



DIocese OF YOUNGSTOWN

David J. Bonnar

By the Grace of God and the Apostolic See

BISHOP OF YOUNGSTOWN

DECREE

For one hundred and fifty six years the Catholic Faithful of Saint Peter of the Fields Parish in the Diocese of Youngstown have been served by Saint Peter of the Fields Parish, 3487 Old Forge Road, Rootstown, 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 ninety - three years, the Catholic Faithful of Saint Joseph Parish in the Diocese of Youngstown have been served by Saint Joseph Parish, 2643 Waterloo Road, Mogadore, 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 Peter of the Fields Parish and Saint Joseph Parish.

Accordingly, having carefully reviewed the pastoral statistics and studied facts compiled by the Diocese of Youngstown, after consultation with representatives of the two parish communities, having heard the Presbyteral Council on March 4, 2024 and acting in accord with canon 515, paragraph 2, of the Code of Canon Law; I hereby alter and merge Saint Peter of the Fields Parish and Saint Joseph Parish. This merger shall be effective on July 1, 2024. Now for the good of the People of God, I hereby name the newly merged parish Saint John Neumann Parish, effective July 1, 2024.

All parishioners of the two parishes are now members of the newly merged parish, whose name is Saint John Neumann Parish. The already established territories of Saint Peter of the Fields Parish and Saint Joseph Parish shall be merged and fully included in the newly established parish. However, the two church buildings will retain the names of Saint Peter of the Fields and Saint Joseph 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 two parishes are now to be faithfully preserved in the newly merged parish office at 2643 Waterloo Road, Mogadore, 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 Saint John Neumann 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 26th day of March 2024.



+ David J. Bonnar

Most Reverend David J. Bonnar
Bishop of Youngstown

Jean Lawson

Jean Lawson
Chancellor

Linda Tedde

Linda Tedde
Notary