



DECREE

In accordance with canons 50, 120 §1, 121, and 515 of the Code of Canon Law and after having consulted the Presbyteral Council and members of the faithful of the concerned parishes, I hereby decree that Saint John Paul II Parish in Affton, Missouri, is amalgamated into Seven Holy Founders Parish in Affton, Missouri.

I further decree that the territory formerly belonging to Saint John Paul II Parish is subsumed into Seven Holy Founders Parish. Seven Holy Founders Parish obtains the temporal goods, patrimonial rights, and obligations which formerly belonged to Saint John Paul II Parish (canon 121). While Saint George Church, until now the Parish Church of Saint John Paul II Parish, remains a sacred edifice to which the faithful have the right of entry (canon 1214), Seven Holy Founders Church is the Parish Church. I direct that all ecclesiastical records of Saint John Paul II Parish be forwarded to the Archives of the Curia of the Archdiocese of Saint Louis.

The following are the reasons in summary form for Saint John Paul II Parish being amalgamated into Seven Holy Founders Parish (canon 51).

1. In 2018 Saint John Paul II Parish was established with 1398 Catholic households, as the result of a merger between the former parishes of St. George and St. Dominic Savio. Today, Saint John Paul II Parish has 791 households.
2. In 2018, 728 members of the faithful were present for the celebration of the Most Holy Eucharist on Sundays, but now there are 376 members of the faithful present.
3. The parish has averaged 18 infant baptisms and 45 funerals annually for the past five years.
4. Saint John Paul II Parish is located in an area where the population is increasingly non-Catholic.

This Decree is effective August 1, 2023. Its official notification is its publication on the website of the Archdiocese of Saint Louis on May 28, 2023.

I direct that the Pastor of Saint John Paul II Parish and the Pastor of Seven Holy Founders Parish announce at all Masses on the weekend of May 27-28, 2023, that this Decree has been published on the website of the Archdiocese of Saint Louis (allthingsnew.archstl.org). I ask the Pastor and the faithful of Seven Holy Founders Parish to make every effort to welcome warmly the members of the former Saint John Paul II Parish.

Any member of Saint John Paul II Parish who claims to have been aggrieved by this Decree has the right to seek its revocation or emendation (canon 1734). This request must be made in writing and postmarked no later than June 12, 2023, to the Most Reverend Archbishop of Saint Louis, Cardinal Rigali Center, 20 Archbishop May Drive, Saint Louis, Missouri 63119.

Anything to the contrary notwithstanding.

Given at the Curia of the Archdiocese of Saint Louis, this twenty-fourth day of May, in the Year of Our Lord, 2023.

+ Mitchell T. Rozanski

Most Reverend Mitchell T. Rozanski
Archbishop of Saint Louis

[Signature]
Very Reverend Philip J. Bené, J.C.D.
Notary

