

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

DECREE

OF THE MERGER OF

**SAINT MARGARET MARY ALAOCOQUE PARISH,
ESSINGTON, PENNSYLVANIA,**

WITH

SAINT GABRIEL PARISH, NORWOOD, PENNSYLVANIA

Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque Parish, Essington, Pennsylvania was founded in 1921. Saint Gabriel Parish, Norwood, Pennsylvania was founded in 1891. As the result of an Archdiocesan Pastoral Planning initiative, a proposal to merge Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque Parish into the neighboring Saint Gabriel 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 Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque Parish and Saint Gabriel Parish.

The following just causes suggest that Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque Parish be merged into Saint Gabriel Parish:

- 1) to provide more effectively for the pastoral needs of the faithful of the area, 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 Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque and Saint Gabriel Parishes;
- 3) to utilize Saint Gabriel Church as the seat of the parish as the site which has the best physical resources and location,
- 4) to address financial difficulties and to provide for a better stewardship of resources; 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 Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque Parish, Essington, Pennsylvania will be merged into Saint Gabriel Parish, Norwood, Pennsylvania. Saint Gabriel Church will continue to serve as the parish church.

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

Glenolden Ave. from B&O R.R. to Grant Rd. (projected); to Darby Creek; to Philadelphia/Delaware County line; to Delaware River; to Darby Creek.; to Prospect Ave.; to 10th Ave.; to Lincoln Ave.; to B&O R.R.; to Glenolden Ave.

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 Margaret Mary Alacoque Parish, including their property and treasury, as well as any debts, are assigned to Saint Gabriel Parish.

The rich legacy and history of Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque Parish are to be promoted and honored. Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque Church will remain open for worship as a part of Saint Gabriel Parish. The sacramental registers of Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque Parish shall be preserved at Saint Gabriel 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



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DECREE

OF THE MERGER OF

NOTRE DAME DE LOURDES PARISH, SWARTHMORE, PENNSYLVANIA,

WITH

OUR LADY OF PEACE PARISH, MILMONT PARK, PENNSYLVANIA

Notre Dame de Lourdes Parish, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania was founded in 1959. Our Lady of Peace Parish, Milmont Park, Pennsylvania was founded in 1922. As the result of an Archdiocesan Pastoral Planning initiative, a proposal to merge Notre Dame de Lourdes Parish into the neighboring Our Lady of Peace 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 Notre Dame de Lourdes Parish and Our Lady of Peace Parish.

The following just causes suggest that Notre Dame de Lourdes Parish be merged into Our Lady of Peace Parish:

- 1) to provide more effectively for the pastoral needs of the faithful of both parishes;
- 2) to enhance evangelization efforts and to improve the vitality of parish life for the people of Notre Dame de Lourdes and Our Lady of Peace Parishes by uniting their efforts;
- 3) to utilize Our Lady of Peace Church as the seat of the parish as the site which will best serve the needs of the people of the parish,
- 4) to address financial difficulties in the parishes and to provide for a better stewardship of resources; 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 Notre Dame de Lourdes Parish, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania will be merged into Our Lady of Peace Parish, Milmont Park, Pennsylvania. Our Lady of Peace Church will continue to serve as the parish church.

The boundaries of Our Lady of Peace Parish are hereby altered to the following:

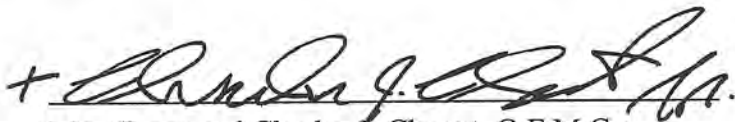
Riverview Rd. from Baltimore Pk. to Swarthmore Ave.; to Macdade Blvd.; to Kedron Ave.; to B&O R.R. to Fairview Rd.; to Jefferson Ave.; extended to Macdade Blvd.; to Ridley Creek; to Crum Creek; to Baltimore Pk.; to Riverview Rd.

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 Notre Dame de Lourdes Parish, including their property and treasury, as well as any debts, are assigned to Our Lady of Peace Parish.

The rich legacy and history of Notre Dame de Lourdes Parish are to be promoted and honored. Notre Dame de Lourdes Church will remain open for worship as a part of Our Lady of Peace Parish. The sacramental registers of Notre Dame de Lourdes Parish shall be preserved at Our Lady of Peace Rectory.

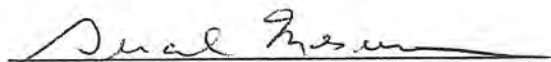
This decree becomes effective as of July 1, 2014, prior to which it is to be communicated to the parishioners and to the Faithful of the Archdiocese in an appropriate manner. All things to the contrary notwithstanding.

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

SEAL



Reverend Monsignor Gerard C. Mesure
Chancellor