

DAVID ALLEN ZUBIK



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

DECREE

THE EXTINCTIVE UNION OF
HOLY ROSARY PARISH,
OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL PARISH, AND
SAINT PATRICK PARISH
INTO
SAINT OSCAR ROMERO PARISH

Whereas, Holy Rosary began as a mission of Saint Mary, Cecil in 1923 before being established as a parish in its own right in 1963.

Whereas, Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal began in 1943 as a mission of the Missionary Confraternity of Christian Doctrine before being established as an independent parish on June 18, 1953.

Whereas, Saint Patrick Parish was established on May 30, 1993 as part of the diocese's reorganization and revitalization project by the merger of Saint Patrick and Saint Genevieve parishes.

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, parish assemblies were held on March 4, 5, and 7, 2020, to provide information to the people of the parishes and to receive parishioner input regarding the possible merger of the parishes.

Whereas on April 27, 2020, three (3) petitions were presented to the diocesan bishop, each signed by the one priest who serves as Administrator of Holy Rosary Parish, Our Lady of the

Miraculous Medal Parish, and Saint Patrick Parish, along with the signatures of the respective Parish Pastoral and Finance Councils requesting that Holy Rosary Parish, Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Parish, and Saint Patrick Parish be merged into Saint Oscar Romero 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.

Therefore, having received the petition of the three (3) parishes and having heard the Presbyteral Council on May 7, 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 Holy Rosary Parish, Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Parish, and Saint Patrick Parish are merged and subsumed into the newly formed Saint Oscar Romero 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 Holy Rosary Parish, Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Parish, and Saint Patrick Parish are transferred into the newly erected Saint Oscar Romero 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 the Parish of Saint Oscar Romero constitute its revenue.
4. All sacramental records from Holy Rosary Parish, Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Parish, and Saint Patrick 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 Holy Rosary Parish, Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Parish, and Saint Patrick Parish are entitled to be parishioners of Saint Oscar Romero Parish according to the universal law and legitimate custom within the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

7. The boundaries of Saint Oscar Romero Parish shall be as follows:

BEGINNING at the point of beginning at the intersection of Washington Avenue and Main Street/Millers Run Road (PA Route 50), proceed northeast along the centerline of PA Route 50 to the Montour Trail; proceed east and south along the Montour Trail to the intersection with Morganza Road; proceed south along the centerline of Morganza Road to the intersection with Georgetown Road; proceed east along the centerline of Georgetown Road to the intersection with Hahn Drive; proceed east and south along the centerline of Hahn Drive to the intersection with Maple Lane; proceed east along the centerline of Maple Lane to the intersection with the Cecil Township-Peters Township border; proceed south and east along the Peters Township border to the intersection with the North Strabane Township-Nottingham Township border; proceed south along the North Strabane Township-Nottingham Township border to the intersection with Linden Road; proceed west along the centerline of Linden Road to the intersection with Wilson Road; proceed south along the centerline of Wilson Road to the intersection with PA Route 519; proceed northwest along the centerline of PA Route 519 to the intersection with US Route 19; proceed southwest along the centerline of US Route 19 to the intersection of the northern lane of Interstate 70/79; proceed west along the centerline of the northern lane of Interstate 70/79 to the intersection with Locust Avenue; proceed northwest via airline route to the intersection of North Main Street and Old Hickory Ridge Road; proceed north along the centerline of Old Hickory Ridge Road to the intersection with Ullom Road; proceed east along the centerline of Ullom Road to the intersection with Washington Avenue; proceed northwest along the centerline of Washington Avenue to the intersection with PA Route 50, the point of beginning.

This decree becomes effective at 12:01 AM on July 1, 2020, 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, Pennsylvania, this 22nd day of May, in the Year of Our Lord 2020.



+ David A. Zubik
Most Reverend David A. Zubik
Bishop of Pittsburgh

Ellen Mady
Ellen Mady
Chancellor