



DECREE

The merger of
St. Patrick Parish of Lanesboro, Minnesota,
with St. Columban Parish of Preston, Minnesota

St. Patrick Parish of Lanesboro, Minnesota, was founded in 1871, serving the faithful of the area for over 152 years. On December 19, 2023, the Presbyteral Council provided consultation, in accord with canon 515, §§2, 3, concerning the proposal that St. Patrick Parish be merged (*unio extinctiva*) into St. Columban Parish. Upon full discussion, at which time due consideration was given to reasons for and against the proposed merger, and with opportunity to suggest alternate courses of action, members of the Presbyteral Council expressed unanimous agreement in favor of the proposed merger.

The following just causes suggest that St. Patrick Parish be merged into St. Columban Parish:

- 1) The declining number of faithful attending Mass and the limited quantity of additional sacramental experiences;
- 2) Current and projected decrease in necessary resources both human and financial to maintain physical property of the parish;
- 3) The enhancement of collaborative ministry and to ensure the best utilization of priest personnel;
- 4) The recent and projected shifts in populations, moving from rural to urban settings;
- 5) A consolidation of human resources directed toward strengthening the quality of the liturgy and encouraging fuller active participation;
- 6) To better effect the preaching and spread of the Gospel.

Accordingly, in virtue of the prescription of canon 121 and 515, §2 of the 1983 Code of Canon Law, having judged that just causes are present, that the intentions of donors and any other acquired rights have been examined and given due consideration, and that the good of souls will not thereby be impaired,

**I HEREBY DECREE AN EXTINCTIVE UNION BY WHICH
ST. PATRICK PARISH OF LANESBORO, MINNESOTA
BE MERGED INTO
ST. COLUMBAN PARISH OF PRESTON, MINNESOTA.**

Furthermore, the newly established territorial boundaries of St. Columban Parish are to be:

Starting in the southwest corner of the parish: at the intersection of 191st Avenue and a line that overlaps and extends west from 140th Street, head north on 191st Avenue for 1.5 miles to the intersection with County Road 20 (CR-20). Head east on CR-20 for 0.25 miles to the intersection

with 193rd Avenue. Head north on 193rd Avenue for 1.5 miles to the intersection with CR-14. Continue heading north for 1.6 miles on a line that overlaps and extends north from 193rd Avenue to the intersection with CR-5. Head north on CR-5 for approximately 4.5 miles to the intersection with State Highway 16. Head east on State Highway 16 for approximately 0.9 miles to the intersection with 201st Avenue. Head north for 2.0 miles on a line that overlaps and extends north from 201st Avenue to the intersection with State Highway 80 and Mulligan Road. Head north on Mulligan Road for 1.5 miles to the intersection with a line that overlaps and extends west from 260th Street. Head east for 8.0 miles on the line that overlaps 260th Street to the intersection with CR-8. Continue heading east for 1 mile on CR-8 to the intersection with Ivy Road. Head northwest for 2.1 miles to the three-way intersection of 280th Street, High Road, and CR-11. Head north on CR-11 for 0.25 miles to the intersection with CR-6. Head north and east on CR-6 for approximately 3.5 miles to the intersection with CR-21. Head south on CR-21 for approximately 0.6 miles to the intersection with Hobbit Lane. Head east-northeast for 3.5 miles to the intersection of Fern Road with State Highway 250. Head east on State Highway 250 for 0.4 miles to the intersection with 286th Street and Everyday Road. Head south, then east, then south again on Everyday Road for 1.5 miles to the point where the road again curves to the east. At this point head straight south for 0.6 miles to the intersection with State Highway 16. Head south, then east on State Highway 16 for 1.8 miles to the intersection with CR-23 and CR-108. Head southward on CR-108 for approximately 5.6 miles to the intersection with CR-10. Head southwest on CR-10 for 0.1 mile to the intersection with 391st Avenue. Head south on 391st Avenue for approximately 3.7 miles to the intersection with Deer Road. Head south on Deer Road for 0.9 miles to the intersection with a line that overlaps and extends east from 180th Street. Head west on this line for 3.7 miles to the intersection with CR-19. Head straight north from this intersection for 0.7 miles to an intersection with Evergreen Road. Head straight west for 4.5 miles along a line that overlaps Evergreen Road, Game Road, and Harvest Drive. At a point on Harvest Drive that is 1.0 miles west of US Highway 52, head straight south for 2.7 miles to an intersection with 305th Avenue. Head straight west for 2.0 miles along a line that overlaps CR-22 to the point where CR-22 intersects CR-17. Continue heading west, then south on CR-17 for 2.4 miles to the intersection with 140th Street. Head west for 9.0 miles along a line that overlaps 140th Street to the starting point.

This decree becomes effective February 11, 2024. A copy of this decree is to be sent to the pastor of St. Patrick Parish and St. Columban Parish and its contents is to be communicated at all of the Masses of obligation on the weekend of Saturday, January 27, 2024, and January 28, 2024. Furthermore, this decree is to be published on the diocesan website. Any legitimate party, considering himself aggrieved by this decree, retains the right to request emendation or revocation within ten (10) useful days (c. 1734 §§1, 2).

Given in the Diocese of Winona-Rochester on this twenty-fourth day of January in the year of Our Lord 2024.

+*Robert Barron*

The Most Reverend Robert Barron
Bishop of Winona-Rochester

Michelle K Gerlach

Chancellor



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