



The Most Reverend Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.
Archdiocese of Indianapolis
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DECREE

Whereas my predecessor, Archbishop Daniel Marcus Buechlein, O.S.B., had instituted a process to assess the pastoral needs of the parishes in the Batesville Deanery; and

Whereas as part of this process information concerning both the current condition of St. Mary Parish in Greensburg, Indiana, St. Maurice Parish in St. Maurice, Indiana and St. John the Evangelist Parish in Enochsburg, Indiana and the pastoral needs of the people of these parishes was made available to both the Archdiocesan Planning Commission and to myself as the Diocesan Bishop and Ordinary of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis; and

Whereas the information concerning the condition of these parishes and the pastoral needs of their people demonstrated that the pastoral needs of these parishes could best be served by the creation of a new parish in northern Decatur County and the formation of a partnership between the new parish and St. Mary Parish with the parishes cooperating with regard to providing Catholic education to the children of the parishes, by coordinating mass and sacramental schedules, and by the parishes providing joint faith formation, vocations awareness and development, and evangelization programs; and

Whereas I have, by decrees dated this day mandated that a new parish be created in northern Decatur County on December 1, 2013 and mandated that the currently existing St. Maurice Parish be extinguished on December 1, 2013 and that the currently existing St. John the Evangelist Parish be extinguished on December 1, 2013 while uniting their former parishioners into the new parish; and

Whereas the Planning Commission accordingly advised that St. Mary Parish and the new parish should be designated as partnership parishes with each of the parishes retaining its own pastor, administrator, or parish life coordinator in order to achieve the goals listed in the paragraph above; and

Whereas the Archdiocesan Management Council endorsed the plan to create a partnership between the two parishes;

I, Joseph William Tobin, C.Ss.R., Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis, having considered the advice of the Archdiocesan Planning Commission and the Archdiocesan Management Council, and having in mind my responsibility to best meet the spiritual needs of the people of the aforementioned parishes specifically and the spiritual needs of the Batesville Deanery and Archdiocese of Indianapolis generally, now hereby decree that effective December 1, 2013 the new parish created in northern Decatur County by my separate decree issued today and St. Mary Parish of Greensburg shall act as partnership parishes in that the parishes are encouraged to coordinate times for the celebration of mass and the sacraments; to coordinate evangelization, religious education, and pastoral programs insofar as is possible; and to cooperate in all ways that are advantageous to the spiritual wellbeing of the parishioners of the two parishes.

I further decree that this decree is to be published to the pastors, administrators, or parish life coordinators of the currently existing parishes of St. Maurice, St. John the Evangelist and St. Mary Parish, and that:

1. The parishioners of each parish are to be informed of this decree by their current pastors, and copies of this decree shall be maintained at each parish office and shall be made available for inspection and copying by interested parties.
2. This decree is to be published in the Archdiocesan newspaper, *The Criterion*.
3. This decree is to be posted to the website of the Archdiocese.

Given under my hand and the seal of this Archdiocese on this 6th day of June, 2013.

+ Joseph W. Tobin *Chr*

Most Reverend Joseph W. Tobin, C.Ss.R.
Archbishop of Indianapolis

Annette "Mickey" Lentz

Annette "Mickey" Lentz
Chancellor