



**DECREE OF ESTABLISHMENT
OF
THE SAINT LAZARUS GUILD

AND PROMULGATION OF STATUTES**

I, Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano, fifth bishop of the Diocese of Bridgeport:

Having determined that it is for the good of the faithful and beneficial to souls of the Diocese of Bridgeport for the establishment of a new public association of the faithful for the purpose of praying for the repose of the souls of the deceased members of the Catholic faithful, interred within the confines of the Catholic cemeteries of the Diocese of Bridgeport, and for the ongoing pastoral and spiritual support of the family and friends of said deceased (canons 301 & 312), and;

Having redacted proper statutes for such purpose, reviewed and approved by me,

Hereby establish the Saint Lazarus Guild, a public association of the faithful dedicated to the abovementioned purpose in conformity with the statutes of the Guild attached to this decree.

The diocesan center for the Association will be The Catholic Center of the Diocese of Bridgeport. Other centers of the Guild may be established in accord with the statutes.

Given at the Catholic Center, Shelton, CT on the Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows, September 15, 2026.

Most Reverend Frank J. Caggiano
Bishop of Bridgeport

Deacon Patrick Toole
Chancellor