

DAVID ALLEN ZUBIK



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

THE EXTINCTIVE UNION OF
ALL SAINTS PARISH, HOLY SPIRIT PARISH, SAINT ALOYSIUS
PARISH, AND SAINT BONAVENTURE PARISH
INTO
SAINT MATTHEW PARISH

Whereas, All Saints Parish was founded in 1902 to serve the Catholic community of Etna. The first pastor was appointed in April of 1902.

Whereas, Holy Spirit Parish was established in 1994 as part of the diocesan reorganization and revitalization program. The parish was formed by the merger of Saint Ann and Saint Anthony parishes in Millvale.

Whereas, before the founding of Saint Aloysius Parish, local Catholics had to travel to Most Holy Name of Jesus Parish on Troy Hill to attend Mass, or, for the children, to attend school. Because of the difficulties in traveling to Troy Hill, particularly in winter, local Catholics decided that they needed a church of their own. At first it was a mission of Most Holy Name of Jesus Parish but it became a parish in its own right with the assignment of a resident pastor in June of 1893.

Whereas, Saint Bonaventure Parish was established on June 5, 1957, in response to the growth of the Catholic population of the North Hills.

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 September 14, 2020, four (4) petitions were presented to the diocesan bishop, each signed by the one priest who serves as Administrator of All Saints Parish, Holy Spirit Parish, Saint Aloysius Parish, and Saint Bonaventure Parish, along with the signatures of the respective Parish Pastoral and Finance Councils requesting that All Saints Parish, Holy Spirit Parish, Saint Aloysius Parish, and Saint Bonaventure Parish be merged into Saint Matthew 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 four (4) 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 All Saints Parish, Holy Spirit Parish, Saint Aloysius Parish, and Saint Bonaventure Parish are merged and subsumed into the newly formed Saint Matthew 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 All Saints Parish, Holy Spirit Parish, Saint Aloysius Parish, and Saint Bonaventure Parish are transferred into the

newly erected Saint Matthew 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 Matthew Parish constitute its revenue.
4. All sacramental records from All Saints Parish, Holy Spirit Parish, Saint Aloysius Parish, and Saint Bonaventure 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 All Saints Parish, Holy Spirit Parish, Saint Aloysius Parish, and Saint Bonaventure Parish are entitled to be parishioners of Saint Matthew Parish according to the universal law and legitimate custom within the Diocese of Pittsburgh.
7. The boundaries of Saint Matthew Parish shall be as follows:

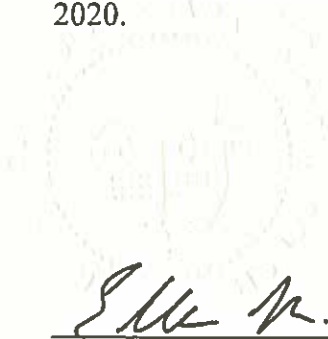
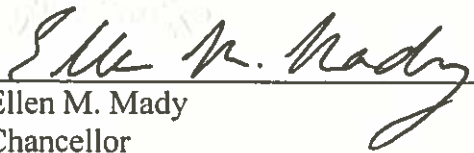
Beginning at the point of beginning at the intersection of the Shaler Township-Ross Township border, proceed south along the Shaler Township-Ross Township border to the intersection with Sutter Road; proceed west along the centerline of Sutter Road to the intersection with Thompson Run Road; proceed south along the centerline of Thompson Run Road to the intersection with White Oak Drive; proceed southeast via airline route to the intersection of Autumnwood Drive and Hodil Road; proceed southeast via airline route to the northern endpoint of President Drive; proceed south via airline route to the endpoint of Garden Lane; proceed south via airline route to the Shaler Township border; proceed south along the Shaler Township border to the intersection with Wetzel Road; proceed west along the centerline of Wetzel Road to the intersection with Wible Run Road; proceed southwest via airline route to the intersection of Anderson Road and Hahn Road; proceed southwest along the centerline of Hahn Road to the intersection with Babcock Boulevard; proceed south along the centerline of Babcock Boulevard to the intersection with Peoples Road; proceed southwest along the centerline of Peoples Road until it becomes Evergreen Road; proceed south along the centerline of Evergreen Road to the intersection with

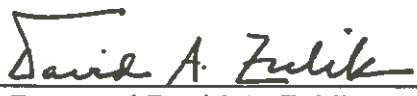
Ivory Avenue; proceed southeast via airline route to the intersection of the City of Pittsburgh border-Reserve Township border and Faber Street; proceed east along the centerline of Faber Street to the intersection with Faber Terrace; proceed east via airline route to Spring Garden Avenue; proceed south along the centerline of Spring Garden Avenue to the intersection with Williams Road; proceed east via airline route to intersection of Fornof Lane and Houston Street; proceed on an airline route south and east to the City of Pittsburgh-Millvale Borough border; proceed south along the City of Pittsburgh border to the Allegheny River; proceed east along the middle of the Allegheny River to the southeast corner of Etna Borough; proceed north along the Etna Borough border to the intersection with Kitanning Street; proceed north and east along the centerline of Kitanning Street to the Shaler Township-O'Hara Township border; proceed north along the Shaler Township – O'Hara Township border to the intersection with Saxonburg Boulevard; proceed west via airline route to the endpoint of Old Farm Court; proceed northeast via airline route to the intersection of Ridgeview Circle and Middle Road; proceed north along the centerline of Middle Road to the intersection with Spruce Drive; proceed west via airline route to the intersection of Maple Street and Elm Street; proceed west along the centerline of Elm Street to the intersection with Willow Street; proceed north along the centerline of Willow Street to the intersection with Fall Run Road; proceed west along the centerline of Fall Run Road to the intersection with William Flinn Highway (PA Route 8); proceed north along the centerline of William Flinn Highway (PA Route 8) to the intersection with Elfinwild Road; proceed northwest along the centerline of Elfinwild Road to the intersection with Mount Royal Boulevard; proceed north along the centerline of Mount Royal Boulevard to the intersection with the northern boundary of Shaler Township; proceed west along the centerline of the Shaler Township border to the intersection with the Ross Township border, 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 19th day of November, in the Year of Our Lord 2020.



Ellen M. Mady
Chancellor

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Most Reverend David A. Zubik
Bishop of Pittsburgh