

DAVID ALLEN ZUBIK



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

**THE EXTINCTIVE UNION OF  
SACRED HEART PARISH AND SAINT RAPHAEL PARISH  
INTO  
SAINT JUDE PARISH**

Whereas, the origin of Sacred Heart Parish can be traced to the arrival of Irish immigrants to the East End in the years before the parish founding. Originally the area had been settled primarily by Germans, who established the German parish of Saints Peter and Paul. Since the sermons and prayers were conducted in German, the newcomers, with the concurrence of the pastor of Saints Peter and Paul, decided in 1871 to organize a new parish. The bishop agreed to the formation of the parish and in 1872 assigned a resident pastor for the new parish.

Whereas, the origin of Saint Raphael Parish can be traced to a petition sent to the bishop on September 30, 1909, requesting that a parish be established in Morningside. Until Saint Raphael was founded, local Catholics had to travel to either Lawrenceville or Shadyside to attend Mass. Saint Raphael Parish was established on July 15, 1911.

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 8, 2020, two (2) petitions were presented to the diocesan bishop, each signed by the one priest who serves as Administrator of Sacred Heart Parish and Saint Raphael Parish, along with the signatures of the respective Parish Pastoral and Finance Councils requesting that Sacred Heart Parish and Saint Raphael Parish be merged into Saint Jude 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 Sacred Heart Parish and Saint Raphael Parish are merged and subsumed into the newly formed Saint Jude 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 Sacred Heart Parish and Saint Raphael Parish are transferred into the newly erected Saint Jude 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 Saint Jude Parish constitute its revenue.

4. All sacramental records from Sacred Heart Parish and Saint Raphael 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 Sacred Heart Parish and Saint Raphael Parish are entitled to be parishioners of Saint Jude Parish according to the universal law and legitimate custom within the Diocese of Pittsburgh.
7. The boundaries of Saint Jude Parish shall be as follows:

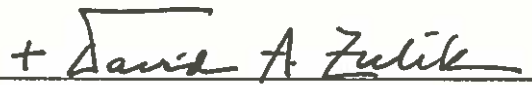
BEGINNING at the point of the beginning at the intersection of Fifth Avenue and Shady Avenue, proceed northeast along the centerline of Fifth Avenue to the point of intersection with Hamilton Avenue; proceed west along the centerline of Hamilton Avenue to the point of intersection with Torrens Street; proceed northeast along the centerline of Torrens Street to the point of intersection with Frankstown Avenue; proceed east along the centerline of Frankstown Avenue to the point of intersection with Finley Street; proceed north along the centerline of Finley Street to the point of intersection with Shetland Street; proceed south along the centerline of Shetland Street to the point of intersection with Washington Boulevard (PA Route 8); proceed north along the centerline of Washington Boulevard (PA Route 8) to the point of intersection with Allegheny River Boulevard; proceed northwest along the centerline of Washington Boulevard (PA Route 8) to the point of intersection with the Highland Park Bridge; proceed north along the centerline of the Highland Park Bridge to the middle of the Allegheny River; proceed west along the middle of the Allegheny River to a point directly opposite the endpoint of 51st Street; proceed via airline route to the endpoint of 51st Street; proceed along the centerline of 51st Street to the intersection with Butler Street and Stanton Avenue; proceed southeast along the centerline of Stanton Avenue to the intersection with McCandless Avenue; proceed southeast via airline route to the intersection with Mossfield Avenue and Schenley Avenue; proceed southeast along the centerline of Mossfield Avenue to the intersection with North Aiken Avenue and Black Street; proceed east along the centerline of Black Street to the intersection with North Negley Avenue; proceed south along the centerline of North Negley Avenue to the intersection with Penn Avenue; proceed west along the centerline of Penn Avenue to the intersection with South Fairmount Avenue; proceed south along the centerline of South Fairmount Avenue to the intersection with Harriet

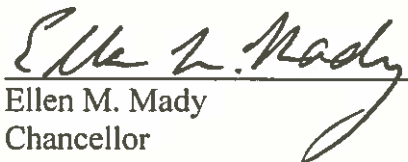
Street; proceed west along the centerline of Harriet Street to the intersection with South Aiken Avenue; proceed south along the centerline of South Aiken Avenue to the intersection with Claybourne Street; proceed east along the centerline of Claybourne Street to the intersection with South Graham Street; proceed north along the centerline of South Graham Street to the intersection with Claybourne Street; proceed east along the centerline of Claybourne Street to the endpoint; proceed southeast via airline route to the endpoint of Ivy Street; proceed south along the centerline of Ivy Street to the intersection with Ellsworth Avenue; proceed west along the centerline of Ellsworth Avenue to the intersection with Ivy Street; proceed south along the centerline of Ivy Street to the intersection with Fifth Avenue; proceed east along the centerline of Fifth Avenue to the intersection with Shady Avenue, 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

