



Archdiocese of Philadelphia
Office of the Archbishop
222 North 17th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-1299

DECREE

OF THE MERGER OF

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH, SHARON HILL, PENNSYLVANIA,

WITH

SAINT GEORGE PARISH, GLENOLDEN, PENNSYLVANIA

Holy Spirit Parish, Sharon Hill, Pennsylvania was founded in 1964. Saint George Parish, Glenolden, Pennsylvania was founded in 1924. As the result of an Archdiocesan Pastoral Planning initiative, a proposal to merge Holy Spirit Parish into the neighboring Saint George Parish was studied and discussed with committees from both of the parishes and with the appropriate archdiocesan offices. Throughout this process, sufficient information regarding the proposal was gathered, and consultation was conducted with members of Holy Spirit Parish and Saint George Parish.

The following just causes suggest that Holy Spirit Parish be merged into Saint George Parish:

- 1) to provide more effectively for the pastoral needs of the faithful of Holy Spirit Parish which has declined in population in recent years;
- 2) to enhance evangelization efforts and to improve the vitality of parish life for the people of Holy Spirit and Saint George Parishes by uniting their efforts;
- 3) to address serious financial difficulties and to provide for a better stewardship of resources for both parishes;
- 4) to utilize Saint George Church as the seat of the parish as the site which is best suited to serve the needs of the parish, and,
- 5) to provide for the optimum use of clergy and lay personnel.

Accordingly, 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** an extinctive union by which Holy Spirit Parish, Sharon Hill, Pennsylvania will be merged into Saint George Parish, Glenolden, Pennsylvania. Saint George Church will continue to serve as the parish church.

The boundaries of Saint George Parish are hereby altered to the following:

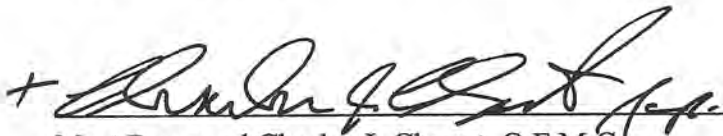
B&O R.R. from W Oak La. to the Darby Borough line; to Sharon Hill-Colwyn Borough line; to Darby Creek; to Grant Rd. (projected); to Glenolden Ave. (projected); to MacDade Blvd.; to W Oak La.; to B&O R.R.; to the Darby Borough line.

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 Holy Spirit Parish, including their property and treasury, as well as any debts, are assigned to Saint George Parish.

The rich legacy and history of Holy Spirit Parish are to be promoted and honored. Holy Spirit Church will remain open for worship as a part of Saint George Parish. The sacramental registers of Holy Spirit Parish shall be preserved at Saint George Rectory.

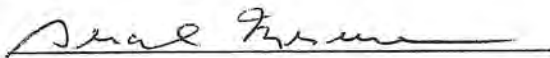
This decree becomes effective as of July 1, 2014, prior to which it is to be communicated to the parishioners and to the Faithful of the Archdiocese in an appropriate manner. All things to the contrary notwithstanding.

Given at the Pastoral Center of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, on the 28th day of May in the Year of Our Lord 2014.



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

SEAL



Reverend Monsignor Gerard C. Mesure
Chancellor