

DECREE

OF THE MERGER OF

SAINT LUCY PARISH, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

INTO HOLY FAMILY PARISH, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

Saint Lucy Parish was founded in the City of Philadelphia in 1927 to serve Italian speaking people of a portion of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. As the result of an Archdiocesan Pastoral Planning initiative, a proposal to merge this parish with the neighboring territorial Holy Family Parish was studied and discussed with committees from both parishes and with the appropriate Archdiocesan offices. Throughout this process, sufficient information regarding the proposal was gathered, and sufficient consultation was conducted with the members of Saint Lucy Parish and Holy Family Parish.

The following just causes suggest that Saint Lucy Parish be merged into Holy Family Parish:

- 1) to provide more effectively for the pastoral needs of the faithful of Saint Lucy Parish which has declined in population over the years and no longer serves a predominately Italian speaking community;
- 2) to assure the vitality of parish life for Holy Family Parish;
- 3) to provide for a better stewardship of resources; and,
- 4) to provide for the optimum use of clergy and lay personnel.

Accordingly, in virtue of the prescriptions of canon 122 of the Code of Canon Law, having judged that sufficient just causes are present and that the good of souls will not thereby be impaired, and having consulted the Council of Priests in accord with canon 515, §2, I hereby **DECREE** that Saint Lucy Parish, Philadelphia be merged into Holy Family Parish, Philadelphia.

Parishioners of Saint Lucy Parish will become members of Holy Family Parish. They may also have the option of joining another Italian ethnic parish or, if they live outside of Holy Family Parish, the territorial parish in which they live.

The rich legacy and history of Saint Lucy Parish is to be promoted and honored. Together, all of the parishioners are encouraged to unite the newly merged parish through union with Jesus Christ in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

The intention or will of donors, as well as any acquired rights, have been examined and taken into consideration, especially regarding the allocation of goods and the obligation of debts. The goods of Saint Lucy Parish, including their property and treasury, as well as any debts, shall be assigned to Holy Family Parish, Philadelphia, in accord with canon 122.

Saint Lucy Church will remain open as a worship site for Holy Family Parish. The sacramental registers of Saint Lucy Parish shall be preserved at Holy Family Rectory.

This decree becomes effective as of July 1, 2012, prior to which it is to be communicated to the parishioners and to the Faithful of the Archdiocese in an appropriate manner. All things to the contrary notwithstanding.

Given at the Curia of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, on the eleventh day of April, in the Year of Our Lord 2012.

Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M.Cap.
Archbishop of Philadelphia

Reverend Monsignor Gerard C. Mesure
Chancellor

DECREE

OF THE MERGER OF

**SAINT MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION PARISH, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA
AND SAINT JOSAPHAT PARISH, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA**

INTO SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST PARISH, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish was founded in the City of Philadelphia in 1849 to serve German speaking people of a portion of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Saint Josaphat Parish was founded in the City of Philadelphia in 1898 to serve Polish speaking people of a portion of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. As the result of an Archdiocesan Pastoral Planning initiative, a proposal to merge these parishes with the neighboring territorial Saint John the Baptist Parish was studied and discussed with committees from all three parishes and with the appropriate Archdiocesan offices. Throughout this process, sufficient information regarding the proposal was gathered, and sufficient consultation was conducted with the members of Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish, Saint Josaphat Parish, and Saint John the Baptist Parish.

The following just causes suggest that Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish and Saint Josaphat Parish be merged into Saint John the Baptist Parish:

- 1) to provide more effectively for the pastoral needs of the faithful of Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish and Saint Josaphat Parish, which have declined in population over the years and no longer serve predominately German and Polish speaking communities;
- 2) to assure the vitality of parish life for Saint John the Baptist Parish;
- 3) to provide for a better stewardship of resources; and,
- 4) to provide for the optimum use of clergy and lay personnel.

Accordingly, in virtue of the prescriptions of canon 122 of the Code of Canon Law, having judged that sufficient just causes are present and that the good of souls will not thereby be impaired, and having consulted the Council of Priests in accord with canon 515, §2, I hereby **DECREE** that Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish, Philadelphia and Saint Josaphat Parish, Philadelphia be merged into Saint John the Baptist Parish, Philadelphia.

Parishioners of Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish and Saint Josaphat Parish will become members of Saint John the Baptist Parish. They may also have the option of joining another German or Polish ethnic parish; or if they live outside of Saint John the Baptist parish, the territorial parish in which they live.

The rich legacy and history of Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish and Saint Josaphat Parish are to be promoted and honored. Together, all of the parishioners are encouraged to unite the newly merged parish through union with Jesus Christ in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

The intention or will of donors, as well as any acquired rights, have been examined and taken into consideration, especially regarding the allocation of goods and the obligation of debts. The goods of Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish and Saint Josaphat Parish, including their property and treasury, as well as any debts, shall be assigned to Saint John the Baptist Parish, Philadelphia, in accord with canon 122.

Saint Mary of the Assumption Church and Saint Josaphat Church will remain open as worship sites for Saint John the Baptist Parish. The sacramental registers of Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish and Saint Josaphat Parish shall be preserved at Saint John the Baptist Rectory.

This decree becomes effective as of July 1, 2012, prior to which it is to be communicated to the parishioners and to the Faithful of the Archdiocese in an appropriate manner. All things to the contrary notwithstanding.

Given at the Curia of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, on the eleventh day of April, in the Year of Our Lord 2012.

Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M.Cap.
Archbishop of Philadelphia

Reverend Monsignor Gerard C. Measure
Chancellor