



DIocese OF YOUNGSTOWN

David J. Bonnar

By the Grace of God and the Apostolic See

BISHOP OF YOUNGSTOWN

DECREE

Whereas the parish is "pre-eminent among all the other communities present in his Diocese, for which the Bishop has primary responsibility: it is with the parishes above all that he must be concerned" (St John Paul II, post-synodal apostolic exhortation *Pastores gregis*, October 16, 2003, n. 45) and whereas the parish "remains the fundamental unit in the daily life of the Diocese" (ibid.);

Whereas the Bishop should proceed, after consulting the diocesan presbyteral council, to alter territorial boundaries, to divide parishes that are too large, to merge small parishes, to establish new parishes or non-territorial centers for pastoral service in the community, or even to reorganize completely the arrangement of parishes within a particular city if the good of the faithful so requires, and whereas the Bishop may wish to set up a diocesan office or commission that can operate in collaboration with other relevant diocesan commissions in order to study all the issues pertaining to the establishment of parishes and the construction of churches (cf. Congregation for Bishops, Directory for the Pastoral Ministry of Bishops *Apostolorum Successores*, February 22, 2004, n. 214);

Whereas, by decree of May 31, 2012, SS. Cyril and Methodius (Slovak) Parish, Saint Matthias (Slovak) Parish and Holy Name of Jesus (Slovak) Parish were merged by canonical decree into Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Youngstown. The merged parish was established as a personal parish in ministry to the faithful of Slovak descent.

Whereas we did not designate one of the churches as the parish church with said decree of May 31, 2012;

Whereas, after many consultations with the parish community and the diocesan administration, Reverend John Jerek, Pastor of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, has requested to designate the church of Saint Matthias as the parish church of this parish;

Therefore, I, the undersigned Bishop of Youngstown, Ohio, after prayerful consideration, have decided as follows:

DECREE

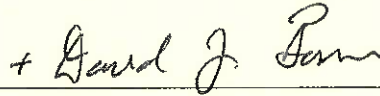
The church of Saint Matthias, 915 Cornell Street, Youngstown, Ohio is herewith designated as the parish church of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, Youngstown, Ohio.

All of the original registers containig records of Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage and Christian Burial hitherto preserved by all four parishes are now to be faithfully preserved at the office at 915 Cornell Street, Youngstown, Ohio 44502

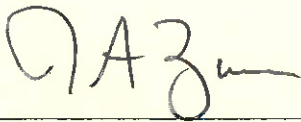
This decree is effective the February 3, 2022.

All those who claim to have been aggrieved by this decree are herewith notified that, if they desire to file recourse against our decree, they are required, *ad validitatem*, to submit a petition in the sense of canon 1734 §1 to us within ten useful days from the legitimate notification of this decree.

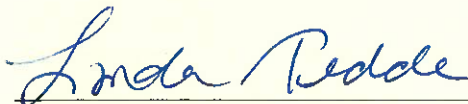
Given at Youngstown, Ohio, this 3rd. day of February, 2022.



Most Reverend David J. Bonnar
Bishop of Youngstown



Rev. Msgr. John Zuraw
Chancellor



Linda Tedde
Notary