than thirty years for its presentation, namely: “...because the Servant of God was born and died in the Diocese of Crookston made religious profession in the Diocese of Saint Cloud, and was assigned to a parish in the Diocese of Bismarck, there has been deference within the dioceses as to who could take up the banner of the cause; there have been efforts since her death to take up the cause, none of which persevered.”

In compliance with n. 9b of the *Norms to be Observed in Inquiries to be Made by Bishops in the Causes of the Saints*, published on 7th February 1983 by the Congregation for the Causes of the Saints, I hereby declare that there is no evidence of any fraud or deceit on the part of the Petitioner of the Cause in delaying the presentation of said Written Petition.

Given at Crookston, on this 20th day of December in the year of our Lord 2024.



Andrew H. Cozzens, S.T.D., D.D.
Bishop of Crookston



Janelle C. Gergen, M.S.
Chancellor