

## David J. Bonnar By the Grace of God and the Apostolic See BISHOP OF YOUNGSTOWN

## DECREE

For one hundred and ninety-one years the Catholic Faithful of Sacred Heart of Mary Parish in the Diocese of Youngstown have been served at 8277 Nickel Plate Avenue, N.E., Louisville, 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 eighty-six years, the Catholic Faithful of Saint Louis Parish, in the Diocese of Youngstown have been served at 300 North Chapel Street, Louisville, 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 Sacred Heart of Mary Parish and Saint Louis 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 and acting in accord with canon 515, paragraph 2, of the Code of Canon Law; I hereby alter and merge Sacred Heart of Mary Parish and Saint Louis Parish. This merger shall be effective on January 1, 2025. Now for the good of the People of God, I hereby name the newly merged parish Saint Isidore Parish, effective January 1, 2025.

All parishioners of the two parishes are now members of the newly merged parish, whose name is Saint Isidore Parish. The already established territories of Sacred Heart of Mary Parish and Saint Louis Parish shall be merged and fully included in the newly established parish. However, the two church buildings will retain the names of Sacred Heart of Mary Church and Saint Louis Church 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 8277 Nickel Plate Avenue, N.E., Louisville, 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 Isidore 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 September 2024.

Most Reverend David J. Bonnar

Bishop of Youngstown

Joan Lawson Chancellor

Linda Tedde

Notary