

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
SAINT CHARLES BORROMEIO, BRIDGEPORT, CT
and
SAINT GEORGE, BRIDGEPORT, 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 of removing everything that may be detrimental to their well-being and desiring to promote everything becoming of their progress, having engaged with the people of Saint Charles Borromeo Parish, Bridgeport, CT and Saint George Parish, Bridgeport, CT, having prayerfully considered the information presented to me, the law and the facts, having heard all those whose rights may be harmed (c. 50), on February 24, 2023, 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) on February 23, 2023, 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, and to address several trends that are of serious concern, including; diminished Mass attendance, lack of sustainability in the face of diminishing income, declining sacramental celebrations, and clergy availability.

Wherefore, I, the undersigned Bishop of Bridgeport, in virtue of c. 515 §2 of the Code of Canon Law, do hereby decree that Saint Charles Borromeo Parish, Bridgeport, CT and Saint George Parish, Bridgeport, CT, which up until now have been independent parishes, be merged as to form one parish which will be named Saint Charles Borromeo Parish.

- I also hereby decree that all the rights, obligations and privileges of the members of Christian faithful domiciled in the territory of the now extinct Parish of Saint George, Bridgeport, CT, accorded to them by law or legitimately acquired, are to be transferred to and made part of Saint Charles Borromeo Parish.

- The territorial boundaries of the aforementioned parishes by this canonical decree shall be amalgamated to become the boundaries of Saint Charles Borromeo Parish.
- Furthermore, the intentions of the founders and donors of the patrimony of Saint Charles Borromeo Parish, Bridgeport, CT and Saint George Parish, Bridgeport, CT, 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 Saint Charles Borromeo Parish in accord with the norm of law.
- The Church of Saint George shall remain open as an additional worship site of Saint Charles Borromeo Parish.

This decree is effective on July 1, 2023.

This decree is to be communicated to the respective pastors who are the proper 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).

Given this day, the first of May, 2023, the Feast of Saint Joseph the Worker, at the Catholic Center, Bridgeport, Connecticut.



Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano
Bishop of Bridgeport



Rev. Deacon Patrick Toole
Chancellor