

The Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano



By the Grace of God and the Authority of the Apostolic See

Bishop of Bridgeport

DECREE MERGING THE PARISHES OF

SACRED HEART, GEORGETOWN, CT

and

SAINT PATRICK, REDDING, CT

In virtue of the office entrusted to me, I, the Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano, Fifth Bishop of the Diocese of Bridgeport, duly concerned with the spiritual welfare of the souls entrusted to me, zealous to avoid everything that may be detrimental to their well-being and desiring to promote everything becoming of their progress, having engaged with the people of Sacred Heart Parish, Georgetown, CT, and Saint Patrick Parish, Redding, CT, having prayerfully considered the information presented to me, the law and the facts and, having heard all those whose rights may be harmed (c. 50) and, having ascertained from documents and deeds and consulted those concerned that there are no major donors or heirs to be heard and, having heard the Council of Priests (c. 515 §2) in 2020 and, having determined that the good of the souls requires it,

ESTABLISH THAT

The above two parishes be merged through an extinctive union so as to form one parish. This determination has been made to strengthen the pastoral care of the people of God in this area of my diocese, to enhance the pastoral vitality and to improve the management of material resources.

Wherefore, I, the Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano, Bishop of Bridgeport, in virtue of c. 515 §2 of the Code of Canon Law, do hereby decree that Sacred Heart Parish, Georgetown, CT, and Saint Patrick Parish, Redding, CT, which up until now have been independent parishes, be merged as to form one parish which will be named **SACRED HEART AND SAINT PATRICK PARISH**.

- I also hereby decree that all the rights, obligations and privileges of the members of Christian faithful domiciled in the territory of both extinct parishes, accorded to them

by law or legitimately acquired, are to be transferred to and made part of Sacred Heart and Saint Patrick Parish.

- The territorial boundaries of the aforementioned parishes by this canonical decree shall be amalgamated to become the boundaries of Sacred Heart and Saint Patrick Parish.
- Furthermore, the intentions of the founders and donors of the patrimony of the now extinct parishes must be respected in accordance with the law (c. 121 & 122).
- All sacramental registers, seals, and parish files of the parishes are to be properly transferred to, preserved and safeguarded by Sacred Heart and Saint Patrick Parish in accord with the norm of law.
- Both churches shall remain open as worship sites of Sacred Heart and Saint Patrick Parish.

This decree is to be communicated to the respective administrators of the two juridical persons that are being amalgamated. It is also to be communicated to all interested persons, according to the norm of law (c. 532). It may be challenged within the peremptory time limit of ten (10) days from the legitimate notification of the decree and in accordance with the norm of law (c. 1734 §2).

The first pastor of the newly formed parish will be Reverend Joseph Cervero.

This decree is effective January 31, 2021.

Given January 25, 2021, at the Catholic Center, Bridgeport, Connecticut.



Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano
Bishop of Bridgeport



Reverend Robert M. Kinnally
Chancellor