



DIocese OF YOUNGSTOWN

David J. Bonnar

By the Grace of God and the Apostolic See

BISHOP OF YOUNGSTOWN

DECREE

For one hundred and fifty five years the Catholic Faithful of Saint Barbara Parish in the Diocese of Youngstown have been served by Saint Barbara Parish, 2813 Lincoln Way, Massillon, Ohio. During that time countless people have heard the Word of God, have worshipped and received the sacraments of the Church in the parish community. Likewise, for one hundred and fifty nine years, the Catholic Faithful of Saint Joseph Parish in the Diocese of Youngstown have been served by Saint Joseph Parish, 322 Third Street, S.E., Massillon, Ohio. Likewise, for one hundred and eighty three years the Catholic Faithful of Saint Mary Parish in the Diocese of Youngstown have been served by Saint Mary Parish, 206 Cherry Road, N.E., Massillon, Ohio. In an effort to reorganize the People of God in this portion of God's Kingdom, it is now necessary to make new provisions for the spiritual care of the parishioners of Saint Barbara Parish, Saint Joseph Parish and Saint Mary Parish.

Accordingly, having carefully reviewed the pastoral statistics and studied facts compiled by the Diocese of Youngstown, after consultation with representatives of the three parish communities, having heard the Presbyteral Council on November 8, 2022 and acting in accord with canon 515, paragraph 2, of the Code of Canon Law; I hereby alter and merge Saint Barbara Parish, Saint Joseph Parish and Saint Mary Parish. This merger shall be effective on January 1, 2023. Now for the good of the People of God, I hereby name the newly merged parish Divine Mercy, effective January 1, 2023

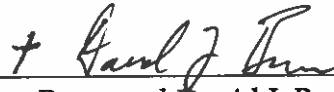
All parishioners of the three parishes are now members of the newly merged parish, whose name is Divine Mercy Parish. The already established territories of Saint Barbara Parish, Saint Joseph Parish and Saint Mary Parish shall be merged and fully included in the newly established parish. However, the three church buildings will retain the names of Saint Barbara, Saint Joseph and Saint Mary given at the time of dedication, in accord with canon 1218.

All of the original registers containing records of Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage and Christian Burial hitherto preserved by the three parishes are now to be faithfully preserved in the newly merged parish office at 2813 Lincoln Way, West, Massillon, Ohio.

All properties and assets of the parishes are now part of the amalgamation into the new merged juridic person of the new parish called Divine Mercy Parish. All assets and debts shall be now shared by the newly merged parish. By way of a particular document approved by the Chief Financial Officer of the Diocese of Youngstown, the management of all assets and debts that now concern the newly merged parish will be properly detailed, attentive to the principal of equity and for the common good of all concerned.

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

Given at Youngstown, Ohio, this 18th. day of November 2022.



Most Reverend David J. Bonnar
Bishop of Youngstown



Joan Lawson
Chancellor



Linda Tedde
Notary