



DECREE

In nomine Domini. Amen

A parish is a definite community of the Christian faithful established on a stable basis within a particular church. The bishop of the diocese has the responsibility of erecting parishes as the needs of the faithful require. It is also the responsibility of the bishop to alter the configuration of parishes as conditions change and circumstances warrant.

In studying the needs of the entire Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, it was apparent that consideration needed to be given to the configuration of pastoral care in certain locales. The Church of Saint Thomas of Derrynane, established in 1867, is without a resident pastor. The parish serves an aging population with very few younger members. For these reasons, it was deemed appropriate to consider a merger of this parish with the Church of Saint Wenceslaus of New Prague. However, when presented with this alternative, the parishioners indicated a clear preference for merging with the Church of Saint Anne of LeSueur.

After learning of this preference, and after consulting with those who have been charged with the pastoral care of these parishes, I have decided to accept this alternative to the original decision of the Strategic Plan. The opinions of those concerned have been heard. The matter was presented to the Presbyteral Council for discussion on November 9, 2010, and the results of the consultation were positive.

Accordingly, I now proceed with the canonical merger of the Church of Saint Thomas of Derrynane with the Church of Saint Anne of LeSueur. By means of this document, I declare this merger accomplished. I herewith assign to the Church of Saint Anne of LeSueur the territory formerly assigned to the parish of Saint Thomas, described as

- To the North- the northern boundary line of sections 5, 6 (Derrynane), 1, 2 (Tyrone) following the Scott, LeSueur County Line, to
- To the West- the western boundary of sections 2, 11, 14, 23, 26, 35 (Tyrone) to
- To the South- the southern boundary of sections 35, 36 (Tyrone), to the western boundary of section 6 (Lexington), to the southern boundary of sections 6, 5 (Lexington) to
- To the East- the eastern boundary of sections 5 (Lexington), 32, 29 (Derrynane), to the southern boundary of sections 21, 22 (Derrynane) to the eastern boundary of sections 22, 15 (Derrynane), to the northern boundary of sections 15, 16 (Derrynane), to the eastern boundary of sections 8, 5 (Derrynane), to the point of beginning, the Scott/LeSueur

County Line.

The territory of the Church of Saint Anne of LeSueur is thereby described as:

- To the North- the northern boundary line of sections 5, 6 (Derrynane), 1, 2 (Tyrone) following the Scott, LeSueur County Line, to the western boundary of sections 2, 11, and 14, (Tyrone), going west along the north/south midpoint of sections 15,16,17, and 18 (Tyrone), to the LeSueur/Sibley County Line.
- To the West- south along the LeSueur/Sibley County Line to the southern boundary of section 33 (Ottawa)
- To the South- east along the southern boundary of section 33, 34, 35, 36 (Ottawa), 31 and 32 (Sharon), then north along the east boundary of section 32, 29, 20, 17, 8, and 5(Sharon), then east along the southern boundary of section 33 , 34, 35 and 36 (Tyrone), then south along the western boundary of section 6 (Lexington), east along the southern boundary of sections 6, 5 (Lexington) to
- To the East- the eastern boundary of sections 5 (Lexington), 32, 29 (Derrynane), to the southern boundary of sections 21, 22 (Derrynane) to the eastern boundary of sections 22, 15 (Derrynane), to the northern boundary of sections 15, 16 (Derrynane), to the eastern boundary of sections 8, 5 (Derrynane), to the point of beginning, the Scott/LeSueur County Line.

The GIS data set relating to this physical description, which is the legal definition of the territory of the parish, is on file at the Chancery.

Parishioners of the Church of Saint Anne of LeSueur *de iure* shall be all Catholics living within these parish boundaries.

All rights and obligations attached to the Church of Saint Thomas of Derrynane shall be assumed by the Church of Saint Anne of LeSueur. All assets and liabilities attached to the Church of Saint Thomas of Derrynane shall transfer to the Church of Saint Anne of LeSueur.

The Church of Saint Anne will continue to utilize both worship sites until such a time as the merged community, having fulfilled the canonical requirements, determines that one of the church buildings should be relegated to secular use and put up for sale. In accord with canon law, the proceeds from the sale of any parish property formerly belonging to the Church of Saint Thomas of Derrynane will become the property of the Church of Saint Anne of LeSueur.

Having done all things required by the norms of law, I hereby declare the Church of Saint Thomas of Derrynane and the Church of Saint Anne of LeSueur, in the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, formally merged.

The canonical merger of the Church of Saint Joseph (Lexington), the Church of Saint Benedict of Saint Benedict, Saint Scholastica Church of Heidelberg, and the Church of Saint John the Evangelist of Union Hill with the Church of Saint Wenceslaus of New Prague will proceed. By means of this document, I declare this merger accomplished. I herewith assign to the Church of Saint Wenceslaus of New Prague the territory formerly assigned to the parish of Saint Joseph, described as

- To the North- the northern boundary line of sections 25, 26, 27, and 28 (Derrynane Township), running west from the eastern boundary of section 25 to the western boundary of section 28 (231st Avenue), then south on 231st Avenue to the intersection with Highway 26, then west on 26 to 251st Avenue (113);
- To the West- south on 251st Avenue to Highway 24;
- To the South- east on Highway 24 till it becomes 376th Street, then east to 201st Avenue;
- To the East- north on 201st to 360th Street, then east on 360th to 191st Avenue, then north on the line of 191st to the northern boundary of section 25 (Derrynane Township), the point of beginning.

Saint Benedict, described as,

- To the North- the northern boundary line of sections 10, 9, 8, 7 (Helena), 12 (Belle Plaine), then west on that line to
- To the West- the western boundary of sections 12, 15, 24 (Belle Plaine), then south on that line to
- To the South- the southern boundary of sections 24 (Belle Plaine), 19, 20, 21, 22 (Helena), then east on that line to
- To the East- the eastern boundary line of sections 22, 15, 10 (Helena), then north on that line back to the northern boundary of section 10.

Saint Scholastica, described as,

- To the North- The northern boundary line of sections 16, 17, 18 (Lanesburgh), 13, 14 (Derrynane), to
- To the West- the western boundary of sections 14, 23 (Derrynane), to
- To the South- the southern boundary of sections 23, 24 (Derrynane), to the western boundary of section 30 (Lanesburgh), south on that line to the north-south center line of sections 31, 32, 33 (Lanesburgh), to
- To the East- the eastern boundary line of sections 33, 28, 21, 16 (Lanesburgh),

then north on that line to the northern boundary of section 16.

and Saint John the Evangelist, described as,

- To the North- 280th Street W (Highway 19), from the intersection with Highway 30 going west to 211th Avenue;
- To the West- south on 211th Avenue to 300th Street;
- To the South- 300th Street going east to 181st Avenue (Highway 30);
- To the East- 181st Avenue/Highway 30 going north to 280th Street W (Highway 19), the point of beginning.

The territory of the Church of Saint Wenceslaus of New Prague is thereby described as:

- To the North- the northern boundary line of sections 10, 9, 8, 7 (Helena), 12 (Belle Plaine), then west on that line to the western boundary of sections 12, 15, 24 (Belle Plaine), then south on that line to the southern boundary of sections 24 (Belle Plaine), 19, 20, (Helena), then south along the western boundary of section 28 and 33 (Helena) to Highway 19, then west on 19 to the western boundary of section 4 (Derrynane);
- To the West- south along the western boundary of section 4 and 9 (Derrynane), then east along the southern boundary of section 9 and 10 to Hwy 121, then south on Hwy 121 to Hwy 28, then west on 28 to 231st Ave, then south on 231st to Hwy 26, then west on 26 to 251st Avenue, then south on 251st Avenue to Hwy 24
- To the South- east on Highway 24 till it becomes 376th Street, then east to 201st Avenue;
- To the East- north on 201st to 360th Street, then east on 360th to 191st Avenue, north on 191st to 334th Street, east on 334th to Highway 13/21, north on 13/21 to 320th Street, east on 320th to the eastern boundary of section 19 (Wheatland), then north on that line to the Scott/Rice County Line (Highway 19), west on Highway 19/13 to Red Wing Avenue, then north on Red Wing to 260th Street W, then west on 260th to the eastern boundary line of sections 22, 15, 10 (Helena), then north on that line back to the northern boundary of section 10.

The GIS data set relating to this physical description, which is the legal definition of the territory of the parish, is on file at the Chancery.

Parishioners of the Church of Saint Wenceslaus of New Prague *de iure* shall be all Catholics living within these parish boundaries.

All rights and obligations attached to the Church of Saint Joseph (Lexington), the Church of Saint Benedict of Saint Benedict, Saint Scholastica Church of Heidelberg, and the Church of Saint John the Evangelist of Union Hill, shall be assumed by the Church of Saint Wenceslaus of New Prague. All assets (and liabilities) attached to the Church of Saint Benedict of Saint Benedict, Saint Scholastica Church of Heidelberg, and the Church of Saint John the Evangelist of Union Hill, shall transfer to the Church of Saint Wenceslaus of New Prague for use in the ongoing pastoral care of the enlarged parish .

The Church of Saint Wenceslaus will continue to utilize the worship sites of Saint Wenceslaus, Saint Scholastica, and Saint John the Evangelist. The canonical requirements for the relegation to secular use have been completed for the churches of Saint Joseph and Saint Benedict and therefore those church buildings may be disposed of in a fitting manner. In accord with canon law, the proceeds from the sale of any parish property formerly belonging to the Church of Saint Joseph (Lexington) and the Church of Saint Benedict of Saint Benedict, will become the property of the Church of Saint Wenceslaus of New Prague.

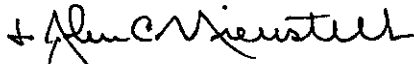
Having done all things required by the norms of law, I hereby declare the Church of Saint Joseph (Lexington), the Church of Saint Benedict of Saint Benedict, Saint Scholastica Church of Heidelberg, the Church of Saint John the Evangelist of Union Hill, and the Church of Saint Wenceslaus, in the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, formally merged.

Interested parties who feel aggrieved by this decree have the right to challenge this decision through the normal channels of hierarchical recourse. This process must begin with the aggrieved parties requesting that I revoke or amend this decree. This request must be made in writing within ten days of the communication of this decision.

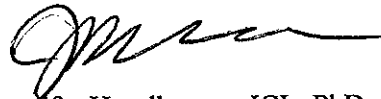
This decree is effective on January 1, 2011.

Given at Saint Paul, Minnesota, this fifteenth day of November, in the year of Our Lord 2010.

In witness of this, we have set our seal and our hand.



The Most Reverend John C. Nienstedt
Archbishop of Saint Paul and Minneapolis



Jennifer Haselberger, JCL, PhD
Chancellor for Canonical Affairs