



THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF PARMA

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

Prot. No. 22/2021 L

DECREE

In the Name of the Lord.

Amen.

Glory to Jesus Christ!

After prayerful discernment and thorough study of the pastoral, liturgical, and financial status of the parishes of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma for the Ruthenians in the Cleveland metropolitan area and after seeking the consultation of the pastor and Christian faithful of the parishes of Dormition of the Mother of God (aka Saint Mary), 4600 State Road, Cleveland, Ohio, Holy Spirit Parish, 5500 West 54th Street, Parma, Ohio, and the Cathedral Parish of Saint John the Baptist, 1900 Carlton Road, Parma, Ohio; and

Having presented all pertinent and necessary information to the Eparchial Presbyteral Council of the Eparchy of Parma on 26 February 2021, and having heard the same council in accord with canon 280, §2 (*CCEO*), with careful consideration given to the spiritual needs of the people of the involved three parishes, the mission of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma, and convinced of the just and serious reasons for merging the afore-mentioned parishes; and

Having referred the matter of the transfer of the title of the cathedral church to the parish church of the Dormition of the Mother of God (aka St. Mary Parish), Cleveland, Ohio, to the Congregation for Eastern Churches,

I hereby decree the merger of the Dormition of the Mother of God (aka St. Mary Parish), Cleveland, Ohio, Holy Spirit Parish, Parma, Ohio, and the Cathedral Parish of Saint John the Baptist, Parma, Ohio to form one new parish to be known as the Parish of the Dormition of the Mother of God, 4600 State Road, Cleveland, Ohio. The just and serious reasons that motivate this action include above all the voice of the faithful in expressing the need to have in the Cleveland/Parma area a single faith community capable of effectively sustaining itself, evangelizing, providing beautiful liturgical celebrations of the mysteries of our Byzantine Catholic faith, as well as more effective sharing in the resources of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma for the Ruthenians.

I further decree that:

The worship site and seat of the parish shall be the Dormition of the Mother of God, Cleveland, Ohio. The canonical registers of the parishes of the Dormition of the Mother of God, Cleveland, Ohio, Holy Spirit, Parma, Ohio, and the Cathedral Parish of Saint John the Baptist, Parma, Ohio are to be maintained at the parish church of the Dormition of the Mother of God, Cleveland, Ohio.



The territories of Dormition of the Mother of God Parish (aka St. Mary Parish), Cleveland, Ohio, Holy Spirit Parish, Parma, Ohio, and the Cathedral Parish of Saint John the Baptist, Parma, Ohio become the territory of the Dormition of the Mother of God Parish, Cleveland, Ohio.

The temporal goods and obligations of the Dormition of the Mother of God Parish (aka St. Mary Parish), Cleveland, Ohio, and Holy Spirit Parish, Parma, Ohio, become the temporal goods and obligations of the Dormition of the Mother of God Parish, Cleveland, Ohio. The temporal goods as well as the obligations of the Cathedral Parish of St. John the Baptist are to be divided in a just and equitable manner between the Dormition of the Mother of God Parish and the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma for the Ruthenians.

This decree is to be published to the Clergy and to the Faithful of the Eparchy of Parma for the Ruthenians. The means of publication is posting on the eparchial web site and publication in the eparchial publication *Horizons*. Posting on the eparchial web site is to be considered official publication of this decree.

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

This decree shall be effective on 22 March 2021. Given at the Chancery of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma for the Ruthenians, Independence, Ohio, on this 5th day of March, 2021.

Most Reverend Milan Lach, S.J.
Bishop of the Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Parma for the Ruthenians

Reverend Gary D. Yanus, J.C.D.
Chancellor

Reverend Richard Bona, J.C.D.
Notary

